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GENERAL NOTE

- 1. Questionnaire:** Delegates and Individual Members are urged to return the questionnaire in this month's mailing to our Chairman as soon as possible and at latest by 16th April. A detailed analysis of responses will be available at our AGM on 7th June so that discussion on the way forward for our organisation is based on facts about members' views. Anyone failing to respond will be seen as not interested in our future!
- 2. Hard of Hearing campaign:** The success of this campaign depends on the effort of individual people – its impact could be huge if enough people participate! Please contact the Chairman or any committee member for relevant papers or to report outcomes.
- 3. Lack of balance across our wide area in this News Sheet:** A number of NHS bodies have not met in the last month, which accounts for our lack of balance.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 1. Monday 7th May, Chenies Spring Walk for Paul Strickland Scanner Centre:** Bank Holiday Monday 11am, 6.2 mile circular walk from Chenies Manor. Tickets £10 (under 12s free). Book online appeals@stricklandscanner.org.uk or Tel: 01923 844290

NATIONAL NEWS

- 1. Organ donation:** *(From the Trust's website)* A Harefield patient who has cystic fibrosis and had a double lung transplant at the hospital in 2015, is leading a national campaign to raise awareness of organ donation. The free cards are being distributed by the online card and gifts retailer Moonpig. Each card contains facts and statistics on organ donation, and an NHS Organ Donor Card, with a few simple steps on how to register. The campaign also aims to raise awareness of the 6,400 people in the UK who are currently awaiting a donor organ.

NORTH WEST LONDON REGIONAL NEWS

- 1. New leaflet for new Mums:** This leaflet, called "After Your Baby's Birth" is on the Healthier NW London website. It is full of up to date evidence and advice on how to cope with a new baby.
- 2. New trial at Royal Brompton Hospital gives asthma sufferers hope:** *(From the Trust's website)* The trailblazing therapy, called targeted lung denervation, has already shown excellent results for the treatment of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. Although not a cure, preliminary results show this can provide significant improvement in symptoms for many patients.
- 3. Infection Control:** The number of clostridium difficile infections with a community onset is increasing. In November there were 5 in Brent, 2 in Harrow and 2 in Hillingdon - with 3 cases in Hillingdon in December 2017.

HARROW NEWS

London North-West Healthcare NHS Trust

1. **Northwick Park Vision:** *(From the Trust's website)* The major landowners around the hospital - the Trust, Network Homes and the University of Westminster - are working with Brent Council to redevelop the land together and to create much needed affordable homes, community facilities and transport improvements as well as NHS facilities.
2. **CQC Inspection:** London North West University Healthcare NHS Trust is waiting to hear a date for its Care Quality Commission inspection.
3. **Mental Health funding:** The Minutes of the Central & North West London FT's January Board meeting noted that Harrow's funding for mental health had actually reduced over a ten year period.

Harrow Clinical Commissioning Group

1. **Diabetes in Harrow:** 8.8% of Harrow people are diagnosed with diabetes – a lot above the national average of 6.4%, plus an estimated 4,000 Harrow residents with undiagnosed diabetes. Harrow Healthwatch is working with Harrow CCG to identify gaps in the current diabetes services – its recommendations will be presented at its Healthwatch Harrow Forum "Your Voice Counts " at the end of April 2018.

HILLINGDON NEWS

The Hillingdon Hospitals NHS FT

1. **Breastfeeding:** There has been a slight fall in breastfeeding due to mothers' choice.
2. **Caesarean Sections:** The December rate was 21.8% against trajectory of 16%.
3. **Nurse employment:** The Trust has made offers of employment to 230 Indian nurses.
4. **Hospital Standardised Mortality Rate:** The Trust has a slightly raised rate at the weekend. This has been reviewed and the Trust is working on improving its palliative care coding, which has shown a reduction in HSMR. A more detailed analysis is expected in April.
5. **Care Quality Commission inspection:** The Hillingdon Hospitals NHS FT's comprehensive inspection was scheduled for 6th to 8th March 2018.

