



Mem of Understanding

London Ambulance Service **NHS**
NHS Trust

1st April 2008

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Dear Malcolm

Many thanks for sending your draft Memorandum of Understanding; I apologise for my delayed reply although I know that David Jervis has been in touch with you via e-mail regarding this matter.

Whilst we are committed to continuing the positive relationship between the LAS and Forum members, we do not feel it is necessary to have a written Memorandum of Understanding. I appreciate that a lot of work has gone into producing this document, and I understand that you were under the impression that we said we would welcome a written legal agreement. Unfortunately we cannot recall this being suggested, but I apologise if we gave you this impression and that, as a result, you have gone to a lot of unnecessary trouble.

I am writing to confirm that, although the Patients' Forum no longer has statutory powers, we are happy to maintain the relationship we currently have. We are keen to ensure that Forum members are still involved in our committees and projects, as well as carrying out other activities such as ambulance station visits.

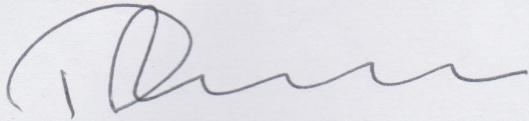
We are also happy for you to use our meeting rooms free of charge when they are available, although we cannot meet your expenses for refreshments or other meeting costs.

As the year progresses I am mindful that this relationship may evolve, as we develop local arrangements for working with LINKs and as we establish our membership in readiness for a Foundation Trust application. I hope that Forum members will be among the first members of the Foundation Trust, and look forward to a continuing productive and positive approach to involving patients and the public in a wide range of our activities.

If you have any queries or would like to talk in more detail about any of these issues, I would be very happy to meet with you.

Kind regards

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Peter Bradley', with a large, stylized initial 'P'.

Peter Bradley CBE
Chief Executive Officer