



City of Westminster

JOSC Representatives Views:

- Westminster residents currently use St Mary's Hospital, Chelsea and Westminster, St Thomas' and University College Hospital. Site visits have been made to all four and other local hospitals by the Adult Services & Health Policy & Scrutiny Committee who visited A&E, maternity and Paediatric facilities and asked about present capacity issues and scope/plans for expansion.
- The clinically recommended and preferred option works for residents and the million visitors and commuters who come into Westminster daily. We intend to hold Public Meeting to address the issues directly with NHS NWL on Monday 1st October.
- We note that proposals are clinically led. Expert witnesses at JHOSC repeatedly said that "business as usual" was not an option. One quoted an estimated 520 excess deaths each year due to inadequate staffing of what should be 24/7 emergency services at the current nine Major hospitals in NWL.
- We note that for the Acute Reconfiguration to go ahead from 2015, it is pivotal that Primary Care is transformed for the better, the CCGs' Out of Hospital Strategies are delivered, and quality of care improved vastly through better integration of health and social care across primary, community and acute sectors over the next 3 years. We believe that local authority Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny Committees will have important roles to play in leading and monitoring this at local level.
- There is a major need for us to **educate** the public about how best to use the reformed health services.
- There is a potential issue in relation to Workforce strategy which needs further detailed consideration, since out of hospital services need to be built up perhaps before surplus staff are released from the Acute sector for re-deployment
- There must be **absolute guarantees** that capital is available so that major estate and infrastructure issues at St Mary's are addressed in time to accommodate the extra service and capacity requirements to provide specialist health services in the 21st century.
- We note longer journey times to transport emergency cases to 5 instead of 9 sites. Essential that local ambulance service gets the additional crews and vehicles it needs