

Sheffield City Region Mayoral Combined Authority
11 Broad Street West
Sheffield, S1 2BQ

19 November 2020

Rt Hon Matt Hancock MP
Secretary of State Health and Social Care
39 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0EU

Dear Secretary of State,

A New Central Hospital in Doncaster

The importance of providing high-quality hospital care and treatment in fit-for-purpose settings for local communities has never been more clearly illustrated than through the COVID-19 pandemic. We therefore are supportive of the Government's commitment to invest in creating new hospitals across the country.

We know you have visited Doncaster on numerous occasions to understand the importance of our ambitious proposal to develop a much-needed new facility in the town. The new Hospital will provide 21st century healthcare, adopting the latest in integrated care models with a digitally advanced, environmentally friendly and state of the art clinical environment. It will also take forward the lessons learned from responding to the pandemic. Such investment is vitally needed as the existing facility has one of the largest maintenance backlogs in the country totalling £67m (based on 2018/19 figures) and faces very high demands on its services. Even prior to COVID, for example, the A&E department which was built to manage a peak of 200-250 patients was routinely dealing with 350-400 every day.

More than just another capital scheme, the proposed new hospital will also act as a catalyst to regenerate Doncaster. The site has intentionally been selected to create a more vibrant centre, maximising opportunities with education and university partners, transport hubs and key worker accommodation. It will stimulate economic activity and act as an anchor as the beating heart of the town. In short, the case for investment is very strong.

We were therefore deeply concerned that there was no reference to Doncaster in your Health Infrastructure Plan announcement on the 2nd October, not least because only a single scheme in the entirety of Yorkshire was included.

We would therefore very much welcome your feedback as to why it was not part of your proposal. This would be invaluable in further strengthening our case for the Hospital, as we know you also announced a bid opportunity to bring forward an additional eight schemes.

A New Central Hospital in Doncaster will create healthier people, communities and place. Never has its need been more acute. We look forward to working with you ensure that Doncaster is selected as one of the eight additional facilities to make these ambitions a reality.

With our best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dan', with a long horizontal stroke underneath.

Mayor Dan Jarvis MBE MP
Sheffield City Region

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

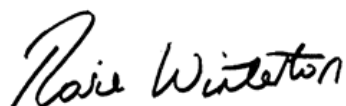
Mayor Ros Jones CBE
Doncaster Council

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

Nick Fletcher MP
MP for Don Valley

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

Rt Hon Ed Miliband MP
MP for Doncaster North

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

Rt Hon Dame Rosie Winterton DBE MP
MP for Doncaster Central