



Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

8 February 2016

Title	Dentistry in Barnet
Report of	Governance Service
Wards	All
Status	Public
Urgent	No
Key	No
Enclosures	<p>Appendix A – Updated Dentistry Report from NHS England</p> <p>Appendix B – Report from Healthwatch Barnet (<i>as per the October 2015 Committee</i>)</p> <p>Appendix C – Dentistry in Barnet – A Dental Investigation in Barnet in 2014/15 (<i>as per the October 2015 Committee</i>)</p> <p>Appendix D – Mystery Shopping Update from Healthwatch Barnet</p> <p>Appendix E – Response from NHS England on Mystery Shopping</p>
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Summary

At their meeting on 6 July 2015, the Committee received a Member's Item in the name of Councillor Mittra. After considering the Member's Item, the Committee resolved to receive a report from NHS England at their October meeting addressing the issue of dentistry in Barnet as well as the recommendations made in the recent Healthwatch Barnet report as referred to in the Member's Item.

There was no representation from NHS England at the October meeting and so the Committee have requested that the item is received again. NHS England has provided an updated version of the report that they submitted in October 2015. In addition, the two reports supplied by Healthwatch Barnet have been re-attached (at Appendix B and C). At the meeting in October 2015, Healthwatch Barnet informed the Committee that would be undertaking a mystery shopping exercise. As per the Committee's request, this report is attached at Appendix D. A response from NHS England on the mystery shopping exercise

is set out at Appendix E. Representatives from both NHS England Healthwatch Barnet have been invited to attend the meeting.

Recommendations

- 1. That the Committee note the update from NHS England and ask appropriate questions.**

1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

- 1.1 At their meeting 6 July 2015, the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee received a Member's Item in the name of Councillor Mittra on Dentistry in Barnet.
- 1.2 Following consideration of the item, the Committee resolved to request a report providing information on the issue of dentistry in Barnet as well as the recommendations made in the recent Healthwatch Barnet report. The report attached at Appendix A is the response from NHS England to this request. The report at Appendix B is the response from Healthwatch Barnet, and the report at Appendix C is the original report which outlines the investigation in dentistry in Barnet which was undertaken by Healthwatch Barnet.

2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 By receiving this update, the Committee will be kept up to date on issues surrounding the provision of Dentistry in Barnet.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED

- 3.1 Not applicable.

4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

- 4.1 Following consideration of this item, the Committee will be able to determine any further actions that they wish to pursue.

5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

- 5.1.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee must ensure that the work of Scrutiny is reflective of the Council's principles and strategic objectives set out in the Corporate Plan 2015 – 2020.

The strategic objectives set out in the 2015 – 2020 Corporate Plan are: –

The Council, working with local, regional and national partners, will strive to ensure that Barnet is the place:

- Of opportunity, where people can further their quality of life
- Where people are helped to help themselves
- Where responsibility is shared, fairly
- Where services are delivered efficiently to get value for money for the taxpayer

5.2 Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

5.2.1 None in the context of this report.

5.3 Social Value

The Public Services (Social Value) Act 2013 requires people who commission public services to think about how they can also secure wider social, economic and environmental benefits.

5.4 Legal and Constitutional References

5.71 Section 244 of the National Health Service Act 2006 and Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013/218; Part 4 Health Scrutiny by Local Authorities provides for the establishment of Health Overview and Scrutiny Committees by local authorities.

5.7.11 The Council's Constitution (Responsibility for Functions) sets out the terms of reference of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee as having the following responsibilities:

"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."

5.5 Risk Management

5.5.1 Not receiving this report would present a risk to the Committee in that they would not be kept up to date on issues surrounding dental provision in the London Borough of Barnet.

5.6 Equalities and Diversity

5.9.1 Equality and Diversity issues are a mandatory consideration in decision making in the Council pursuant to the Equality Act 2010. This means the Council and all other organisations acting on its behalf must fulfil its equality duty when exercising a public function. The broad purpose of this duty is to integrate considerations of equality and good relations into day to day business, requiring equality considerations to be reflected into the design of policies and the delivery of services and for these to be kept under review.

- 5.9.2 The specific duty set out in s149 of the Equality Act is to have due regard to need to:

Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;

Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;

Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

The relevant protected characteristics are – age; disability; gender reassignment; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; sexual orientation. Health partners as relevant public bodies must similarly discharge their duties under the Equality Act 2010 and consideration of equalities issues should therefore form part of their reports.

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5.7 Consultation and Engagement

- 5.7.1 None in the context of this report.

5.8 Insight

- 5.8.1 None in the context of this report. Upon considering the report, the

Committee will determine if they require further information or future updates.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

6.1 None.