



Prime Minister

20 MAR 2017

Mr Dave Cull
Mayor of Dunedin
Dunedin City Council
PO BOX 5045
Moray Place
Dunedin 9058

Dear Mr Cull

Thank you for your letter of 24 February 2017 about the redevelopment of Dunedin Hospital. I am well aware of the community's desire to have the redevelopment sped up.

I am advised that the project team has shortened the timeframe by around 18 months from the standard planning timetable for major hospital redevelopments. The Southern Partnership Group, who are overseeing the redevelopment of hospital services in Dunedin, are due to have an Indicative Business Case with preferred options to Ministers by mid this year.

I think it is important to note that this project is not about building a like-for-like replacement of Dunedin Hospital facilities. We therefore need to take time to ensure that we are building a future-proofed facility to meet the needs of the Southern community over the next 40-50 years, as well as ensuring it is a good investment of taxpayer's money.

In regards to your concerns about the location of future hospital facilities, I am advised that the Southern Partnership Group is not at the point of having site-specific options. Work to date has been focused on service design and models of care and potential locations will be able to be considered once space requirements have been identified. Of course, the availability and affordability of land in the central city will also be a critical factor in determining potential locations.

I understand you have also raised these concerns with the Southern Partnership Group and they have committed to continue working with you as the redevelopment progresses.

Thank you for bringing these matters to my attention.

Yours sincerely

Rt Hon Bill English
Prime Minister

