

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>3<sup>rd</sup> July 2017</b></p>
<p><b>Title</b></p>	<p><b>Member's Item in the name of Councillor Philip Cohen – Capped expenditure process' for North Central London NHS</b></p>
<p><b>Report of</b></p>	<p>Head of Governance</p>
<p><b>Wards</b></p>	<p>All</p>
<p><b>Key</b></p>	<p>No</p>
<p><b>Urgent</b></p>	<p>No</p>
<p><b>Status</b></p>	<p>Public</p>
<p><b>Enclosures</b></p>	<p>None</p>
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## 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 Philip Cohen has requested that a Member's Item be considered on the following matter:

### **'Capped expenditure process' for North Central London NHS**

A Guardian article on 20 June reports on a leaked 31 page internal NHS document outlining measures to plug the NCL budget gap of £183.1m which include:

- Extending referral to treatment waiting times so patients have to wait longer than the current maximum 18 weeks for planned operations
- Denying patients access to an increased number of "procedures of low clinical effectiveness" (POLCE)
- Downgrading or closing hospital units
- Cutting £2m to the financial support for patients with serious, long-term medical problems and disabilities under the Continuing Healthcare scheme, including people with brain damage.
- Further limiting treatment to patients with back pain and other musculo-skeletal conditions
- Reducing NHS trusts' financial contribution to the Better Care Fund
- Job cuts in the 10 trusts including Barnet
- The Royal College of Surgeons says the impact these measures will have will be "devastating" - and will cost more in the long run.
- NHS Providers have called the plans "neither realistic nor reasonable" and say they should not be implemented without full and proper debate.

These proposals stem from the Government's financial squeeze on the NHS, which puts the responsibility on local NHS managers to find massive savings. It also threatens the ability of the NHS to meet people's healthcare needs. It is hard to see how the Government's Sustainability and Transformation (STP) plans can be implemented when the NHS is pre-occupied with making financial cuts of this kind.

These plans will have a knock-on effect on social care and will not help the integration of health and social care.

The plans will also impact on our Mental Health Trust which has a large financial deficit already at a time when the need for mental health services in Barnet is significantly higher than other areas.

We need to be told how these measures will affect our residents, and therefore I request that:

HOSC invites both NCL commissioners and providers to come to the Committee and explain what the impact of these plans will be, and

That following that Committee meeting, LB Barnet hosts a day of public engagement on these plans to include patient groups, NCL commissioners and providers so that full and proper debate on these plans can take place.

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2017/jun/20/leak-shows-devastating-impact-of-planned-nhs-cuts-in-london>

## **2 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 The Committee are 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) states 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 The Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee terms of reference includes:

- 1. 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.*
- 2. To make reports and recommendations to Council, Health and Well Being Board, the Secretary of State for Health and/or other relevant authorities on health issues which Chairman, Vice- Chairman, Members and substitutes to be appointed by Council which may affect or may affect the borough and its residents.*

3. *To receive, consider and respond to reports, matters of concern, and consultations from the NHS Barnet, Health and Wellbeing Board, Health Watch and/or other health bodies.*

#### **5.4 Risk Management**

- 5.4.1 None in the context of this report.

#### **5.5 Equalities and Diversity**

- 5.5.1 Members' 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 None.