

## Appendix 1

### Consultation on developing new, high-quality major trauma and stroke services in London

#### 1.0 Background

In *Healthcare for London: A Framework for Action*, Professor Lord Darzi set out an ambitious vision to transform health and healthcare in London. As a first step towards achieving this vision, all Primary Care Trusts across London, supported by Healthcare for London, are consulting on proposals to deliver new specialist major trauma and stroke services at specific hospitals across London. This process is being coordinated through a Committee of all London PCTs and NHS South West Essex. This committee will consider the outcome of the consultation and will make the decisions about the new specialist services.

This paper sets out the consultation questions being asked of staff, patients, residents, commuters, representative groups, unions, elected representatives and anyone who has an interest in, or might use, London health services. It outlines the consultation process across London and the steps being taken within Brent to ensure full involvement of all interested individuals and groups. It also sets the consultation questions within the context of other strategic developments locally.

#### 2.0 Consultation

The consultation commenced on the 30<sup>th</sup> January 2009 and is planned to last for 14 weeks, ending on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2009. The detailed and compact versions of the consultation document, along with other information, is available on the Healthcare for London website [www.healthcareforlondon.nhs.uk](http://www.healthcareforlondon.nhs.uk)

The consultation is seeking views on developing:

- New trauma networks based around three or four new major trauma centres
- New hyper-acute stroke units, stroke units and transient ischaemic attack (sometimes known as mini stroke) services

The Committee of PCTs have proposed to use the same criteria used to develop the options also be used to make the decisions at the end of the consultation. These are:

- Quality: to ensure hospitals can deliver services to the highest standards
- Coverage: to ensure all Londoners can access services in acceptable times
- Strategic coherence or 'best fit': to ensure stroke and major trauma services are provided in the same hospital where there are benefits

The specific consultation questions relate to:

### ***Major Trauma***

The proposed configuration of services that will deliver the best trauma care for Londoners

### ***Stroke***

The model of care

The number of hyper-acute stroke units

The proposed configuration of hyper-acute stroke units across London

The proposed configuration of stroke units across London

The proposed configuration of TIA services across London

### ***Next steps***

The criteria that the panel will consider to make a decision following consultation

## **3.0 Taking forward the consultation across Brent**

Both trauma and stroke are high priority issues for Brent and it is important that all interested groups and individuals are given the opportunity to comment fully on the proposals.

A Stakeholder Communications and Engagement Plan has been created, detailing the engagement activity planned with varied stakeholder groups including Patients/Carers; Community; NHS Staff (Board, management and clinicians); Health Partners (providers and Local Authority) and Influencers (media and local politicians).

1000 individuals and groups have been contacted by email and in writing with information on the consultation. This included reports, summaries and an invitation to present the information directly at existing meetings and forums. Over 30 organisations accepted the offer and presentations are planned from mid February to May. The organisations cover a variety of communities (including BME groups, disabled groups, older people groups, refugee groups and carer groups), professional groups and localities. The presentations cover an explanation of Stroke and Major Trauma and the options for the reconfiguration of services. Participants are then asked to vote on options and then encouraged to complete questionnaires to be sent to Healthcare for London to ensure the views of Brent residents are captured formally.

In addition to presentations, two specific Health Fairs will be held, one at Central Middlesex Hospital and one at the ASDA car park in Wembley Park. The Health Fairs will give information to members of the public and encourage them to complete the questionnaires. Room will be made available using a trailer from Healthcare for London to try to attract as many people as possible.

Adverts and articles have been placed in local press and information loaded to the NHS Brent website to let people know about feedback opportunities.

#### **4.0 Strategic Fit**

NHS Brent (NHS-B) will need to consider the options put forward in the consultation documents to consider best strategic fit with its overall strategic aim of improving the quality and patient experience received by Brent residents from all providers. NHS-B has been actively involved in the development of the new models of care, the consideration of commissioning methodologies and the joint working arrangements across all of the PCTs of London.

In particular, NHS-B has worked closely with North West London Hospitals Trust to review the current model of stroke provision across the two sites of Northwick Park Hospital and Central Middlesex Hospital and supports the need for the centralisation of stroke services (both HASU and stroke unit) on the Northwick Park site. This will be supported by improvements to acute stroke care gained through implementation of the Healthcare for London stroke pathway and accreditation standards. It will also be supported by planned improvements to community-based rehabilitation services for people following a stroke, as outlined in the NHS Brent Commissioning Strategy Plan. Most immediately, this involves the commissioning of a care provider to provide Early Supported Discharge for Stroke. In looking at the health needs of the Brent population it appears that the proposed location of both hyper acute stroke units and stroke units would provide the best configuration of services for local residents.

In relation to trauma services, the consultation defines 'trauma' as including injuries such as a fractured hip or ankle or minor head injury. Within the consultation document both Northwick Park and Central Middlesex Hospitals are shown as trauma centres. However, Central Middlesex Hospital does not currently provide the full range of trauma services. It is therefore more likely that for some trauma people will be taken from the locality to neighbouring trauma centres at St Mary's and Northwick Park. Major trauma is used to describe the most severe life-threatening injuries or multiple injuries including arm or leg amputations, severe knife and gunshot wounds and major spinal and head injuries. In considering these two issues it appears that the needs of Brent residents would be better met through four networks including St Mary's Hospital (option 1).

#### **5.0 Outcome of Consultation**

The consultation period finishes on the 8<sup>th</sup> May 2009. The outcome of the consultation is due to be considered by the joint committee of PCTs in July. NHS Brent will then be required to fully participate in the implementation of the preferred options for both stroke and trauma care.