Mount Vernon Cancer Centre

1. **Overview:** Mount Vernon Cancer Centre is a well renowned, highly specialised cancer centre based in Northwood in Middlesex. Each consultant specialises in one or two particular cancers. Nurses deliver chemotherapy treatments and radiographers radiotherapy treatments, all supported by physicists, administration staff and engineers, a total of over 500 members of staff serving a catchment population of almost 2 million people. Some patients are referred to it from across the country and over 5,000 new patients are registered each year. The Cancer Centre prides itself on being at the forefront of technology with the latest pumps for chemotherapy and most up to date linear accelerators for radiotherapy.

Hillingdon Clinical Commissioning Group

1. **Northwood and Pinner Community Hospital site:** In late 2017 NHS Property Services and Hillingdon CCG had a very positive meeting with the occupants of Northwood Health Centre with respect to redevelopment of the site. An engagement plan is to be developed to share with the community. A planning application is expected soon.
2. **Creation of Out of Hospital Hubs:** Preferably the North Hillingdon Hub will be on the Mount Vernon site but another possible location is on the Northwood and Pinner Community Hospital site as part of the Northwood Health Centre. In Uxbridge/West Drayton the preferred site is the Uxbridge Health Centre. The target date for both outline

business cases is May 18, with projected project completions in April 2020. The third Hub is in Hayes Town.

- 3. Yiewsley Health Centre:** Funding has been achieved to refurbish vacant space at the site for additional clinical accommodation. Also, the use of S106 money has been agreed to improve the entrance, reception and waiting areas. A long term solution for the site is still being explored with the support of CNWL and the Council planning team.
- 4. Musculo-skeletal pathway redesign:** The new plan addresses the current fragmentation and duplication of services. A single point of access is planned. There will be no withdrawal of either in-patient, out-patient, or diagnostic services. A model of self-referral is being explored, also new methods of delivery eg Skype consultations
- 5. Tuberculosis testing:** Hillingdon is currently significantly below target for Latent TB screening. NHS England has approved the appointment of an interim member of staff for a 3 month period January to March 2018 to do some focussed work to boost uptake of screening. Over 200 newly registered patients identified as meeting the criteria for TB screening have been contacted at Brunel University.
- 6. Improving Access to Psychological Therapies:** The CCG has been successful in obtaining funding for local integrated care to improve outcomes and experiences for people with long term conditions and co-morbid mental health problems.
- 7. Integrated Performance Report:** Hillingdon CCG's current performance continues to be strong across a number of indicators including many London Ambulance Services, A & E Trolley waits, 6 weeks diagnostics, 8 of the 9 cancer standards, 12 of the 21 mental health standards, 15 of the 16 community measures and NHS 111% calls abandoned in 30 seconds. Key performance challenges remain London Ambulance Service response times and arrival to handover hospital times, A & E 4 hour waits, 18 weeks referral to treatment times, and the shortfall on expected standards noted above.

Central and North West London NHS FT's Hillingdon services

- 1. Hillingdon wound care team shortlisted for an award:** This shortlisting is for a prestigious Health Service Journal Value Award. Pressure ulcers cost the NHS between £1.4 and £2.1 billion each year. The Hillingdon Tissue Viability Team has worked successfully on reducing pressure ulcers in care homes, which has led to its shortlisting in the "Clinical Support Services" category. The category winners will be announced in June.
- 2. Finances:** At end of January 2018 the Trust had a surplus of £0.6m, as planned, but it had not achieved its planned savings. Its agency spend was within the cap. For year end in March it forecast a deficit of £2m, but expected to achieve break even with the help of its Recovery Plan.

