

**UBHT**  
TEACHING CARE

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CONFIDENTIAL

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Mr. T.P. Durie,  
Chairman,  
UBHT,  
Trust Headquarters,  
Marlborough Street,  
Bristol

Dear Peter,

As you know Gianni Angelini has been to see me at your behest to discuss the problems that we have with paediatric cardiac surgery. I am sure you are well familiar with the history of this but it has run along in a rather half baked fashion certainly for all the time that I have been here. I think we accept the reality of the position and that is it is unlikely that paediatric cardiac surgery will move to the Children's Hospital for the foreseeable future but if the facility is to be reprovided then we would certainly argue strongly that space should, at least, be left for paediatric cardiac surgery in the new hospital. However, our present problem is that we have good units on our doorstep, namely, in Southampton and in Cardiff and if paediatric cardiac surgery is to survive in Bristol the surgical side certainly needs a very major shake-up. As you know at present it is run by two part-time adult part-time paediatric surgeons but it is now such a highly specialised completely different specialty from adult cardiac surgery that that option is a very poor second to what is required. Gianni has come up with the novel idea of appointing a senior lecturer under his auspices for two years and for then the NHS to take over this chap assuming he has done what we would want him to do and that is turn the service around. I am strongly in favour of this and I think the time has come to make a decision because if we do not get ahead with it paediatric cardiac surgery in Bristol is going to fold and shortly after that paediatric cardiology will go with it.

I am writing to see whether there will be any funding to allow us to do this or whether we ought to try and sort this out in house. We both feel very strongly that it should be resolved and if we need to do it in house then I shall certainly take that

The United Bristol Healthcare NHS Trust

