

I do not support the wider Devon STP and do not believe it is right that health services in North Devon should be sacrificed to fund deficits elsewhere. Also I do not believe that the policy of reducing, both acute and community, beds is acceptable or practical in any area of our size. Certainly I have not seen or heard of any evidence that would suggest otherwise. If elected, I will act within the Labour group on the County Council to support the retention of all services at North Devon Hospital, and to lobby other Councillors to do likewise.

I do not believe that the Success Regime/STP/CCG/ Healthcare Trust have demonstrated that "care closer to home" is actually working.

It is further not acceptable for the above named groups to ignore the will of Devon County Council on this matter. As a ruling or minority group the Labour group will force this issue to be revisited and for the above mentioned to comply.

The public can have no confidence in the STP if we cannot have access to all the information, statistics and data that exists.

In closing can I guarantee that the continued provision of health and social care is an absolutely key issue to my campaign to be elected as a County Councillor. And I believe that all candidates should do likewise or prepared to be grilled by the electorate.

I will continue to offer my full support to your campaign in the future.

Steve Hinchliffe