

15<sup>th</sup> March 2024  
Laycock Professional  
Development Centre  
Laycock Street  
London  
N1 1TH

[nclhealthandcare.org.uk](http://nclhealthandcare.org.uk)

Dear Cllr Connor

**Start Well: NHS North Central London's consultation on proposed changes to maternity, neonatal, and children's surgical services**

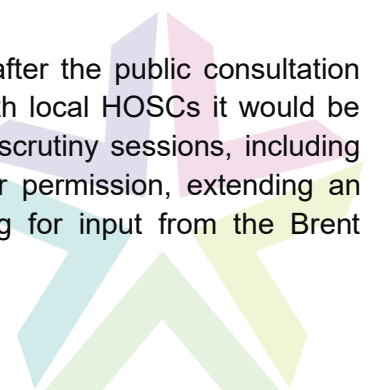
As you know we are currently conducting a public consultation in relation to potential changes to maternity, neonatal and children's surgical services in North Central London. I wanted to thank you for the helpful review at the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JHOSC) meeting on 30 November 2023 where we outlined and received feedback on our approach to the public consultation. Given the potential impact of one of the maternity and neonatal options on residents living in Brent, as a committee you were joined for the discussion by Cllr Ketan Sheth in his role as chair of the Brent Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee and North West London JHOSC.

I am writing in accordance with The Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013, to notify the NCL JHOSC of the date by which we need the committee to provide comments on our proposals under the 2013 Regulations. Additionally, the 2013 Regulations require us to inform you of the date by which we intend to make a decision about whether to proceed with our proposals.

As you know our public consultation closes on Sunday 17 March 2024 and after this date, the independent agency (ORS) that we have commissioned to oversee the research element of the public consultation will collate and analyse the large number of responses, both qualitative and quantitative, that we have received and produce a consultation response report, which will need to go through formal ICB governance. Separately the programme team will be producing a promotion and reach report which will outline the efforts made during the consultation period to promote awareness of the consultation and engage with residents.

We have attended and had very helpful discussion and feedback from individual Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings from four of the five NCL HOSCs as well as with colleagues in Brent. We have been to the following meetings: Camden Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee on 23 January 2024; Brent Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee on 30 January 2024; Haringey Adults and Health Scrutiny Committee 22 February 2024; Islington Health and Care Scrutiny Committee 4 March 2024; and Barnet Adults and Health Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee on 6 March 2024.

I understand you intend to offer feedback from the JHOSC on our proposals after the public consultation concludes. Given the breadth of the local discussions during the discussion with local HOSCs it would be helpful if this could draw on and be informed by the individual borough-based scrutiny sessions, including Brent. To ensure a comprehensive feedback process, we propose, with your permission, extending an invitation to Cllr Sheth to participate in the NCL JHOSC discussion, allowing for input from the Brent perspective.



In terms of timing, it would be helpful to schedule this update for a JHOSC meeting in June/July 2024. At the JHOSC meeting we propose to provide the promotion and reach report as well as a paper that outlines the emerging high-level themes from the consultation responses. This timing will enable us to integrate your feedback into our considerations for next steps, which we will outline in the Decision Making Business Case (DMBC). In order to reflect your feedback in the DMBC, we will need to **receive a formal response from the JHOSC by 31<sup>st</sup> July 2024.**

There will be significant amount of work that we will need to do to write and finalise a DMBC following completion of the final full report from ORS. We are also mindful of the potential impact of a general election in 2024 and the pre-election period that would precede it, which would reduce the window during which we can publish decision-making papers. We do not anticipate asking commissioners (North Central London Integrated Care Board and NHS England) to consider the DMBC and take a decision on whether to proceed with the proposals until December 2024 or January 2025. **Once we know the precise date for that decision, we will write to you formally to confirm the date.**

We hope that the timeline set out here for the committee's response to the consultation is achievable, and we look forward to receiving your comments. If you have any questions or would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



**Sarah Mansuralli**

**Deputy Chief Executive/Chief Strategy and Population Health Officer**

cc Cllr Ketan Sheth, Chair Brent Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee  
Dominic O'Brien, Principal Scrutiny Officer, Haringey Council  
Chetan Popat, Strategy Lead – Scrutiny Communities and Regeneration, Brent Council