Provision of GP services to residents of Heathrow Villages

From the Minutes of the Hillingdon External Scrutiny Committee 11.1.18

The five villages – including Harmondsworth, Longford and Sipson - comprise around 13,600 residents. They have no GP and no pharmacist. There are too few residents for a standalone GP. Some residents are not registered with a GP and those that are registered can experience difficulty in getting to their GP. Hillingdon is historically relatively under-resourced with regard to GPs. It has a low number of training practices and a GP retirement bulge anticipated in the next 5 – 10 years. The shadow of the Heathrow Third Runway proposal hangs over the villages, making the provision of GP services more challenging.

The Green GP surgery is the official surgery for Heathrow Villages but 1,500 local residents were transferred there following closure of their local surgery and the majority had found the Green's services unacceptable - official complaints had been made about a GP practicing there and Hillingdon Healthwatch had received a number of complaints about that surgery redefining its borders. Another option is the HESA Centre in Hayes, several miles away, with car parking problems and poor public transport involving two buses. Yiewsley Health Centre is another possibility but that has been under gross pressure for years and has failed to find other premises. Some residents are registered with Hounslow GPs.

Hillingdon CCG took over responsibility for primary commissioning powers from NHS England in April 2017 but still does not have control of the pharmaceutical budget. It had looked without success for premises for a satellite GP service within the area or for a site on which a prefabricated building could be erected. A local resident noted two possibilities - The Lodge, a Grade II listed building near Harmondsworth bought for the Department for Education to house a free school or the Great Barn, a Grade I listed building.

Heathrow Airport has no health facilities for passengers / staff but it is willing to upgrade its occupational health suite to provide a GP drop-in centre. However the CCG Chief Operating Officer noted that this was at an early stage of development and many details would need resolution to ensure residents' safety. eg services provided, insurance, access to records.

NHS England has a rigid methodology which maps populations against all pharmacies within a given area, so the Heathrow villages mapping includes pharmacies in Heathrow Airport, including those that are airside that are totally inaccessible to local residents! If residents were able to go to Heathrow pharmacies it is highly likely they would have to return at a later date to collect prescriptions as most prescription medicine is not kept on site.

SOUTH WEST HERTFORDSHIRE

Herts. Valleys Clinical Commissioning Group

1. **New Musculo Skeletal Service:** *(From the Herts.Valleys CCG's website)* Herts Valleys CCG has commissioned a new integrated service for people with musculoskeletal issues and has awarded a three year contract for this new service to Connect Health.

West Herts Hospitals NHS Trust

1. **Baby arrives in car park:** *(From the Trust's website)* A woman gave birth to her first child at Watford General Hospital on Monday 19 February but not where she had planned! Mother and baby were quickly supported by hospital staff – and both were fine.

GENERAL HEALTH NEWS

Even one cigarette a day is a risk *(The Week 3 February 2018)*

People who smoke only one cigarette a day may feel they are doing themselves no harm – but they are wrong. A meta-analysis of 141 studies that looked at smoking and heart health has suggested that one-a-day smokers have a 50% raised risk of cardiovascular disease – roughly half that of 20-a-day smokers.

The finding, said the team at University College London, tallies with earlier studies that found that passive smokers have a raised risk of arterial stiffness and inflammation. Heart disease is the biggest smoking-related killer, linked to even more premature deaths than lung cancer. “No safe level of smoking exists for cardiovascular disease” the team warn in their BMJ published report.

A lifetime of obesity *(The Week 3 February 2018)*

Four in five obese children in the UK will remain dangerously overweight in adulthood – which could lead to them losing 20 years of healthy life, a new report has warned. The report, from the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health, urges the Government to break “a terrible destructive cycle” by, for instance, introducing measures to stop fast food shops opening near schools, and banning junk food ads from being shown on TV before the 9pm watershed.

One in three children are overweight or obese by the time they leave primary school, official statistics show. Separately, a study in the US has suggested that the behaviours that lead to obesity are “contagious”. Researchers looked at data gathered from US military bases and found that when families moved into communities with high levels of obesity, they were more likely to become obese themselves.