

Briefing from NHS London for NW London Patients Parliament

Extract from email from Bill Gillespie, Interim Director of Communications, NHS London:

Staffing:

- As far as changes at SHA level are concerned, it is important to recognise that not only are we looking at the five former SHAs being replaced by a single strategic health authority for London but the size of the SHA being streamlined in terms of workforce from over 500 staff across the former five SHAs to around 130 in the new London SHA.
- This reflects the continued emphasis on strengthening the commissioning arm of the NHS (PCTs) and the intention to move NHS-owned provider services into Foundation Trusts. We are in the midst of appointing to posts in the new structure and hope to have most of the appointments made before Christmas.

Patient and Public Involvement:

Whilst the SHA will want to continue to engage with patient and public groups, including the Patients' Parliament, on London-wide issues, PCTs both individually and, where service change covers more than one PCT, collectively have the key responsibility for engaging with local communities and representative bodies.

London wide issues:

- The Strategic Health Authority will shortly be commissioning Professor Sir Ara Darzi of Imperial College to lead a piece of work developing a vision for healthcare across London as a whole and we will want to contact you about this work and seek feedback from you and other stakeholders across London. This work is likely to be launched before Christmas.
- At the same time, within North West London PCTs are beginning a piece of work looking at options for service change across that sector and taking into account proposals for closer working between Hammersmith Hospitals, St Mary's Hospital and Imperial College. The People's Parliament may want to be actively involved in this work and I am copying this correspondence to Andrew Morgan, Chief Executive of Harrow PCT and Mike Wood, Chief Executive of Hammersmith and Fulham PCT, so that they can contact you if they have not already done so.