

ELLIOT COLBURN MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Mr Daniel Elkeles  
Chief Executive  
Epsom and St Helier University Hospitals NHS Trust  
Wrythe Lane  
Carshalton  
SM5 1AA

21 September 2020

Our Ref: EC3190

Dear Daniel,

**RE: Equality, Diversity and Inclusion**

I know much importance the Trust, and you particularly, place on improving equality, diversity and inclusion for staff and within patient delivery, and that you are working proactively with other nearby Trusts to ensure that EDI remains at the heart of what you do.

As you know, I sit on the Women and Equalities Select Committee in Parliament – and earlier this year joined the Sutton Fairness Commission, which looks at tackling racism and improving the lives of BAME people living in Sutton – so this is an area I take great interest in, as do many of my constituents, and I am pleased to champion and support you in your mission to improve EDI.

I am aware that the Trust has recently undergone a hiring process for a new Head of Equality and Inclusion, and I wish you well in choosing the right candidate.

I should be grateful if you could update me on the Trust's work to support and develop diversity of gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, religion and other such protected characteristics; I would be particularly interested to receive a copy of this year's Annual Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Analysis Report which I do not believe is yet available? I very much welcomed what you and the Trust had achieved in the previous report, particularly around inclusivity of BAME and female candidates in hiring processes, and that the Trust held its first Black History Month celebrations. I know you would agree that it is important that we have a healthcare system that reflects the diversity of the community it serves, and one that progresses the potential of its whole workforce.

I should also be grateful if you could set out what measures are in place to ensure your service users are also treated equally and fairly, and the processes by which this is reviewed.

I look forward to hearing from you and, as ever, let me know if there is anything I can do to support, promote and champion the great work that you and the Trust are doing.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elliot Colburn', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Elliot Colburn**

Conservative Member of Parliament for Carshalton and Wallington

Serving the people of Carshalton and Wallington

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