

free of charge, to whom the existing Trustees could hand over the hospital and hospice, and to continue to run them for the benefit of the community?

2. Secondly, why do you need the proceeds from the sale of St Anthony's Hospital, which must run into tens of millions of pounds? A quick check on the website of the Charity Commission shows that at 31st March 2012 (a year ago) The Daughters of the Cross Charity has over £80 million in stock market investments and cash at the bank. Since then the stock market has improved considerably, so by now the charity will have the best part of £100 million in reserve – excluding any receipt from the sale of St Anthony's Hospital.

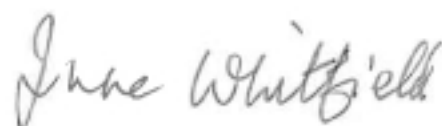
So what exactly do you plan to do with all this money? If you have other responsibilities, why not use some of your £100million BEFORE you sell our hospital, and NOT put the hospice at risk by doing so?

I do sincerely hope that you will now answer the above questions in detail publicly to explain the reasons behind the proposed sale, before it's too late. For that reason I am copying this letter to the local newspapers for publication.

And I urge you to reconsider the proposal of the Management, staff and supporters of the hospital and hospice to instead create a new charity encompassing both St Anthony's and St Raphael's.

The Daughters of the Cross established St Anthony's Charitable Hospital in 1904, and then built St Raphael's Hospice in 1987. Their ethos and faith have served the people of both Sutton and Merton well for over a century, it would be not just sad, but unforgivable if you and your current colleagues are the ones to extinguish these beacons of hope and faith in an increasingly difficult world.

Yours sincerely,



JUNE WHITFIELD, CBE

cc. St Anthony's Hospital
St Raphael's Hospice