

Health in Hackney Scrutiny Commission 13 th June 2019 Overseas Visitors Charging Regulations	Item No 8
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OUTLINE

At its meeting on 19 November the Commission considered the issue of the impact of the government's *Overseas Visitor Charging Regulations* which it was requiring all acute trusts to implement in full. Concerns about the impact of these processes at the Homerton Hospital were brought to the Commission by councillors, local GPs and the Hackney Migrant Centre. Concerns focused in particular on the impact on vulnerable migrants including asylum seekers and about the unwell being driven away with, at the very least, public health consequences. The requirements for acute trusts to report debts for medical expenses to the Home Office was another major concern.

Following the discussions, which involved the Chief Executive of HUHFT and the MD of the CCG, the Chair wrote to lobby the Secretary of State on the issue. We have since received a response from the Minister of State Baroness Blackwood. The letter and response are attached.

Attending for this item will be:

Tracey Fletcher, Chief Executive, HUHFT
Catherine Pelley, Chief Nurse and Director of Governance, HUHFT
Rayah Feldman, Chair of Hackney Migrant Centre
Daf Viney, Centre Manager, Hackney Migrant Centre

ACTION

The Commission is requested to give consideration to the response and agree next steps.