



Health Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee 18th July 2012

Report from the Director of Strategy, Partnerships and Improvement

For Action

Wards Affected:
ALL

Shaping a healthier future consultation

1.0 Summary

- 1.1 The Health Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be aware that NHS North West London has been working on Shaping a healthier future, its programme for health improvement in North West London. The committee received a report at its previous meeting on the project, including an update on the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee that has been formed by North West London boroughs to scrutinise the proposals for service change.
- 1.2 Since the committee's last meeting, the public consultation on Shaping a healthier future has begun. Whilst the consultation is about more than the location of major hospital services in North West London, it is this element that has attracted most attention in the lead up to consultation. There are three main options out to consultation in relation to hospital services:

Option A (the preferred option) -

Major hospitals – Northwick Park, Hillingdon, St Mary's, Chelsea and Westminster and West Middlesex

Local hospitals – Ealing and Charing Cross

Elective hospital – Central Middlesex

Specialist Hospital – Hammersmith

Option B –

Major hospitals – Northwick Park, Hillingdon, St Mary's, West Middlesex and Charing Cross

Local hospitals – Ealing and Chelsea and Westminster

Elective hospital – Central Middlesex

Specialist Hospital – Hammersmith

Option C –

Major hospitals – Northwick Park, Hillingdon, St Mary's, Ealing and Chelsea and Westminster

Local hospitals – Charing Cross

Elective hospital – Central Middlesex

Local and elective hospital - West Middlesex

Specialist Hospital – Hammersmith

- 1.3 Members will be most interested in the impact of these changes on services in Brent. Under all of the consultation options, both Northwick Park and St Mary's Hospital will remain major hospital service sites, with a full range of A&E and maternity services, as well as the services required to support these functions such as emergency surgery. Central Middlesex is recommended to become a local hospital and an elective centre. The consultation document says the following about Central Middlesex Hospital:

“We have not proposed Central Middlesex Hospital as a major hospital in any of the consultation options. We have recommended that Central Middlesex Hospital should not be a major hospital but an elective hospital with local hospital services. This is because it is already providing these services, its major A&E services are already under pressure (A&E emergency round-the clock care had to be suspended in late 2011 because not enough senior emergency care doctors were available on-site), essential services for a major hospital – emergency surgery, paediatrics and maternity – are not provided on-site and patients could access these major emergency care services elsewhere in other nearby hospitals”. Page 56 of Shaping a healthier future consultation document.

- 1.4 Although the council is participating in the North West London JOSC, it is still able to respond to the consultation setting out its comments in relation to the proposals. Brent Council's response would, understandably, be more Brent focussed than the JOSC report and response to the consultation, which has to reflect the views of all of the participating boroughs. The committee should consider how it wants to respond to the consultation, which closes on the 8th October.
- 1.5 Officers from NHS Brent and North West London NHS Hospitals Trust will be at the committee to answer questions about the Brent elements of the Shaping a healthier future proposals.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 The Health Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee should consider the Shaping a healthier future consultation documents and question representatives from NHS Brent on the plans for services in the borough. Members should also consider how they wish to respond to the consultation.

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