Devon Integrated Care Board

County Hall

Topsham Road

Exeter

EX2 4QD

Dear Dr Wollaston and Mr Shields,

**RE: Risk to Hospiscare services – how will inequity of hospice funding be addressed?**

I am writing to you regarding my local hospice, Hospiscare, and the inequity of its funding allocation from the Devon Integrated Care Board (ICB).

I understand that Hospiscare receives just 18% of its costs from government funding allocated by yourself, in comparison to a national average of 37%. Furthermore, our hospice is the lowest funded in Devon, although it cares for a comparable number of patients as other hospices in the county and across a larger geographical area.

My local hospice provides an outstanding service for thousands of local patients and families and is rated as five-star by its patients.

The charity and its supporters do an amazing job in raising millions of pounds every year toward the costs of the hospice, but the inequity in funding from your body means the hospice is nevertheless facing a £1.4 million funding gap and must now look at cutting this vital service.

This will be a devasting loss to local people. The hospice means a lot to me because [add your own words here].

Without Hospiscare, its patients will need to be treated in an acute hospital setting where they will be a further demand on the NHS system and cost the NHS additional millions in direct care.

I am writing today to ask you to reconsider your position regarding Hospiscare’s funding and take steps now to ensure that our hospice is funded fairly, now and into the future.

Yours sincerely,