

## Appendix A

### **East Barnet Health Centre improvement works – update for building users**



*Posted on January 21, 2015 at 12:58 pm by Hannah Murdoch*

*East Barnet Health Centre in north London is temporarily closed to enable structural works to take place. NHS Property Services would like to update building users on our ongoing plans for this building. GP patients are advised to continue to refer any questions to their practice representative in the first instance:*

*As landlords we take our responsibilities to patients and tenants extremely seriously.*

*In September 2014 we wrote to all patients of the East Barnet Health Centre GP practices to advise that asbestos removal works in the building had uncovered significant amounts of additional asbestos containing materials.*

*In the interests of health and safety, these materials, once discovered, had to be removed, but on completion it was clear that the invasive work necessary to achieve this had caused significant cosmetic damage to the building.*

*We have therefore decided to take this opportunity to look at the long-term measures we can take to make the property as good as possible for our tenants, their patients and the services they deliver.*

*We are currently assessing the appropriate options which range from total refurbishment to a brand new building on the same site. Once we have an agreed option, we will work closely with the GP practice and local NHS partners to deliver it as soon as possible.*

*We fully recognise that the recent works have been both protracted and highly inconvenient for patients. However, we are confident that the end result of this additional work will be a transformed health centre that meets the high standards every NHS patient rightly expects.*

*We are aware of some concerns being raised locally that the site may be sold. There is no truth in this suggestion, and we would emphasise that since there is a clear and identified need for GP services to be provided from the East Barnet site, we are fully committed to providing a fit-for-purpose building from which they can be delivered.*

*We have been liaising closely with the GP practices throughout this project, and it is intended to write a further letter to all patients, once there is an agreed plan for the future of the building.*

*We would like to thank all patients and staff for their co-operation throughout these works, and we look forward to being able to share more details of our improvement plans for East Barnet Health Centre soon.*

<http://www.property.nhs.uk/east-barnet-health-centre-improvement-works-update-for-building-users/>