Wednesday, 22 July 2015

Dear John,

CC Andrew Smith MP, Dr Joe McManners, Councillor Judith Heathcoat, Nicola Blackwood MP, Dr Sara Ryan and Katrina Percy (Southern Health)

I hope that you are well.

I wanted to write to you about some distressing rumours that some members of My Life My Choice have heard.

We understand that Southern Health is considering selling Slade House.
My friends and I are very happy that the horrible Slade House inpatient unit is closed.

What we are worried about is that we have heard that any profit from the sale of Slade House will go to Southern Health.

We believe that Slade House belongs to the people of Oxfordshire.

The money from the sale could be used to improve health and social care services for people with learning disabilities in Oxfordshire.
Some of my fellow trustees feel that any profit should also be used to compensate the family of Connor Sparrowhawk and to construct a memorial garden in Connor’s name.

We just don’t understand how it can possibly be fair for Southern Health to profit from Slade House after the preventable death of Connor whilst in their ‘care’.

Our local MP Andrew Smith said “Southern Health should not be able to profit from the circumstances of their failure – that would be unacceptable.” We agree with Andrew.

I would be grateful if you could reassure me and my fellow My Life My Choice members that Slade House will be used for the good of the people of Oxfordshire.

Thank you.

Kind Regards,

Pam Bebbington
Chair of Trustees, My Life My Choice