

**Council: Tuesday, 6 November 2012**

**Administration Business Item:** Councillor Helena Hart

Barnet & Chase Farm Hospitals NHS Trust

Council welcomes the decision of Barnet & Chase Farm Hospitals NHS Trust to seek to partner with another NHS organisation in order to create a clinically excellent and financially sustainable NHS Foundation Trust

Noting that the Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust was the only appropriate NHS Trust both to fulfil the necessary criteria – particularly that of the successful implementation of the BEH Clinical Strategy – and to express an interest in considering such a partnership, Council would very much like to welcome and support the principle of such a partnership and the progression to a full Business Case for consideration by the respective Trust Boards and the SHA.

This Council has a long history of support for both the Royal Free and Barnet & Chase Farm hospitals and for much greater partnership working between them – our submission of the Barnet Option for the BEH Clinical Strategy being a prime example of this. This is based not only on the essential part both institutions play in the provision of Acute hospital services for the people of Barnet but on the integral part they both play in the broader health economy of the Borough and to our dedication to the provision of high quality integrated health and social care for local residents.

In the interests of securing a safe viable and sustainable future not only for Barnet and Chase Farm Hospitals but also for the very many opportunities that such a partnership would bring for the continued clinical excellence and sustainability of the Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust itself, Council requests that the Cabinet Member writes to the Chairman of both the Royal Free and Barnet & Chase Farm Hospitals expressing our firm support for such a partnership.