



**Health Select Committee**  
7<sup>th</sup> January 2010

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

For Action

Wards Affected:  
ALL

**Acute Services Review – Paediatric Services in Brent and Harrow**

**1.0 Consultation on Paediatric Services in Brent and Harrow**

- 1.1 The Health Select Committee will recall that a special meeting has been requested by NHS Brent and North West London NHS Hospitals Trust in order for members to consider the consultation proposals for paediatric services provided at Northwick Park and Central Middlesex Hospitals. It is proposed that inpatient paediatric services will be centralised at Northwick Park Hospital and two paediatric assessment units will be created, one at each hospital. Each paediatric assessment unit will operate extended opening hours and be consultant led services.
- 1.2 The changes to paediatric services are part of the acute services review in Brent and Harrow, which has already resulted in all emergency surgery services being brought into one site, Northwick Park Hospital. The paediatric service proposals are the second element of the review.
- 1.3 The local NHS has to consult on the changes to paediatric services. The consultation period will begin on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2010 and last for 12 weeks, which is the standard consultation time for significant services changes in the NHS. The Health Select Committee has the opportunity to comment on the consultation proposals prior to consultation starting and to make recommendations for changes.
- 1.4 The changes to paediatric services within North West London NHS Hospitals Trust will have an impact on children and their parents in both Brent and Harrow. For that reason, councillors from the Harrow Overview and Scrutiny

Committee have been invited to attend the meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> January so they can also consider the consultation proposals with the Brent members.

- 1.5 The committee will have the opportunity to fully consider the consultation documents and respond to the service proposals. This will be done during the consultation period. However, any comments made at the meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> about the service changes will also be sent to the Acute Services Review project team. However, the focus of the meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> January should be the consultation plans rather than the specific service changes.
- 1.6 With that in mind, members should consider whether the consultation is clear on a number of issues highlighted by the Department of Health gateway review of the project proposals:

**Consultation scope** – there is a need to clarify that the consultation is only about the closure of six beds at CMH and the establishment of two PAUs.

**Future of Central Middlesex Hospital (CMH)** – the need for a simple, clear and consistent statement about the future of CMH to avoid these changes being seen as 'the thin end of the wedge' (Health Select Committee has also made this point previously to the local NHS as it had the same concerns).

**Direct engagement with families of sickle cell patients** – the need for a dedicated programme of engagement with these patients and their families/carers

**Transport arrangements** – the need for a commitment to families/carers and patients needing to return to Brent and assurances over patient safety issues involved in patient transfers out of hours

**NPH capacity** – assurance that the changes will not adversely affect other services at NPH and that it can cope with the paediatric inpatient integration

- 1.7 Comments and recommendations made by the committee on the consultation plans will be forwarded to NHS Brent and North West London NHS Hospitals Trust.

## 2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 Health Select Committee is recommended to consider and comment on the consultation proposals for paediatric services in Brent and Harrow.

## 3.0 Financial Implications

- 3.1 None

## 4.0 Legal Implications

- 4.1 None

## 5.0 Diversity Implications

5.1 None

**6.0 Staffing/Accommodation Implications (if appropriate)**

6.1 None

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