

<b>Health in Hackney Scrutiny Commission</b>  8 February 2023  <b>Community Diagnostic Centres - impact on Hackney - VERBAL REPORT</b>	Item No  <b>6</b>
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## **PURPOSE OF ITEM**

To receive an update on the Hackney aspect of NHS NEL's wider plans for Community Diagnostic Centres.

## **OUTLINE**

The development of Community Diagnostic Hubs or Centres has been discussed at **INEL JHOSC** a few times, most recently on **25 July 2022** when the following information was presented by NHS NEL:

### ***Proposed changes to healthcare – community diagnostic hubs***

- *Over the next three years the NHS in North East London expects to receive £39 million from central NHS funds to build and run Community Diagnostic Centres (CDCs).*
- *CDCs would be able to carry out imaging (such as x-rays and MRI scans), pathology (e.g. taking blood samples to check for diseases) and physiological measurements (such as heart rates). Our proposal is that medium-sized CDCs don't include endoscopy (using a camera on a flexible tube) at the moment as we have sufficient capacity.*
- *It is possible that North East London may receive further funding, however this is not guaranteed. This year we propose to:*
  - *Expand the two existing diagnostic sites at Mile End Hospital and Barking Community Hospital to become medium-sized CDCs.*
  - *Look at the feasibility, costs and benefits of developing other sites in the next few years. We are looking in particular at King George Hospital in Ilford and/or St George's Health and Wellbeing Hub in Havering, St Leonard's Hospital in Hackney and on the Whipps Cross Hospital site.*
  - *We may also look at developing smaller centres in shopping centres – for example Canary Wharf, Westfield Stratford and Liberty Romford.*
- *CDCs are extra facilities that would provide patients with quicker, simpler, easier, more integrated and more personal service; improve health outcomes; reduce inequalities; and improve efficiency. Patients would still be able to get tests in hospital and at GP surgeries. The public consultation on these proposals is anticipated to close in mid-September*

The minute relating to CDC is here:

*6.10 Cllr Adams asked about the Community Diagnostic Hub being mentioned for St Leonard's and how this aligns with the Homerton's own plans for the site. He also asked about the robustness of the response to the monkeypox virus. Nicholas Wright replied the St Leonard's was just one of the many possible sites for future expansion as Community Diagnostic Hub 3,4 or 5 and they were working with the Homerton and local stakeholders on any decision to site the centre there. Westfield in Stratford and St George's sites were no further advanced as yet but they were looking at a number of possibilities. Ann Hepworth (Director of Strategy and Partnerships at BHRUT and the SRO for Community Diagnostic Centres in NEL) described the work being done trying to identify possible sites. Population Health Need was the main driver as was the need to increase access and make more diagnostics available.*

Then, at **City and Hackney Health and Care Board meeting on 10 Nov 2022** the following was noted in the minutes:

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### **Community Diagnostic Centres**

*Daniel Young (Associate Director of Access, Homerton Healthcare) provided the HCPB members a verbal update and highlighted that:*

- The Community diagnostic centres come from Prof Mike Richards report from a few years ago, looked at diagnostics as a whole and put forward a solution of community diagnostics centres that both supported overall gains in the amount of capacity in diagnostics.*
- There was a lot of work around looking at places where health inequalities were leading to differences in waiting times, not purely capacity and making sure that we were out in the community as opposed to just beefing up acute centres to also help people in terms of transport.*
- There are two Community diagnostics centres, one is at Mile End and one is at Barking Hospital and they were early adopters, and now looking at third site in NEL.*
- The Homerton Hospital and City and Hackney have been working together with representatives of both organisations, putting together an outline business case which has done assessments of four sites in NEL, assessments are still taking place, but have started initial assessment of four sites and looking to put forward an outline business case to the NEL planned care board for support of City and Hackney being the location of a third site.*
- There are multiple reasons to have a centre in City and Hackney, two or three of the main reasons is that the acute site at the Homerton is not the largest site in comparison to some of the other sites we have in NEL, so continuing to build additional diagnostic capacity on those sites is much more limited than somewhere*

*such as King Georges that has a lot of land outside of the actual physical hospital and its grounds.*

- City and Hackney is the second most deprived borough, so if areas of health inequalities are targeted directly, City and Hackney should be quite high on the list. The population growth that we expect to see within City and Hackney over the next 10 to 20 years is extremely high and will need to invest in diagnostic capacity to be able to maintain the high levels of performance had historically.*
- NE London has shortlisted 9 sites across the whole patch, two of which are in City and Hackney, they are the St. Leonards site and the Lower Clapton site.*
- The stage this is at, currently putting together internally a communications plan and going to be going out to the public and others to consult on the various sites that are available in NE London.*

*Comments and questions from the Board included:*

- It is positive to have new community diagnostic centre in City and Hackney.*
  - The HCPB asked if there is a workforce plan in place for this.*
  - There are a number of key clinicians on steering group who have helped pull together a workforce plan, there will be a standard recruitment process, looking to increase 14 capacity in terms of our recruitment plans and plan is to move to an apprenticeship model within radiography training existing workforce staff.*
  - Workforce is a considerable risk re: reporting radiographers.*
  - In terms of the decision-making NE London Planned Care Board met last night to agree the kind of scoring matrix for how they select someone, expecting to receive go ahead in the next two weeks.*
  - A formal business case will need to be approved by the trust in February. With that also then being approved again by NHS England as a full business case as opposed to an outline business case in March, the building work would then start and the plan is to have a site opened in April 2024, but fully operational by September 2024.*
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Attending for this item will be:

**Louise Ashley**, Chief Executive, Homerton Healthcare and Place Based Leader for City and Hackney  
**Breeda McManus**, Chief Nurse and Director of Governance, Homerton Healthcare  
**Rob Clarke**, CFO, Homerton Healthcare

## **ACTION**

Members are requested to give consideration to the discussion.