



Dr Al Pinkerton MP
Member of Parliament for Surrey Heath
House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA

The Rt Hon Yvette Cooper MP
Secretary of State for Health and Social Care
Department for Health and Social Care
39 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0EU

23 July 2026

Dear Secretary of State,

I am writing following your recent appointment as Secretary of State for Health and Social Care to request an urgent meeting regarding my serious concerns about the proposed location for the rebuild of Frimley Park Hospital under Wave 1 of the New Hospital Programme.

As the Member of Parliament for Surrey Heath, I fully support the urgent need to rebuild Frimley Park Hospital. The presence of RAAC across the existing estate makes this a matter of necessity rather than choice. However, I remain deeply concerned that the proposed site appears to have been selected without sufficient transparency, scrutiny, or meaningful engagement with elected representatives and the local community.

I am disappointed that both your predecessors failed to engage adequately with these concerns despite repeated correspondence from my office and oral questions raised in the House of Commons. For a project of this scale, cost, and long-term impact on local communities, the absence of meaningful ministerial engagement has been unacceptable.

These concerns have been heightened by a recent joint statement on 23 July 2026 from 19 local schools and academy trusts located near the proposed Frimley Fuel Allotments site. The schools have made clear their fundamental opposition to the relocation proposal, citing inadequate surrounding infrastructure, risks to child safety, and the potentially severe and long-lasting disruption that construction and operation of the hospital could cause to schools, families, and the wider community.

The proposed site would have significant implications for my constituents, particularly in relation to congestion, transport access, local infrastructure, environmental impact, and the ability of residents to reach work, schools, healthcare appointments, and other essential services. These are not peripheral considerations; they are central to determining whether the project is deliverable, affordable, and genuinely appropriate for the community it is intended to serve.

During discussions with Department of Health and Social Care officials, special advisers, and representatives from Frimley Integrated Care Board, it became apparent that key transport and infrastructure costs had not been fully costed or budgeted for at the time. I was further advised that additional costs, including transport and infrastructure works, may need to be met from the scheme's

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al.pinkerton.mp@parliament.uk



contingency fund. This raises serious questions about the robustness of the financial modelling and whether the true cost of the proposal has been adequately assessed.

When I raised this matter directly with the Leader of the House of Commons on 12 March, he agreed that it required resolution with the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care. Since then, my office has received no substantive response despite multiple attempts to secure a meeting.

The National Audit Office has already raised concerns regarding delays and delivery risks within the New Hospital Programme, and the rebuild of Frimley Park Hospital must not become another example of poor planning, inadequate transparency, and escalating costs.

In light of these concerns, I would be grateful if you could:

1. Meet with me urgently to discuss the proposed location for the new Frimley Park Hospital.
2. Provide the full financial modelling underpinning the preferred site, including assumptions relating to transport, infrastructure, and contingency funding.
3. Ensure a transparent review of the process used to identify and assess the proposed site.
4. Confirm what infrastructure improvements and environmental safeguards would accompany any new hospital development.
5. Ensure that elected representatives, planning authorities, local residents, and especially schools are properly consulted before any final decision is made.

We all want to see Frimley Park Hospital rebuilt as a matter of urgency. However, urgency cannot come at the expense of proper process, transparency, or local scrutiny. Any relocation proposal must be supported by the infrastructure, environmental safeguards, and public confidence necessary to ensure its long-term success.

My constituents deserve a hospital that is safe, modern, and properly planned for the communities it will serve for generations to come. I therefore urge you to meet with me at the earliest opportunity and provide a full and substantive response to the concerns and requests outlined above.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Al Pinkerton MP
Member of Parliament for Surrey Heath

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