

To: Brian James
Chief Executive
Rotherham General Hospitals NHS Trust

cc: Denis MacShane MP
Kay Beaumont

Monday 18th May 2009

Dear Mr James

Parking issues on Queensway

I am writing to you in my capacity as Chair of Rotherham MBC's Rotherham South Area Assembly - the boundary of which includes the General Hospital - and on behalf of my colleagues in the Council's Transportation Unit and the local police.

At a meeting of our Area Assembly on 5th May 2009, a member of the public attended and reported on the ongoing parking issues on Queensway. I am aware that the police and local authority have also received reports from concerned members of the public.

The complaints are about the way that a minority of NHS staff and visitors to the hospital are parking on Queensway and the surrounding roads without due care and attention to other road users. Vehicles are left close to residents driveways causing them difficulties when entering or leaving their properties and are parking in and around junctions leading to problems for vehicles exiting side roads. Residents have also expressed concerns about vehicles parking on both sides of the road leading to problems for larger vehicles which have difficulties reaching properties to make deliveries.

The Highway Code advises drivers not to park within ten metres of a junction or for a vehicle to be parked in front of an entrance to a property or even on the opposite side of the road to a driveway as it can still cause an obstruction if it prevents the proprietor from accessing or egressing their driveway. It is also advised that drivers do not park in turning heads, this parking behaviour is an offence that the Police are able to deal with as an obstruction offence.

It should be noted that Rotherham Council's Parking enforcement team and Safer Neighbourhood Police Team have increased their patrols in the surrounding area of the Hospital to crack down on illegal parking.

We would be grateful if you could bring these issues to the attention of your staff and ask that if they park on Queensway or the surrounding area that they do so with consideration for residents and other road users.

Regards

Councillor Barry Dodson
Chair, Rotherham South Area Assembly