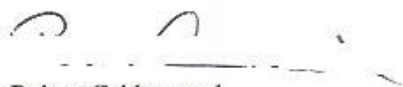


I have studied the proposals which you made in your letter to reconfigure the split of places at Royal Alexandra hospital, and are extremely grateful for your time and consideration in doing so. However, at this time, the Board would not consider changing the split of spaces so fundamentally to provide 70%, or more, spaces to staff. We would consider that to be a breach of our commitment to patient and visitors, and herald a return to the situation where there is often little or no access available for this vulnerable group. We will therefore not implement the changes suggested in your letter, but will continue to review the allocation of spaces in to provide optimum access across the competing demand sources.

I hope this information is helpful.

Yours sincerely,



Robert Calderwood
Chief Executive

RECEIVED 15 OCT

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Ms Wendy Alexander MSP,
Paisley North Constituency Office,
Abbey Mill Business Centre,
Mile End,
12 Seedhill Road,
Paisley, PA1 1JS

Date 13th October 2010
Your Ref
Our Ref

Enquiries to Chris Drapper
Direct Line
E-mail

Dear Ms Alexander,

RAH Car Parking

Thank you for your letter of 21st September 2010. You have raised further questions regarding the car parking arrangements at the Royal Alexandra Hospital.

The ratio of patient/visitor spaces is crucial to the policy and the management car parks in a way which provides adequate access to all user groups. The ratio we have used in the policy since its commencement is (net of disabled bays) to split spaces 60: 40 in favour of patient and visitors. That split was recommended by the specialist organisation which undertook all the hospital site assessments.

The Board has always maintained that the split would be flexible enough to react to local circumstances and demand, providing there was evidence which justified the change. At the RAH been we have recently been able to increase the number of spaces available to staff at Royal Alexandra Hospital; currently the number is:

Category	Spaces	% Of Total
Patient and Visitor	590	53%
Staff Permit	329	47%
Staff Non Permit	195	
Total	1114	100%

The turnover of vehicles in staff permit areas, resulting from holders using their vehicles on NHS duties, means that there are 1.4 permits issued for every space. Local Management are reviewing with us the possibility of increasing that ratio. If it proves possible to do so, then there will be additional permits issued, although that particular increase will not be large.