



**Health Select Committee
23rd October 2008**

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

For Action

Wards Affected:
ALL

Fitness for Purpose – Willesden Inpatient Wards

1.0 Summary

- 1.1 In the light of two serious untoward incidents and concerns about nurse staffing levels and skills for the three wards at the Willesden Centre for Health and Care, NHS Brent commissioned an external review to look into the issues at the centre.
- 1.2 This review confirmed that staff resources needed to be increased and clinical governance needed to be strengthened to ensure that the current services could be satisfactorily delivered.
- 1.3 The Chair of the Health Select Committee has asked for this item to be included on the agenda so that members can be updated on the steps the NHS Brent has taken to resolve the problems at Willesden Centre for Health and Care.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 The Health Select Committee should consider the reports at appendix 1 and 2 to this paper and question officers from NHS Brent on the steps taken to improve services at Willesden Centre for Health and Care and to ensure that similar situations do not arise in the future.

3.0 Detail

- 3.1 As a result of two serious untoward incidents and concerns about nurse staffing levels and skills at the Willesden Centre for Health and Care, NHS Brent commissioned an external review to look into the issues at the centre.
- 3.2 This review confirmed that staff resources needed to be increased and clinical governance needed to be strengthened to ensure that the current services could be satisfactorily delivered.
- 3.3 Since the review has been completed, NHS Brent's board has agreed to invest approximately £600,000 per year on additional staff and training to ensure the wards are adequately staffed and staff receive the necessary training. Full details are set out in appendix 1 and 2 to this report.
- 3.4 The Chair of the Health Select Committee has asked for this issue to be brought to the meeting so that members can ask officers from NHS Brent about the steps they have taken to ensure that a situation such as that at Willesden Centre for Health and Care doesn't arise in the future.

4.0 Financial Implications

4.1 None

5.0 Legal Implications

5.1 None

6.0 Diversity Implications

6.1 None

7.0 Staffing/Accommodation Implications (if appropriate)

7.1 None

Background Papers

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