

Council: Tuesday, 5 November 2013

Administration Business Item: Councillor Helena Hart

Breast Screening at Finchley Memorial Hospital

Council is appalled by the fact that the Mobile Breast Screening Unit was removed from its customary site at Finchley Memorial Hospital without any prior notice, discussion or consultation with stakeholders.

Council is adamant that such a situation cannot possibly be permitted to be repeated and welcomes the "Lessons Learned Report" requested by the Health and Wellbeing Board and the urgent implementation of any actions recommended as a result.

Council notes that due to the concerted efforts of both Mike Freer MP and the Chairman of the Health & Wellbeing Board, from the moment the situation became known and with the firm support of all members of the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Chairman of the Health Overview & Scrutiny committee, NHS England has been persuaded to underwrite the costs involved in returning the Mobile Unit to the FMH site from 1st November 2013. It has also been agreed that new Letters of Invitation are due to be sent out to all those residents of the Borough who had previously been re-directed to St. Michael's hospital in Enfield.

Council recognises the long standing and on-going negotiations with the NHS led by Mike Freer MP and the Cabinet Member for Public Health - with the full backing of all members of the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee - for the provision of a static Breast Screening Unit at FMH.

Council welcomes both the North London Breast Screening Service and NHS England's commitment to working towards providing this static unit at Finchley Memorial Hospital and requests the Cabinet Member for Public Health, with the backing of the Chairman of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, to do everything in her power to take forward these negotiations.