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Our ref: DK/SK/ACN

Date: 16 June 2011

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Dr. Paul Watson  
Chair  
Anglia Cancer Network

Dear Paul

**Re: Anglia Cancer Network Annual Accountability Review 2011 Meeting**

Please convey my thanks to those of you who met with us on Wednesday 8 June.

I found the format and rag-rating of the 2010/11 work plan and the progress briefing provided by the Network very helpful and we have used it as an example to other networks..

Overall the Network made very good progress in 2010/11 with practically all workstreams completed, explanations provided for incomplete objectives and with any significant exceptions taken forward into the plan for 2011/12.

Tonia advised that the agreed Network chemotherapy regimens will to be fully documented in line with Peer Review requirements by the autumn. Issues related to the level and training of paediatric oncology service staff are being addressed.

We discussed the role of the Network in ensuring the provision of radiotherapy capacity for its population. You advised that these issues will be prioritised for further discussion at the next Network Board. I would be grateful to be advised of the range of tumours being that has been agreed by the Network in relation to the Peterborough service. I would also ask to be kept informed of plans and issues relating to the provision of radiotherapy capacity for Norfolk patients beyond 2012.

The 2011/12 work plan identifies a challenging range of workstreams. Key priorities for the Network in the forthcoming year include a significant cancer symptom awareness programme working across a number of PCTs. The Network will implement its research strategy providing research reports to Network Site Specific Groups to inform improvement to clinical practice and outcomes.

I was assured that the Network continues to take appropriate actions to identify; support and monitor progress with clinical governance issues and the Network advised that it has now agreed a mechanism to receive cancer related SUIs from the SHA to improve clinical governance intelligence. Please reciprocate this relationship and share information with us at the SHA to allow us to address clinical issues and support improvement where necessary.

Working with the Central Procurement Hub and a Network steering group progress is now being made towards achieving an IOG-compliant haemato-pathology service in 2012/13. I

would ask that you share the service specification and any resulting procurement processes with neighbouring networks in the east of England, to ensure learning.

I would like to receive more detailed information on the Network plans for achieving increased G.P. direct access to diagnostics as required by the Operating Framework 2011/12, particularly those relating to endoscopy which we were advised was the greatest area of capacity pressure at present. This is of particular relevance in light of the Improving Outcomes Cancer Strategy and Department of Health proposals for increased campaigning to promote early diagnosis.

As discussed I have agreed to follow up issues relating to the release of the Cancer Drug Fund.

We of course offer Gareth our support during his time as Interim Network Director.

Yours sincerely



**DEBORAH KNIGHT**

**Head of Clinical Strategy**

cc

Rory Harvey, Medical Director, Anglia Cancer Network

Tonia Dawson, Nurse Director, Anglia Cancer Network

Gareth Jones, Interim Director, Anglia Cancer Network