

To members of JHOSC

In recent years we have commented on developments in the NHS, particularly on the consequences of the passing of the Health and Care Act this summer.

This resulted in the setting up on the NCL Integrated Care System and many of the criticisms we made before the Act are still valid. In outline these include:

1. Lack of democratic accountability
 - The NCL ICB has a single local authority representative, the Chief Executive of Barnet, but no elected Councillors
 - There were to be residents on various subcommittees. It now seems that they will be brought together on one subcommittee and so further removed from actual decision making and influence
2. Funding
 - NCL ICS has a budget fixed by NHS England that includes both funding for Primary and Secondary Care. Some hospital trusts in NCL have historical deficits. NCL ICS has not explained how they intend to reduce these. Our fear is that health and services will be cut across NCL and/or assets such as land and buildings sold off to balance their books.
3. Patients
 - Will everyone in NCL, both residents and visitors will have full access to NHS services? That is not clear under the terms of the NCL ICS constitution

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