

12 September 2025

**Deputation to JHOSC from Haringey Keep Our NHS Public**

**Changes in Health and Care in NCL**

We welcome fresh thinking about prevention and care closer to home from the Government. We recognize that these could have great benefits for everyone.

However we are concerned that the current developments in NCL and NWL ICBs will not allow those benefits to be fully realised.

We urge JHOSC to engage with the plans of the merged ICBs and provide the detailed oversight required to get the best outcome for residents.

1. The planned merger of NCL and NWL ICBs will involve a 50% reduction in their staff numbers, making for a major restructuring of NHS services much more difficult.
2. No extra funding will be provided for the changes - any new investment in Neighbourhood Hubs etc will then have to come from cuts to existing budgets - or by the new Public Private Partnerships heralded in the 10 Year Plan from the DHSC. Both very concerning.

**3. For JHOSC**

A. So far there has been very limited public engagement by the ICBs on their plans for the future. As far as we know, there has been little discussion with Councillors about the plans for the ICB merger nor the plans for “Integrators” of services and the setting up of Neighbourhood Hubs. We request JHOSC press NCL/NWL ICB for an urgent and full discussion of these plans.

B What plans are there for JHOSC after the NCL and NWL ICB merger? The new ICB will cover 13 boroughs. If plans for a future JHOSC cover those 13 boroughs, then the JHOSC is likely to be unwieldly and more remote from residents. We suggest that the existing NCL JHOSC continues and that you lobby for this outcome.

C The 10 year plan for the NHS from the DHSC says very little about Social Care as they expect a report in 2028 to cover that. However, in the meantime, the Neighbourhood Hubs will seek to offer advice on social care etc. As Social Care budgets make up a large part of Local Government expenditure, we are concerned that the ICB’s plans will seek to strongly influence policy and decision-making on social care. JHOSC should take a keen interest in these developments to ensure that Council budgets remain fully under their control.

D We are also concerned that the merged ICB will be more remote from residents, especially given the reduced role for Healthwatch. This means that the role of Councillors becomes even more important as providing democratic scrutiny of any proposals for changes to NHS services from the ICB.

5. We urge to press NCL/NWL ICB for a full discussion of their plans, especially for Neighbourhood Health Centres, at the next meeting of JHOSC. We urge JHOSC to provide detailed oversight required to get the best outcome for residents both of the issues we are raising but any other concerns JHOSC may have.

Alan Morton/Rod Wells

Haringey Keep Our NHS Public