



**Health Select Committee  
16<sup>th</sup> December 2008**

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

For Action

Wards Affected: ALL

**Healthcare Commission Annual Health Check Result**

**1.0 Summary**

- 1.1 NHS Brent has received the result of its Healthcare Commission Annual Health Check for 2007/08. The trust has been assessed as “weak” for quality of services and “weak” for use of resources. In response to this, NHS Brent has produced an action plan to ensure that it complies with the Health Check core standards for 2008/09.
- 1.2 The Healthcare Commission report on NHS Brent, plus NHS Brent’s action plan are included as appendices to this paper.

**2.0 Recommendations**

- 2.1 The Health Select Committee should question officers from NHS Brent on the Healthcare Commission Annual Health Check results for 2007/08 and on the action plan they have produced to address the issues identified in the Health Check.

**3.0 Detail**

- 3.1 NHS Brent has been received the results of the Healthcare Commission Annual Health Check. It has been assessed as “weak” for quality of services and “weak” for use of resources. The assessment covered the 2007/08 financial year.
- 3.2 The assessment of 2007/2008 was carried out against a background of significant financial and governance failure and focus was on moving out of turnaround. This has subsequently been achieved and now the PCT is focussing on quality and performance, including a rebuild of reporting and performance management.

- 3.3 In 2007/08 NHS Brent did not meet 14 of the 44 core standards, but is now on target to achieve compliance with all standards by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009. An action plan setting out steps that have been taken to achieve compliance is included as an appendix to this report. There is still work to be done to ensure the organisation meets existing national targets and new national targets. The Health Select Committee may wish to focus on how this is to be addressed.
- 3.4 For use of resources, NHS Brent has put in place an action plan to address the weaknesses identified in the Healthcare Commission reports. A recent internal audit review at NHS Brent has given assurance that they will not be classified weak for use of resources in 2008/09. The organisation is optimistic it will achieve a “fair” “fair” rating in 2008/09, providing the key performance issues are addressed.
- 3.5 The Health Select Committee has to comment on NHS Brent’s progress in meeting the core standards for the 2008/09 assessment. It will do this in March / April 2009. Therefore, this is a good opportunity for the committee to consider the results from 2007/08 and ask NHS Brent officers how they are addressing the issues identified by the Healthcare Commission. This will help to inform the committee’s comments on the 2008/09 submission to the Healthcare Commission.

#### **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**

#### **Contact Officers**

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