

Overview & Scrutiny

Health in Hackney Scrutiny Commission

Hackney Council
Town Hall
Mare St,
London E8 1EA
Reply to: jarlath.oconnell@hackney.gov.uk

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Richard Bull
Programme Director - Primary Care
NHS NEL CCG
City & Hackney Integrated Care Partnership
and North East London Health and Care Partnership
Email to: richardbull@nhs.net

Dear Richard

GP Practices' still requiring photo ID/proof of address for registration

Further to the recent meeting of the Commission which you attended, I am writing on behalf of the Members to express our concern about the number of local GP Practices' who are still requiring either identification and/or proof of address from those seeking to register with them. As you know this is contrary to and / or not required by NHS regulations and serves a major barrier to many vulnerable groups, in seeking early diagnosis and treatment.

At the meeting we discussed the Healthwatch Hackney's survey report '*GP registration in Hackney, the right to access health care*' which found that despite two reviews of this issue, in March and October 2021, there were still 7 Practices in Hackney who had not changed their processes. These are: *Barton House Group, Brook Road, Elsdale St Clinic, Queensbridge Group, The Clapton Surgery, The Gadhvi Practice* and *Well Street Surgery*. We also heard at the meeting the personal experience of Cllr Adams who faced similar barriers at *De Beauvoir Practice*.

We would be grateful if you could please pursue this matter with these Practices' and remind them of their responsibilities and then invite Healthwatch to undertake another exercise to see if matters have improved. If they have not, please can you put in place a clear action plan to address the issue which could include CCG led training for all staff at these practices.

Yours sincerely



Councillor Ben Hayhurst
Chair of Health in Hackney Scrutiny Commission

cc Members of Health in Hackney Scrutiny Commission
Cllr Christopher Kennedy, Cabinet Member for Health Social Care and Leisure
Dr Kirsten Brown, Primary Care Clinical Lead for City & Hackney