Statement from Mayor Joe Anderson adopted by Liverpool Health and Wellbeing Board 1st December 2016

"The STP before us today is from a Government that is clearly based on making cuts in health provision rather than focusing on key areas for investment, and invest to earn strategies. A clear focus on the desired outcomes required for our residents is also missing.

The City and the CCG have already shown both innovative and effective joint working in our Healthy Liverpool Strategy, which was a response to my Mayoral Health Commission.

The Commission found that only a transformational approach would work, and the CCG has been working hard to deliver the 10 point plan to achieve this vision. This week, we were also pleased to announce a key major partnership to deliver community health services in the City. Where other areas are handing services to the private sector, we are leading the way on integrating public services.

As a city, we all support the principles of joined up working between the Council, health services and others, including residents themselves, for better integrated services, particularly in adult social care.

However, there has been no, I repeat no, consultation or engagement with the city and any other city region local authorities over this STP, and for any plan to be sustainable the input from the relevant local authorities is critical.

I have chaired this Health and Wellbeing Board for the last 3 years, yet this is the first time we have been asked, without appropriate consultation, to comment on a major strategic plan by Government which will directly affect many vulnerable residents within our city and the city region.

As it stands, this report seeks to be noted, but I want to make it very clear that the proposals within the STP are rejected by the Council and this Board, because it fails to address the key issues facing our residents and their health in the years to come. The STP is damaging to our Health Service and undermines any faith we could have in the Government’s ability to invest in a future for the NHS.

And I would like the Board to endorse these comments – is that agreed?"

[agreed, with no audible dissent]