

	<p>Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee</p> <p>20 October 2014</p>
Title	Member's Item – GP Numbers
Report of	Head of Governance
Wards	All
Status	Public
Enclosures	None
Officer Contact Details	Anita Vukomanovic, Governance Team Leader (Acting) Email: anita.vukomanovic@barnet.gov.uk Tel: 020 8359 7034

Summary

The report informs the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee of a Member's Item and requests instructions from the Committee.

Recommendations

1. That the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee's instructions in relation to this Member's item are requested.

1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

1.1 Councillor Cllr Amy Trevethan has requested that a Member's Item be considered on the following matter:

1.2 *The Labour Group have grave concerns about the lack of GP capacity in Barnet to deal with the increase in population, the further growth arising from planned regeneration and the increasing number of older people and those with long-term conditions. The policy of treating people at home and the increased role of GPs due to greater integration will place further strain on already overstretched surgeries. Nationally GPs are making nearly 340 million patient consultations every year - 40 million more than 5 years ago. Recent figures published by the Royal College of General Practitioners shows that in the last three years the number of unfilled GP posts has quadrupled in from 2.1 per cent in 2010 to 7.9 per cent in 2013. Estimates suggest that applications for GP training have meanwhile dropped by around 15 per cent.*

I ask that HOSC receives a report from NHS England on the current data related to unfilled GP posts in Barnet and their plans to ensure Barnet residents:

- a) can register with a local GP*
- b) are able to obtain a speedy consultation when requested*
- c) are assured that there will be sufficient GPs to cope with extra demand*
- d) are assured that plans are in place to ensure increased GP coverage takes account of the expected varied rise in population in different parts of the borough*

Please also provide data broken down by constituency and ward as follows:

- e) the current GP shortfall, missed targets on appointments and any gaps in cover.*

Link to RCGP statement: <http://www.rcgp.org.uk/news/2014/october/over-500-surgeries-at-risk-of-closure-as-gp-workforce-crisis-deepens.aspx>

2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 No recommendations have been made. The Committee are therefore requested to give consideration and provide instruction.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED

3.1 Not applicable.

4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

4.1 Post decision implementation will depend on the decision taken by the Committee.

5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

5.1.1 As and when issues raised through a Member's Item are progressed, they will need to be evaluated against the Corporate Plan and other relevant policies.

5.2 Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

5.2.1 None in the context of this report.

5.3 Legal and Constitutional References

5.3.1 The Council's Constitution Meeting Procedure Rules (section 6) illustrates that a Member, including appointed substitute Members of a Committee may have one item only on an agenda that he/she serves. Members items must be within the term of reference of the decision making body which will consider the item.

5.3.2 Clinical Commissioning Groups are required following the implementation of the Health and Social Care Act (2012) to provide primary medical services.

5.4 Risk Management

5.4.1 None in the context of this report.

5.5 Equalities and Diversity

5.5.1 Member's Items allow Members of a Committee to bring a wide range of issues to the attention of a Committee in accordance with the Council's Constitution. All of these issues must be considered for their equalities and diversity implications.

5.6 Consultation and Engagement

5.6.1 None in the context of this report.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

6.1 Email to Governance Officer, dated 7 October 2014.