
Meeting	Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date	3 October 2013
Subject	Transport Services – Finchley Memorial Hospital
Report of Summary	Scrutiny Office On 9 May 2013 the Committee considered a Members' Item from Councillor Geof Cooke on Transport Services at Finchley Memorial Hospital. The Committee received a full report on 4 July 2013 and resolved that a further update be reported to the next meeting.

Officer Contributors	Andrew Charlwood, Overview and Scrutiny Manager
Status (public or exempt)	Public
Wards Affected	Woodhouse
Key Decision	N/A
Reason for urgency / exemption from call-in	N/A
Function of	Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Enclosures	None
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1. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 That the Committee consider the update on Transport Services at Finchley Memorial Hospital and make appropriate comments and/or recommendations.**

2. RELEVANT PREVIOUS DECISIONS

- 2.1 North Central London Sector Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, 27 February 2012, Decision Item 6, Barnet, Enfield and Haringey Clinical Strategy – during discussion on this item, the Committee made the following comment:

“The need to address public transport when considering major service change was raised. It was the view of the Chair that there had been an inability on the part of TfL to engage effectively with the change programme. It was noted that the process for making transport link changes, even to move a bus stop, could never meet the pace of change required, even when TfL could see the need.”

- 2.2 Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, 9 May 2013, Decision Item 12, Any Other Items the Chairman Decides are Urgent (Members’ Item) – the Committee considered a Members’ Item from Councillor Geof Cooke in relation to bus services at Finchley Memorial Hospital. In presenting the item, Councillor Cooke requested an update on discussions between the relevant NHS body and Transport for London (TfL) regarding the need for a bus service calling at Finchley Memorial Hospital in view of the distance from existing stops, including the distance from the entrance in Granville Road to the hospital building. In particular, he requested that consideration be given to providing a service by a small hopper type bus similar to that operating elsewhere in the borough.

Councillor Cooke also requested an update on any previous consideration by the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee on bus services in the context of reorganisation of health services between Barnet Hospital and Chase Farm Hospital, in particular the complete lack of any direct TfL service from any part of Barnet to Chase Farm.

The Committee resolved to receive a full report at the next meeting of the Committee on 4 July 2013 to include an update on any discussions between the GLA Member for Barnet and Camden (Andrew Dismore AM) and Transport for London on this issue.

- 2.3 Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, 4 July 2013, Decision Item 8, Transport Services Finchley Memorial Hospital – the Committee considered a report which outlined issues with transport services at Finchley Memorial Hospital. The Vice-Chairman, Councillor Old, updated the Committee on discussions that had been held with Transport for London (TfL) where they had indicated that it was unlikely that any existing routes would be re-routed. He advised the Committee that the walk from the bus stop to the hospital entrance (approximately 400 meters) was an issue for patients and suggested that an interim measure should be sought while negotiations were on-going with TfL.

The Cabinet Member for Public Health, Councillor Helena Hart, informed the Committee that she had written to the Mayor of London on this issue. In her

representation she had stated that public transport links to Finchley Memorial Hospital were a key element of the redevelopment proposals. Her letter had also stated that there should be a firm commitment to equal and inclusive access to services. The Committee were advised that the Mayor had responded and had undertaken to personally look into this matter. Councillor Hart undertook to update the Committee on any response received from the Mayor's office.

It was noted that a number of other local politicians and groups had also been lobbying the Mayor and TfL on this issue.

A Member highlighted that executive responsibility for TfL rested with the Mayor of London and expressed disappointment at the lack of cooperation from TfL on this issue. It was suggested that re-routing a bus service into the site or providing a shuttle bus from the hospital entrance would address the problem.

At the conclusion of the item the Committee resolved the following:

1. The Committee note the update on Transport Services at Finchley Memorial Hospital as set out in the report and as outlined above.
2. The Chairman be requested to submit a formal representation to the Greater London Assembly Transport Committee on this issue, with any feedback reported to the Committee in due course.
3. Officers be instructed to invite representatives from Transport for London to the next meeting of the Committee on 4 October 2013 to update the Committee regarding on-going discussions and possible options for transport services at Finchley Memorial Hospital.

