



## Health Select Committee

9 December 2009

### Report from the Director of Policy & Regeneration

For Action

Wards Affected: ALL

## Acute Services Review – Public Consultation on Children’s Services Update

### 1.0 Summary

- 1.1 The Health Select Committee is to be presented with an update on the Acute Services Review and the results of the pre-consultation campaign on the proposed changes to children’s services in Brent and Harrow. As members will recall, the local NHS would like to establish two Paediatric Assessment Units (PAUs), one at Northwick Park Hospital (NPH) and another at Central Middlesex Hospital (CMH) and centralise the inpatient service at NPH. It is anticipated that this will reduce unnecessary admissions and improve the links with community child health services.
- 1.2 Since the last Health Select Committee meeting the pre consultation business case for paediatric services has been reviewed with NHS London which has asked the National Clinical Advisory Team (NCAT) to review the proposed clinical model. The Department of Health has also scheduled a three day gateway review which requires interviews with local stakeholders including patient representatives and members of Brent and Harrow’s respective health scrutiny functions. Councillor Chris Leaman will be interviewed as part of this gateway review.
- 1.3 The original intention was to present the draft consultation document at the Health Select Committee meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> December so that consultation on the proposals could begin before Christmas. However, this will not be possible because the NCAT review and gateway review will not be completed until 18<sup>th</sup> December. At the last Health Select Committee it was explained to members that before public consultation could begin, NCAT and Department of Health approval was needed.
- 1.4 Health Select Committee has been asked to convene a special meeting in early January 2010 to consider the draft consultation document prior to consultation starting on 11<sup>th</sup> January. If this was left until the next scheduled Health Select Committee after the 9<sup>th</sup> December (which is on 17<sup>th</sup> February) there would not be enough time to consult on these proposals prior to the local elections in May 2010.

The chair of the committee has agreed to the request for a special meeting, which will be held on either the 5<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> January 2010.

- 1.5 The local NHS is eager to reconfigure children's' services in advance of the wider North West London sector review scheduled in later summer 2010. If public consultation is deferred until after the elections then the changes will be considered as part of the wider sector review. The Acute Services Review Project Board is concerned that this would delay the benefits to local people and ties our process into a complex sector arrangement.
- 1.6 The Health Select Committee should consider the update on the project included on the agenda and the results of the pre-consultation campaign and question officers from NWL Hospitals and NHS Brent on progress. The Committee should also confirm the date it wishes to hold the special meeting in January 2010.

## **2.0 Recommendations**

2.1 Health Select Committee is recommended to:

- (i). Note the update on the acute services review and the results of the pre-consultation campaign and question officers on the progress of the project.
- (ii). Confirm the date that the special meeting will take place to consider the public consultation proposal in early January 2010 – the 5<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> January have been suggested as options for this meeting.

## **3.0 Financial Implications**

3.1 None

## **4.0 Legal Implications**

4.1 None

## **5.0 Diversity Implications**

5.1 None

## **6.0 Staffing/Accommodation Implications (if appropriate)**

6.1 None

### **Contact Officers**

Andrew Davies, Policy and Performance Officer  
Tel – 020 8937 1609  
Email – [Andrew.davies@brent.gov.uk](mailto:Andrew.davies@brent.gov.uk)

Phil Newby, Director of Policy and Regeneration  
Tel – 020 8937 1032  
Email – [phil.newby@brent.gov.uk](mailto:phil.newby@brent.gov.uk)