



**Health Select Committee**  
3rd October 2007

**Report from the  
Director of Policy & Regeneration**

**Brent Birthing Centre - Future Services**

**1.0 Summary**

- 1.1 This item provides members with an overview of the issues, proposed options, and associated consultation process regarding the Brent Birthing Centre at Central Middlesex Hospital.
- 1.2 Colleagues from North West London Hospitals NHS Trust (NWLHT) will provide a presentation and respond to questions from members.

**2.0 Recommendations**

- 2.1 To comment on and respond to the North West London Hospitals Trust's proposed process of consultation on the Brent Birthing Centre.
- 2.2 To consider how this committee responds to the formal consultation (October-December) and future decisions by the trust on this matter.

**3.0 Background**

- 3.1 In August 2007 North West London Hospitals NHS Trust wrote to Cllr Leaman as Chair regarding proposals to change services at the Brent Birthing Centre based at Central Middlesex Hospital (Park Royal). A copy of the Trust's letter constitutes **Appendix (A)**.
- 3.2 To provide members with more detail on the proposals and the suggested consultation period, the Chair requested that a special meeting be convened to allow for full consideration and the formulation of an initial response.
- 3.3 The Trust forwarded a paper "*Brent Birthing Centre- Future Services*" to its own Board on the 15<sup>th</sup> August 2007, outlining the main issues and possible options for changes to services. This paper constitutes **Appendix (B)**.

- 3.4 Brent tPCT receives a paper on the proposed consultation process at its Board meeting in September. Other local stakeholders, including Overview & Scrutiny Committees and Patient & Public Involvement Fora are being consulted on the initial consultation approach. Once agreed NWLHT will launch a formal consultation on the proposals outlined (between October and December).
- 3.5 This committee is being asked to help shape the consultation approach and to formally respond to the consultation once it is launched.
- 3.6 Upon the completion of consultation, North West London Hospitals NHS Trust will determine its preferred option and put this to its board for decision.
- 3.7 This committee will need to revisit this issue once a formal proposal has been forwarded and agreed by the NWLHT board. As the implications of this decision are likely to effect residents in both Brent and Harrow, a joint committee may need to be constituted to fulfil the statutory requirement to consult on any potential substantial variation in service.

### **Contact Officers**

**James Sandy**  
**Policy and Performance Officer**  
**020 8937 1609**  
**james.sandy@brent.gov.uk**

**Phil Newby**  
**Director of Policy and Regeneration**  
**020 8937 1032**  
**phil.newby@brent.gov.uk**