3. CORPORATE PRIORITIES AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committees must ensure that the work of Scrutiny is reflective of the Council's priorities.
- 3.2 The three priority outcomes set out in the 2013 – 2016 Corporate Plan are: –
 - Promote responsible growth, development and success across the borough;
 - Support families and individuals that need it – promoting independence, learning and well-being; and
 - Improve the satisfaction of residents and businesses with the London Borough of Barnet as a place to live, work and study.
- 3.3 The work of the Barnet Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee supports the delivery of the following outcomes identified in the Corporate Plan:
 - To sustain a strong partnership with the local NHS, so that families and individuals can maintain and improve their physical and mental health; and
 - To promote a healthy, active, independent and informed over 55 population in the borough to encourage and support our residents to age well.

4. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

- 4.1 None in the context of this report.

5. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

- 5.1 In addition to the Terms of Reference of the Committee, and in so far as relating to matters within its remit, the role of the Committee is to perform the Overview and Scrutiny role in relation to:
- The Council's leadership role in relation to diversity and inclusiveness; and
 - The fulfilment of the Council's duties as employer including recruitment and retention, personnel, pensions and payroll services, staff development, equalities and health and safety.
- 5.2 The Council is required to give due regard to its public sector equality duties as set out in the Equality Act 2010 and, as public bodies, health partners are also subject to equalities legislation; consideration of equalities issues should therefore form part of their reports.

6. USE OF RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS (Finance, Procurement, Performance & Value for Money, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

- 6.1 None in the context of the report.

7. LEGAL ISSUES

- 7.1 Section 244 of the National Health Service Act 2006 and Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013/218; Part 4 Health Scrutiny by Local Authorities provides for the establishment of Health Overview and Scrutiny Committees by local authorities.
- 7.2 Health and Social Care Act 2012, Section 12 – introduces section 2B to the NHS Act 2006 which imposes a new target duty on the local authority to take such steps as it considers appropriate for improving the health of people in its area.

8. CONSTITUTIONAL POWERS (Relevant section from the Constitution, Key/Non-Key Decision)

- 8.1 The scope of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees is contained within Part 2, Article 6 of the Council's Constitution.
- 8.2 The Terms of Reference of the Scrutiny Committees are included in the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules (Part 4 of the Council's Constitution). The Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee has within its terms of reference responsibility:

- i) To perform the overview and scrutiny role in relation to health issues which impact upon the residents of the London Borough of Barnet and the functions services and activities of the National Health Service (NHS) and NHS bodies located within the London Borough of Barnet and in other areas.
- ii) To make reports and recommendations to the Executive, Health and Well-Being Board and/or other relevant authorities on health issues which affect or may affect the borough and its residents.
- iii) To receive, consider and respond to reports and consultations from the NHS Commissioning Board, Barnet Clinical Commissioning Group, Barnet Health and Well-Being Board and/or other health bodies.

9. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 9.1 As set out in Section 2, the Committee have considered the issue of transport services at Finchley Memorial Hospital on a number of occasions.
- 9.2 In accordance with the resolutions outlined in section 2.3 above, a submission has been prepared to the Greater London Assembly Transport Committee. The Chairman has however requested that the submission be delayed until a meeting has taken place between the Council and TfL representatives on this issue. This meeting is scheduled to take place on 24 September 2013 and will be attended by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, the Cabinet Member for Public Health and council officers. The outcome of the meeting will be reported in writing in advance of the committee on 3 October 2013.
- 9.2 Representatives from TfL have been invited to attend the committee meeting to answer questions from Members on this issue.

10. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 10.1 None

Cleared by Finance (Officer's initials)	JH/AD
Cleared by Legal (Officer's initials)	LC