



**Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny  
Committee**  
30 January 2024

**Report from the Start Well  
Programme Director –  
NHS North Central London ICB**

**Start Well - Proposed changes to maternity, neonatal, and children's surgical services in North Central London.**

<b>Wards Affected:</b>	All
<b>Key or Non-Key Decision:</b>	Non-Key Decision
<b>Open or Part/Fully Exempt:</b> <small>(If exempt, please highlight relevant paragraph of Part 1, Schedule 12A of 1972 Local Government Act)</small>	Open
<b>List of Appendices:</b>	Appendix 1 - NCL Start Well Programme Presentation
<b>Background Papers:</b>	None
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## 1.0 Executive Summary

- 1.1. North Central London Integrated Care Board and NHS England (London) Specialised Commissioning are consulting on proposed changes to maternity, neonatal, and children's surgical services.
- 1.2. The report sets out the options being consulted on, and the possible impact of these proposals on Brent residents. It outlines the approach to consultation and how residents, staff and stakeholders can give their feedback on the proposals.

## **2.0 Recommendation(s)**

- 2.1 Note the update on the programme and provide feedback on the proposals and input into how to raise awareness with of the consultation with Brent residents and encourage participation.

## **3.0 Detail**

This report relates to the Borough Plan Priority – A Healthier Brent.

- 3.1 The Start Well Programme was initiated in 2021 to ensure maternity, neonatal, children and young people’s services in NCL are set up to meet population needs and improve outcomes. The drivers for starting the work demonstrate that the programme is key to delivering against the ICS’s duties around population health improvement and tackling inequalities.
- 3.2 This is a long programme of work, and no decision has been made on the changes. The ICB Board agreed at its meeting on Tuesday 5 December 2023 to initiate a 14-week consultation period, from 11 December 2023 until 17 March 2024. A decision on the proposals is not expected to be made until Autumn/Winter 2024/25.
- 3.3 The programme has developed a set of proposals to improve maternity and neonatal and children’s surgical services in NCL and for those choosing to use services in NCL. The purpose of the briefing today is to:
- Provide some context on the programme, outline the rationale for change and how the options have been developed.
  - Describe the options being put forward for public consultation.
  - Outline the potential impact these proposals may have on different populations, including Brent.
  - Capture your views and feedback on the approach to consultation and how best to engage with the populations in Brent who may be potentially impacted
  - The link to the consultation website where you can find more information and details about the programme is: [nclhealthandcare.org.uk/start-well](https://nclhealthandcare.org.uk/start-well)

## **3.2 Background**

The proposals have been developed with significant service user and clinical involvement, including a 10-week engagement period on a published case for change, a thorough options appraisal process that considered a range of criteria in developing the options put forward for consultation. The options appraisal considered: quality, access, workforce and finance (although this was not a differentiating factor in the proposals that are being consulted on).

## **4.0 Stakeholder and ward member consultation and engagement**

- 4.1 Informal engagement and briefing with the Brent community and wellbeing scrutiny chair prior to consultation, and a briefing at the start of the consultation process for community and wellbeing committee members.

- 4.2 The chair of the community and wellbeing committee / NWL JHOSC attended the NCL JHOSC on 30 November 2023 which reviewed the consultation plan and discussed the approach to public consultation.
- 4.3 Briefing for Leader, Cabinet members and chief officers, immediately prior to consultation launch.
- 4.4 In the first part of the public consultation there has been an all members briefing for all LB Brent councillors on the proposals, this was attended by ICB Executive leads from NCL and NWL, the programme team and clinical leaders from NCL and NWL.
- 4.5 Updates have been given at Brent Connects meetings in January 2024 in Harlesden, Willesden and Kilburn.
- 4.6 Through consultation we are seeking to gain a wider range of feedback on the proposals that have been developed. The report outlines our approach to this and the groups that are being specifically targeted for engagement.

## **5.0 Financial Considerations**

- 5.1 N/A

## **6.0 Legal Considerations**

- 6.1 N/A

## **7.0 Equality, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI) Considerations**

- 7.1 Equality impact Assessments will be carried out by the NHS North Central London ICB in advance of the final decision-making process. An interim integrated impact assessment has already been carried out to explore the possible impact of the proposals which has been published on the website alongside the other consultation materials.

## **8.0 Climate Change and Environmental Considerations**

- 8.1 Impact of the proposals on the environment have been captured through the interim integrated impact assessments that have been carried out.

## **9.0 Human Resources/Property Considerations (if appropriate)**

- 9.1 N/A

## **10.0 Communication Considerations**

- 10.1 N/A

### **Report Sign-Off:**

*Anna Stewart*

Start Well Programme Director