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Dear Colleague,

I am writing to inform you that Derbyshire Community Health Services NHS Foundation Trust has taken the necessary decision to temporarily close the endoscopy suite at Ilkeston Community Hospital from 1 May 2016.

The highly specialist equipment used by this service has become outdated and is nearing the end of its serviceable life. Support for this equipment from manufacturers has also become challenging, so it has now become necessary to temporarily close the unit while we review options in order to fulfil our promise of providing the highest quality, sustainable endoscopy services for local people. It is important to stress that there is no risk to the safety of our patients who have been treated at the unit.

The significant investment needed to bring the current unit up to required national standards and accreditation would not provide good value for public money; we are therefore working closely with NHS partners in Derby and Nottingham to maintain continuity of care for our patients while we review our future options. Our patients will be informed of the temporary alternative arrangements as soon as possible.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact: [dchst.communications@nhs.net](mailto:dchst.communications@nhs.net)

Yours sincerely,

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