

Dear Mr Lightfoot,

I am writing to you as I feel extremely concerned that in the coming year the people of Sussex may see a significant reduction in the NHS services available to them.

I founded the East Sussex Save the NHS Campaign in order to raise awareness amongst our local population about how their NHS is changing. There can be no democratic control of our NHS unless people have this awareness.

I have seen that the allowance that our ICB will be given for the year 2022/23 is around 8% greater than the allowances given to all Sussex's CCGs in 2015/16. As NHS inflation stands normally at 4%/ year it is clear the ICB will not have enough money to fund the services we currently have.

I am aware that the role of the ICB will be to fit the demand into the budget as opposed to stretching the budget to cover all the demand. This can only mean one thing, and that is cuts to services, changes to staff pay, and/ or the introduction of charges for services.

Our NHS has been built up by the taxes people have paid. Many people, particularly the elderly, have paid for the healthcare services that they may now be more likely to need. I therefore believe we all have a right to know about any proposals for cuts to services etc. And, we have a right to have a say in this before it happens.

My fears are now magnified by the high levels of inflation we currently have and the fact it seems likely the Government

may impose further spending cuts. I would therefore urge you to treat this email with a degree of urgency.

This email has been shared and others from our committee given the opportunity to add their names.