

## **Report to Barnet Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee – October 2017**

### **Update on Barnet CCG plans for Finchley Memorial Hospital**

#### **1. Introduction**

Barnet CCG have been working to improve the use and occupation of Finchley Memorial Hospital (FMH) and have now developed a program of work with a series of projects to be implemented over the next 6 months.

The Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee has previously received reports from Barnet CCG discussing some of these projects although some have proved difficult to resolve and/or expensive to fund. The CCG is confident that solutions are now being put in place that will ensure delivery of these new services, improving utilisation and also reducing the financial costs of FMH to the local health care system.

#### **2. The CCG's Priority Projects**

The CCG's list of priority projects is set out below:

- Open Adams Ward as "Discharge to Assess" ward alongside existing rehabilitation ward
- New GP service
- Breast Screening
- New CT Scanner
- Move of CCG Headquarters from NLBP to FMH

In addition there is an ongoing focus on improving utilisation in the bookable spaces and clinical rooms.

#### **3. Adams Ward**

The CCG is working with Central London Community Health Services NHS Trust, the provider that also manages Marjorie Warren Ward, to open Adams Ward as a Discharge to Assess ward on the 1 December 2017. There will be 17 beds and these will be used to discharge of patients from various hospitals, mainly Royal Free London. Patients will be discharged for rehabilitation and /or further assessment to support long term care. This will reduce delayed discharges in hospitals and will support shorter length of stays. The alignment of the two inpatient wards at FMH will ensure that the beds are managed in the most effective way to support the local health system, especially over the winter months.

#### **4. General Practice**

The CCG is now developing a specification for a GP service at FMH. This will be used in a procurement exercise for local GPs to apply to move into FMH to deliver GP services. It is likely that this will included some additional services beyond core primary medical services, for example providing medical support to the two older people inpatient wards in the building. This will allow the CCG to select a local practice with the aims and abilities to offer enhanced services from FMH.

## **5. Breast Screening**

The HOSC will be aware that plans for a permanent Breast Screening service at FMH have been discussed for some time and have not yet been concluded. The main reason for this has been financial - securing agreement on both the capital costs to create a new mammography unit and also to get agreement on the revenue consequences of moving from a mobile unit to a permanent facility.

In addition, the Breast Screening service is commissioned by NHS England rather than the CCG thereby necessitating another level of negotiation.

This work is nearing completion and the CCG is confident that we will soon be able to reach agreement to proceed with the aim of completing the capital work by the end of the financial year.

## **6. Research project - CT Scanner**

The CCG has been working with University College Hospital to locate a CT scanner at FMH as part of an international research project. This will support the increased utilisation in FMH and reduce the financial pressure on the CCG.

## **7. Move of CCG headquarters from NLBP to FMH**

The CCG is completing a feasibility study regarding the move of its headquarters to FMH. This will report by the end of October 2017 so the Governing Body can make a decision.

## **8. Timelines**

The CCG executive is aware that the HOSC has requested timelines for the CCG's programme of works. The current projects are all being reviewed by the new senior program manager and these will be shared with HOSC by the end of October 2017.

The CCG has appointed a senior program manager to deliver this program at pace. He has taken up post on the 11 September 2017. Going forward there will be a fortnightly steering group chaired by the new Director of Commissioning. This will ensure traction on all projects and efficient decision making.

## **9. Summary**

The Finchley Memorial Hospital program has been a complicated and financially challenging issue for the CCG to address and none of the possible options have been easy or financially simple to implement. However, the CCG is committed to ensuring that this building is better used to deliver high quality services to local people and we believe that we are now finally making progress in implementing these new projects.

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