



**North West**

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Mr John Leach  
Chair Stockport Link  
Stockport Local Involvement Network  
LINK Support Office  
Labyrinth House  
45 Middle Hillgate  
Stockport  
SK1 3DG

22<sup>nd</sup> October 2010

Dear Mr Leach

Thank you for your letter dated 6<sup>th</sup> October 2010, concerning a lack of engagement with the Stockport LINK around the new haemodialysis satellite unit in Stockport.

I understand that initially the North West Specialised Commissioning Team along with NHS Stockport contacted all those Stockport borough residents who were currently undergoing haemodialysis, and their carers, and invited them to attend workshops and /or feed into the engagement process.

They were keen to involve patients who are current users of the dialysis services, in particular when identifying the best location for the new service and from the patient's perspective and what would best meet the needs of local patients and their carers.

It is unfortunate that the Stockport LINK was not invited to take part in this process as is your remit. Therefore, I have copied your letter to the Chief Executive of NHS Stockport and written to them in order that they can respond to your questions and ensure that Stockport LINK is involved in any further engagement processes.

Yours sincerely

**Chris Joseph**  
**Assistant Director Engagement and Patient Experience**