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29 September 2011

Councillor Gideon Bull
Chair, Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Via email

Dear Councillor Bull

Re: Barnet, Enfield and Haringey Clinical Strategy

As you are aware, the Secretary of State for Health has supported in full the advice given to him by the Independent Reconfiguration Panel and has said that the case for change should proceed.

The Chief Executives and their teams at Barnet and Chase Farm NHS Trust and North Middlesex University NHS Trust are therefore working to implement the changes set out in the Clinical Strategy to deliver safe and sustainable services for patients in the three Boroughs.

This decision means a new future for Chase Farm Hospital which will continue to treat the majority of patients currently using it.

Patients needing accident and emergency treatment will be seen at Barnet Hospital and North Middlesex University Hospital, while Chase Farm Hospital will keep its urgent care centre. At present, 30 per cent of all patients that attend A&E are treated in the hospital's urgent care centre.

Consultant-led maternity services will be delivered at Barnet and North Middlesex hospitals, where extra capacity is planned to accommodate mothers and babies.

Elective surgery, outpatients and diagnostics will continue on the Chase Farm site. Those patients with an appointment or treatment booked at Chase Farm will continue to be seen there.

More information on the changes to local hospital services will be made available over the coming months.

Chair: Paula Kahn
Chief Executive: Caroline Taylor

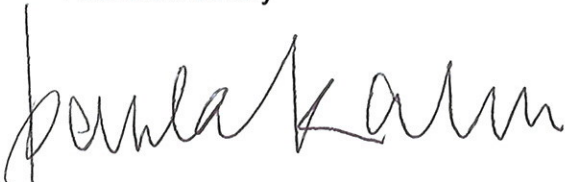
**NHS North Central London is a collaborative working arrangement between
Barnet, Camden, Enfield, Haringey and Islington Primary Care Trusts**

Work is also continuing to refresh our primary care commissioning strategies across the boroughs to ensure that we deliver an integrated primary care service that meets the needs of our population effectively.

In addition, the Secretary of State has directed NHS London to work with Barnet and Chase Farm Hospitals NHS Trust and North Middlesex University NHS Trust to assess the feasibility of transferring Chase Farm Hospital to the North Middlesex University Hospital NHS Trust and to report back to him by 16 December 2011. This feasibility study will consider the impact of such a transfer and will want to make sure that each organisation is sustainable and able to achieve Foundation Trust status.

As further details emerge we will keep you updated. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or Christina Craig, Programme Director, at christina.craig@nclondon.nhs.uk.

Yours sincerely



Paula Kahn
Chair