



# Doncaster Council

Councillor Andrea Robinson  
Chair of the Health and Adult Social  
Care Overview and Scrutiny Panel  
c/o Scrutiny Office

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Date: 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018

Dear Andrea

**Doncaster's Strategic Health and Social Care Plans (Sustainability and Transformation Plan, Place Plan, Adults Health & Wellbeing Transformational Programme)**

Thank you for your letter dated 7<sup>th</sup> December 2017 regarding the above, and for the Panel's consideration of the Transformation Programme.

These are very challenging times for health and social care services, with intense pressure on the Council and the NHS to continue to meet increasing demand, with less resources.

The Transformation Programme is a key part of the Council's wider plans, and is geared towards achieving the outcomes of the Doncaster Place Plan. It will result in more integrated services, increased community capacity and personalised care closer to home, leading to greater independence for individuals and better support for the people that need it most.

Delivering our plans will not be easy, but I know that by working together, our aims are achievable.

I am really encouraged by the Panel's feedback on a range of important initiatives that are currently being progressed. Recent work on improving day opportunities has been well received, intermediate care is becoming more effective and efficient, new Home Care contracts are in place, and more innovative ways of providing Supported Living are being developed.

Specific plans are in place for Doncaster's valued veterans and carers, and work is already underway with health colleagues to produce a new strategy for people with learning disabilities and autism.

I am particularly pleased that the Your Life Doncaster website is proving effective in providing people with the information, advice and guidance they need to help them to stay independent for longer. I can confirm that we are looking at whether or not it is feasible to brand the website by specific Doncaster towns.

The Panel's recommendation was for me to consider:

**“A secondary cooperative being established to support voluntary groups with administration functions”.**

In view of the important role that voluntary groups will play in the development and provision of community-led support, I do feel that help with administrative functions, which can be quite challenging, would be useful. I therefore suggest that your proposal is taken forward as part of work that is currently progressing on a more strategic way forward for community engagement and engagement with the voluntary, community and faith sector. I will, of course, make sure that Overview and Scrutiny is fully involved in this work and that establishment of the cooperative is appropriately considered.

I trust the above is helpful and thank you once again for your contribution to the improvement of health and social care in Doncaster. Perhaps you would be good enough to provide me with further feedback and recommendations as the Transformation Programme gathers pace, and particularly when new and innovative initiatives are being put in place as part of the programme.

Kind regards.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ros'.

**Ros Jones**  
**Mayor of Doncaster**