

15 August 2018

Dear Councillor Abdullahi

We are writing regarding the refresh of the North Central London strategy for General Practice. We are hoping for the opportunity to discuss the draft strategy at the JHOSC in early October, and wanted to ask if you would like to input to its development outside of the meeting.

As you will know, there is a history of collaboration in primary care in NCL, including previous joint strategies, the latest of which expired in 2016. We know there are many examples of excellent care delivered across the area, and there has been some great progress since the development of the previous strategy, including the availability of primary care appointments from 8am-8pm seven days a week for everyone in NCL. However, there also continues to be too much unacceptable, unwarranted variation, ranging from how people are able to access services, to the quality of the services received, to variation in historical levels of funding. General practice is also facing unprecedented pressure in terms of workforce, demand and funding. The strategy aims to raise standards further.

NCL Clinical Commissioning Groups agreed to refresh a strategy focusing on general practice. Each CCG nominated one clinical or officer lead to sit on a dedicated task and finish group, which also included representation from Healthwatch, nursing and the NCL GP federations. This group met six times between March and June 2018 and produced a draft strategy.

We are now in the process of engaging on this draft, with a view to having a version for approval by late September. As a key partner, we would be very keen for your input, and wanted to ask how you would like to feed your comments into the draft, emerging strategy, including whether a face to face discussion, in addition to the JHOSC, might be helpful?

We are sending the same letter to scrutiny chairs in North Central London and making contact with lead members for health and care.

Please do let Keziah.bowers@nhs.net know how you would like to contribute.

Yours sincerely



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