
Meeting	Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Date	4 July 2013
Subject	Maternity Services – Caesarean Births
Report of	Overview and Scrutiny Office
Summary	For the Committee to consider the information provided by Barnet Clinical Commissioning Group and the Barnet / Harrow Public Health Team in relation to Maternity Services (Caesarean Births)

Officer Contributors	Andrew Charlwood, Overview and Scrutiny Manager
Status (public or exempt)	Public
Wards Affected	All
Key Decision	N/A
Reason for urgency / exemption from call-in	N/A
Function of	Committee
Enclosures	Appendix A – Public Health Intelligence Report Appendix B – Barnet CCG Submission
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1. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 That the Committee consider the information set out in the appendices and make comments and/or recommendations to health partners.**

2. RELEVANT PREVIOUS DECISIONS

- 2.1 Health Overview and Scrutiny committee, 12 February 2013, Decision Item 11, Members' Item – Maternity Services (Caesarean Births) – Councillor Kate Salinger presented a Members Item which requested the following information:

1. In 2012 how many Caesarean operations were performed in:

- a) Barnet Hospital
- b) Chase Farm Hospital
- c) Royal Free Hospital?

2. In 2012 how many of these Caesarean operations were elected by the patient in:

- a) Barnet Hospital
- b) Chase Farm Hospital
- c) Royal Free Hospital?

3. In 2012 how many of these Caesarean operations were recommended by medical staff PRIOR to the patients admittance to give birth at:

- a) Barnet Hospital
- b) Chase Farm Hospital
- c) Royal free Hospital?

4. How many inductions were performed at:

- a) Barnet Hospital
- b) Chase Farm Hospital
- c) Royal Free Hospital?

5. How many of these inductions led to a caesarean operation at:

- a) Barnet Hospital
- b) Chase Farm Hospital
- c) Royal Free Hospital?

Following consideration of the item, the Committee resolved that the Director of Public Health be requested to investigate the issues outlined above and prepare a report for the next meeting of the Committee on 9 May 2013 detailing: comparative London statistics; any abnormal trends; and reasons for inductions (local and national). At the request of the Chairman, this item was deferred for consideration until the 4 July 2013 meeting

3. CORPORATE PRIORITIES AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committees must ensure that the work of Scrutiny is reflective of the Council's priorities.
- 3.2 The three priority outcomes set out in the 2013 – 2016 Corporate Plan are: –

- Promote responsible growth, development and success across the borough;
 - Support families and individuals that need it – promoting independence, learning and well-being; and
 - Improve the satisfaction of residents and businesses with the London Borough of Barnet as a place to live, work and study.
- 3.3 The work of the Barnet Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee supports the delivery of the following outcomes identified in the Corporate Plan:
- To sustain a strong partnership with the local NHS, so that families and individuals can maintain and improve their physical and mental health; and
 - To promote a healthy, active, independent and informed over 55 population in the borough to encourage and support our residents to age well.

4. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

- 4.1 None in the context of this report.

5. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

- 5.1 In addition to the Terms of Reference of the Committee, and in so far as relating to matters within its remit, the role of the Committee is to perform the Overview and Scrutiny role in relation to:
- The Council's leadership role in relation to diversity and inclusiveness; and
 - The fulfilment of the Council's duties as employer including recruitment and retention, personnel, pensions and payroll services, staff development, equalities and health and safety.
 - The Council is required to give due regard to its public sector equality duties as set out in the Equality Act 2010 and as public bodies, Health partners are also subject to equalities legislation; consideration of equalities issues should therefore form part of their reports.

6. USE OF RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS (Finance, Procurement, Performance & Value for Money, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

- 6.1 None in the context of this report.

7. LEGAL ISSUES

- 7.1 Section 244 of the NHS Act 2006 as amended by S190 and S191 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012 and the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013 make provision for local authorities to review and scrutinise matters relating to the planning, provision and operation of the health service in their area.

8. CONSTITUTIONAL POWERS (Relevant section from the Constitution, Key/Non-Key Decision)

8.1 Council Constitution, Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules – sets out the terms of reference of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee which includes:

- i) 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.
- ii) To make reports and recommendations to the Executive, Health and Well-Being Board and/or other relevant authorities on health issues which affect or may affect the borough and its residents.
- iii) To receive, consider and respond to reports and consultations from the NHS Commissioning Board, Barnet Clinical Commissioning Group, Barnet Health and Well-Being Board and/or other health bodies.

9. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

9.1 As set out section 2.1, the Committee requested that the Director of Public Health be requested to investigate the issues outlined above and prepare a report for the next meeting of the Committee on 9 May 2013 detailing: comparative London statistics; any abnormal trends; and reasons for inductions (local and national). The submission from the Director of Public Health is attached at Appendix A. The Children's Commissioning Manager for Barnet Clinical Commissioning has also made a submission to the Committee which is attached at Appendix B.

9.2 The data requested by the Member from the individual NHS Trusts has been requested and will be provided to the Committee in advance of the meeting.

10. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 None.

Cleared by Finance (Officer's initials)	JH
Cleared by Legal (Officer's initials)	HP