

**LB Barnet / Transport for London**  
**Meeting to Discuss Transport Services at Finchley Memorial Hospital**  
**Tuesday, 24 September 2013**

**Present:**

Councillor Alison Cornelius – LB Barnet Health OSC Chairman  
Councillor Graham Old – LB Barnet Health OSC Vice-Chairman  
Councillor Helena Hart – LB Barnet Cabinet Member for Public Health  
John Barry – TfL, Head of Bus Network Development)  
Peter Howarth – TfL, Borough Engagement Manager (North)  
Martin Cowie – LB Barnet, Development and Regulatory Services  
Andrew Charlwood – LB Barnet, Overview & Scrutiny Manager

Andrew Charlwood outlined that the purpose of the meeting was to investigate with Transport for London (TfL) possible options to address the issue of bus services not stopping at the entrance of new the Finchley Memorial Hospital. Existing services stopped outside the hospital site meaning that patients had to walk approximately 400 metres from Granville Road to the hospital entrance. Councillor Hart added that failing to provide a transport link between the TfL bus stops and the hospital main entrance was an accessibility issue which affected certain groups of patients, primarily the elderly and infirm.

Councillor Hart reported that a meeting had taken place earlier in the summer between Mike Freer, MP for Finchley and Golders Green, Councillor Hart, Isabel Dedring, Deputy Mayor for Transport at the Greater London Authority and Clare Kavanagh, Performance Director London Buses at TfL.

John Barry reported the following were reasons for TfL not diverting a bus on to the FMH site:

1. The hospital site was only suitable for a suitable single deck bus; the only single deck route in the area was the 382 route.
2. Diverting the route onto the hospital site would cost £180,000
3. Diverting the route onto the hospital site add five minutes to the route; and
4. Diverting the route onto the hospital site would affect up to 1,500 passengers per day (non-hospital users).

TfL had to take into consideration the cost and demand elements of any service changes. It was highlighted that the current hospital forecourt could not accommodate a bus on the site.

It was suggested that an alternative vehicle could be used to ferry passengers from the bus stops located close to the hospital and that local community transport services was an option that could be explored. The main issue related to funding the service (both the procurement of a vehicle and the on-going revenue costs). TfL reported that there was no funding available for community transport services, but assistance could be provided in terms of stops, timetables etc. It was noted that at the meeting which had taken place earlier in the summer

that it had been suggested that Barnet Community Transport may be able to provide the service.

It was questioned whether extending dial-a-ride to serve the hospital could be an option. John Barry reported that there was no additional funding available to meet the additional costs of a community transport service. He suggested that section 106 funding which had been allocated as part of the Finchley Memorial Hospital redevelopment could be redirected to fund a bus service on the hospital site. Martin Cowie undertook to investigate this option and to identify any restrictions on the use of the S106 funding.

Members highlighted that site accessibility might be one of the issues that was preventing GP practices relocating into the hospital site.

#### Actions:

John Barry / Peter Howarth

1. Provide detailed costings and other impacts of diverting the 382 route in to the Finchley Memorial Hospital site

Martin Cowie

2. Investigate the possible use of section 106 funding for transport initiatives allocated as part of the Finchley Memorial Hospital redevelopment to fund the capital cost of a vehicle.
3. Provide an outline of actions required to accommodate a bus stop on the hospital site (physical reconfigurations), liaising with NHS Property Services as necessary (to include changes to road layout and removal of parking spaces)
4. Provide an indicative cost of providing a passenger shelter at the entrance of the Finchley Memorial Hospital.
5. Liaise with LB Barnet Passenger Transport to ascertain an indicative cost of a vehicle (both hopper bus and electric vehicle).

Councillor Alison Cornelius

6. Contact Peter Cragg to investigate the feasibility of the Friends of Finchley Memorial Hospital providing volunteers to drive a shuttle bus.

Andrew Charlwood

7. Collate evidence regarding the demand for a shuttle service from TfL bus stops to the hospital entrance (to include hospital staff, hospital service providers, older peoples forums, Age UK etc) to develop a case for usage and demand.
8. Contact NHS Property Services to investigate whether the existing footpath from Granville Road can be re-routed to provide a more direct link from TfL bus stops to the hospital main entrance.

All attendees to receive an update in one month (24 October 2013) on the outcome of the actions detailed above (Action: Andrew Charlwood)