

PRESS RELEASE FROM DR RICHARD TAYLOR MP

**AT LAST!
IMPROVEMENTS IN EMERGENCY FACILITIES AT
KIDDERMINSTER HOSPITAL SUPPORTED**

At long last the pressure put on the Worcestershire Primary Care and Acute Hospitals Trusts by the people of Wyre Forest through their MP, Dr Richard Taylor, and recently underlined by the further success of Independent Health Concern candidates at the local elections, has borne fruit with a trial for a doctor in the emergency unit at Kidderminster Hospital.

Dr Taylor said, *"I am absolutely delighted that those responsible for health care in Worcestershire have recognised that the emergency reception facilities at Kidderminster Hospital, despite the valiant efforts of the nurses in our Minor Injuries Unit, must be enhanced for the benefit of local people and also to reduce the load on the A&E departments at Worcester and Redditch.*

We have been telling them this since my election in 2001 and now to my great satisfaction they are seriously studying my proposal for a pilot trial for a doctor in the emergency unit at Kidderminster to assist the nurses. The aim would be to study whether this arrangement could become financially self supporting by reducing unnecessary transfers away from Kidderminster and thus reducing expenses for the Ambulance Service and for the other hospitals in the county.

This is indeed a triumph for people power and, if successful, could help other parts of the country with A&E departments under threat. To make this exciting proposal possible in the current financial situation the Kidderminster Hospital League of Friends has been approached to consider a contribution towards the pilot trial which I hope would run for one year to take account of the changing health needs throughout a whole year including all the holiday periods."

Independent Health Concern's Leader on Wyre Forest Council, Howard Martin said *"This is a major breakthrough for us in our campaign for Doctor led facilities at Kidderminster Hospital. It is fabulous news for the community as a whole who will benefit from the improved facilities soon to be on offer. It demonstrates that our continued success in local elections acts as a barometer in the minds of decision makers regarding the significant level of local concern that still exists in Wyre Forest over health matters. It is why we still need a strong voice in the local Council and the support of local residents."*

Ends

Further information from-

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