

NHS Northwest  
4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
3 Piccadilly Place  
Manchester  
M1 3BN

Wednesday, 06 October 2010

Dear Sir/Madam,

It has been reported in the local press in Stockport Today that a new purpose built haemodialysis unit is to be built in Stockport. Whilst the Stockport LINK welcomes the news and fully supports the unit especially in times of such uncertainty we are disappointed that the Stockport LINK were not informed, involved or engaged in discussions around this as is set out in statute. It is a service change or development that will affect local people in Stockport as well as regionally. We appreciate you had discussions with the North West Region Kidney Association and are pleased that some form of engagement took place. However there are patients and public who will not be involved at a regional level or belong to such a group and there are local groups in Stockport which will also have a view. In your further discussions/consultation around where the unit will be built could you please include the Stockport LINK?

For our LINK to be fully effective and able to engage with our members it is important that we hear of such changes and developments before we read about it in the local press. Please could you provide reasons why engagement with the LINK was omitted?

I look forward to your response within 20 days.

Yours faithfully

John Leach

Chair Stockport Link

On behalf of the Stockport LINK