

PETER GIBSON MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Sam Allen
Chief Executive Office
North East & North Cumbria Integrated Care Board
Waterfront 4
Goldcrest Way
Newburn Riverside
Newcastle upon Tyne NE15 8NY

Tuesday 9 January 2024

Dear Sam,

Dentistry in Darlington

I am grateful for the meeting in my office with David Gallagher and Dan Jackson on the 22nd of December 2023.

As I made clear in my meeting with Sir Liam Donaldson on the 14th of December 2023, I am bitterly disappointed that the commissioning of replacement NHS dental provision, following the closure of the Burgess and Hyder practice, has made no visible progress. As I have made absolutely clear, I am even more disappointed that the promised emergency commissioning has delivered zero provision for the town.

Whether by design, omission, or otherwise, I consider that I have been misled as to the steps the ICB is, or was, taking in respect of these matters which has led to a total loss of trust on my part. Much clearer, precise, and specific communication is needed from the ICB to me, and other MPs in the region, in respect of what the ICB is actually doing to deliver.

The community I represent is in need of additional NHS dental provision. Rest assured that I will continue to champion this need at every opportunity on behalf of the people I represent and that I will continue to hold your organisation to account, as the body responsible for overseeing NHS dental provision in our area.

I sincerely hope that 2024 is the year that the North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board starts to deliver meaningful change and tangible, visible results on dentistry for the people of Darlington.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter Gibson".

PETER GIBSON MP

Member of Parliament for Darlington

Telephone: 020 7219 3077 Email: peter.gibson.mp@parliament.uk

Website: www.petergibson.org  www.facebook.com/gibbo4darlo