

**Council: 25 July 2017**

**Agenda Item 14.4 – Opposition amendment in the name of Cllr Phil Cohen**

Opposition Motion in the name of Cllr Phil Cohen - NHS funding in North London

**Delete all and replace with (additions in bold, no deletions):**

Council notes that unless further cuts are made or new funds are provided by the Government, there will be an estimated £811 million deficit across the NHS in North London in 2020/21.

Council also notes that North London Councils will face a budget pressure of £247 million for social care and public health by 2020/21 even when all additional funding announced by the Government has been taken into account.

Council further notes that the Government's thoroughly discredited and undemocratic 'Sustainability and Transformation Plan' process to integrate health and social care services across the five London boroughs of Barnet, Enfield, Camden, Haringey & Islington has ground to a halt - **we are two years into a five year process and so far the only decision taken is to rebrand the STP Partnership "North London Partners in Health & Care".**

**The most recent STP update stated that "the plan does not yet balance the finances, either next year or by 2020/21", and that "We will continue to look for opportunities for further efficiencies..." but this will "probably not be enough to bring our plan into financial balance."**

**Council notes the instruction to NHS managers to "think the unthinkable" in order to find savings from hospital budgets through the 'Capped Expenditure Process'. The Royal College of Surgeons describes these proposals as "devastating" and says they will cost more in the long run. NHS Providers have called the plans "neither realistic nor reasonable."**

**Council notes the STP process has no legal basis and is just like rearranging deck chairs on the Titanic.**

**Council calls for all STP work streams to stop and for the Government to work towards raising the level of NHS funding to the EU average.**

**Council believes that, as a start, £1billion of tax payers' money would be better spent on the NHS than on the DUP.**

Council **also** believes LB Barnet's administration should stop kowtowing to their political masters in Westminster, show some leadership and oppose the Government's destruction of our NHS.

In the meantime, Council calls for LB Barnet to hold a public meeting so residents can be told how they will be affected by the next round of NHS cuts that will be required to plug the £811 million funding gap.