

Dear Reader,

The allegations made by Ms. Joan Ryan are utterly groundless and regarded by me as libellous. I would consider any repeat of these unfounded and libellous accusations a very serious matter indeed.

I am appalled that Joan Ryan MP is so desperate to retain her seat in the election that she is resorting to yet again publishing false information about the future of Chase Farm Hospital.

She has already been caught out when her leaflet wrongly claimed to save A&E at Chase Farm Hospital. Now she is claiming that the Council has met BMI about selling off land at Chase Farm Hospital, "leading to a hostile takeover".

This is completely untrue. The Council has not met with or talked to BMI.

Local people want and expect politicians to work together to improve the local area. Joan Ryan should be working with us to protect local services instead she stoops to the lowest form of smear tactics and uses the loss of A&E as a prop to make party-political point scoring.

If she'd asked me about her concerns direct, I would have told her there was nothing to them. Instead, she gets someone else to make a vague Freedom of Information request on her behalf rather than be up front about her questions. She always waits for three months to raise them so they come out before the elections.

Enfield Council has worked tirelessly to press for the retention of vital services at Chase Farm Hospital and have used all our powers to protect A&E services, including court action.

Sorry Joan, but yet again you've got your facts wrong. No secret plan, no secret meetings and another case of a local MP twisting the truth to make a political point.

Mike Rye
Leader of Enfield Council