



Health Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee 27th November 2012

Report from the Director of Strategy, Partnerships and Improvement

For Action

Wards Affected:
ALL

Update on the merger of Ealing Hospital NHS Trust and North West London Hospitals NHS Trust and on progress towards the £72m savings target.

1.0 Summary

1.1 Members will recall that they requested an update from North West London Hospitals NHS Trust on progress towards the proposed merger with Ealing Hospital NHS Trust and on the progress that the trusts are making in achieving their combined £72m savings target as there are concerns this has fallen behind schedule.

1.2 The main issues identified are:

- The planned board meetings to formally approve the full business case for the merger in October were cancelled as requested more time to consider the financial challenges for the new trust.
- NHS London requested that the trust undertake further work on the financial planning in support of the Quality, Innovation, Productivity and Prevention programme.
- The merger date of 1 April 2013 will not now be achieved.
- The trusts are continuing with integration plans in the meantime, to go ahead with the merger.
- Given the delay in the merger the level of savings for next year will now need to be reviewed.
- The overall level of year on year savings will continue to be refined as part of the normal contracting and business planning which takes place with commissioners each year.
- To the end of September the trust achieved £9.8m against a plan to date of £11.0m.

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 The Health Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee should consider the report provided on recruiting health visitors and question officers on:

- Revised timescales and plans for the merger
- The trust's expected failure to meet its original savings targets.

Contact Officers

Mark Burgin
Policy and Performance Officer
Tel – 020 8937 5029
Email – mark.burgin@brent.gov.uk

Phil Newby
Director of Strategy, Partnerships and Improvement
Tel – 020 8937 1032
Email – phil.newby@brent.gov.uk