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<http://brentccg.nhs.uk/>

Dear colleague

I'm writing to update you on our plans to develop community-based gynaecology and musculoskeletal (MSK) services for Brent residents.

On 25 March, the CCG Governing Body decided to discontinue the current procurement exercises for gynaecology and MSK services. We understand that this may come as a surprise to the many stakeholders we have engaged with about this programme of work. However, the Governing Body has considered a number of factors in reaching this conclusion, including:

- lessons learnt from establishing community-based cardiology and ophthalmology services,
- the findings of the integrated impact assessment and patient consultation exercises,
- the timescales for achieving improved clinical and financial outcomes anticipated from this programme of work and
- outcomes and reviews of similar procurements relating to MSK.

The Governing Body emphasised its commitment to developing improved community pathways and is considering the best way in which to achieve this in a more timely and cost-effective manner.

Going forward, and building on the work we have already done with cardiology and ophthalmology services, we need to bed in the changes to how GPs refer into specialist community-based services.

This will ensure that new services are well used and delivering the intended benefits of both improving care for patients and offering better value for the NHS. We will then review the options for rolling out new community-based services later this year.

Brent residents want services that are based around their needs, are joined up, are of a consistent high quality and offer care closer to home where possible. As local GPs responsible for commissioning most local health services, we remain committed to providing these services for patients in our borough.

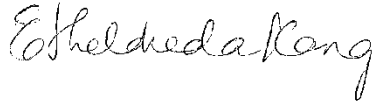
Chair: *Dr Etheldreda Kong*

Chief Officer: *Rob Larkman*

Acting Chief Operating Officer: *Sarah Mansuralli*

We will be arranging a meeting shortly for stakeholders involved in the MSK and gynaecology procurements and will provide further updates on plans through our Governing Body meetings.

Yours faithfully



Dr Ethie Kong
Chair
Brent CCG



Rob Larkman
Chief Officer
Brent, Harrow and Hillingdon CCGs