We are writing to let you know about the public consultation beginning today (28th July 2014) on exciting proposals to transform cancer care in Merseyside and Cheshire, firmly establishing the region as a world-class centre for cancer treatment and research.

We thought it may be of interest and would very much welcome your thoughts and involvement in the consultation. We would also appreciate any assistance you could offer in sharing this information more widely among your organisation/members/networks.

Transforming Cancer Care proposes a new specialist cancer hospital in the heart of Liverpool, alongside Royal Liverpool University Hospital and the University of Liverpool. It would be run by The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre NHS Foundation Trust (CCC), the specialist cancer trust in this region. The proposals would dramatically improve the care that patients receive by:

- Providing cancer patients with **on-site access to intensive care and other key medical and surgical specialties** as it would be located alongside a large teaching hospital. The existing CCC site in Wirral does not have this and it is increasingly important as we care for older and more complex patients with multiple health conditions.

- **Bringing services closer to the majority of patients.** Around 63 per cent live closer to central Liverpool than the Wirral site, which is in the south of the area CCC serves. Radiotherapy for most cancer would be available at three sites rather than two. Public transport access would also improve for most patients.

- **Expanding the scope for leading-edge cancer research and clinical trials** in Merseyside and Cheshire. Bringing together researchers from the NHS, university and other key partners in central Liverpool would strengthen research activity and collaboration. In addition, patients could access the most innovative clinical trials of new treatments that can only safely take place with on-site access to intensive care and other key specialties.

Outpatient services at CCC’s Wirral and Aintree sites would be retained, along with the services CCC provides in hospitals across Merseyside and Cheshire. Inpatient services and the most complex care would move to the new hospital. (Most cancer patients are seen and treated as outpatients.)

The public consultation on the proposals runs from **28th July 2014 to 19th October 2014**. Further details – including a link to the consultation website and questionnaire, the summary consultation document and a short film about Transforming Cancer Care – are enclosed below.

Consultation events will be taking place across Merseyside and Cheshire between now and 19th October so people can find out more and details can be found on the consultation website. If you would like us to visit your organisation/members/networks, then please do not hesitate to contact the Consultation Team on 0151 296 7068 or **engagement@cmcsu.nhs.uk**.

Once again, we would welcome your response to the consultation and would greatly appreciate any assistance you can provide in sharing information about the proposals in your organisation/members/networks.
Consultation website: www.transformingcancercaremc.nhs.uk
Consultation questionnaire: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Transforming_cancer_care
Consultation film: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hGiJ81XbsgU

Yours faithfully

Alan White, Chairman
Andrew Cannell, Chief Executive
Dr Peter Kirkbride, Medical Director

The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre NHS Foundation Trust