

Immediate Release

23<sup>rd</sup> July 2008

**Soames and PRH Campaign Delighted with Result of JHOSC  
Committee on *Fit for the Future* Proposals**

On hearing the news this afternoon that the *Fit for the Future* proposals have been referred to the Secretary of State for Health, Nicholas Soames said, "I am absolutely thrilled and delighted for everyone in Mid Sussex that the PCT's decisions have been referred to the Secretary of State and the Independent Review Panel.

"This will ensure that an independent eye is given to proposals which had little or no public support at all."

Nicholas Soames went on; "We will now prepare the most formidable and detailed case to submit to the Secretary of State and I shall be taking a delegation to see him in the early Autumn. This is really good news and I am so grateful to all those local people who turned out to march shoulder to shoulder in support of our much treasured and essential local health facilities. We will not let them down in the next stage of this arduous process.

"In particular I want to thank the wonderful work done by the Support the Princess Royal Hospital Campaign whose efforts have been heroic and very successful."

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Notes

Nicholas Soames MP, Nick Herbert MP and the Support the Princess Royal Hospital Campaign gave evidence at the JHOSC's meeting this morning at West Sussex County Council