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Anna Bradley Chair, Healthwatch England Skipton House 80 London Road London SE1 6LH

-2 SEP 2014

Dear Anna,

Thank you for your letter dated 20 August regarding the Draft Legislative Reform Order.

I am pleased to hear that you will be continuing your discussions with NHS England, and look forward to receiving the Assurance of Domain 2 and CCGs compliance with legislation and statutory guidance on public involvement assessments from NHS England that you have requested.

I note that you have also written to Cllr Sparks about the DH-funded work being led by the Local Government Association. We, and the LGA, remain prepared to consider what further, if anything, the programme might offer to support local Healthwatch to fulfil their accountability role when working with CCGs and joint committees. I will ask my officials to explore this further with Healthwatch England in order to inform discussions between the Department and the LGA.

JEREMY HUNT