

# Central & East London Breast Screening Service – Data Briefing, Health in Hackney Scrutiny Committee

*Presented by:*

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*NB: Presented data at service level,  
service does not report at borough level*

# Introduction

- The Royal Free breast screening service consists of two clinical services – The Central and East London Breast Screening Service (CELBSS), The North London Breast Screening Service (NLBSS) and the London Administration Hub
- For the purposes of this presentation and discussion around the population of Hackney, this lies within CELBSS. CELBSS currently serves an estimated total eligible population of 170,000 women aged 50-70 and covers 6 London boroughs including Camden, Islington, Newham, Tower Hamlets, City & Hackney and Waltham Forest, delivered through 3 static screening sites and 1 demountable static site. Second stage screening assessment clinics are delivered from the St. Barts site (lease held with RFL)



## Key (Breast Screening Services)

- Grey – North London (RFL)
- Pink – Central & East London (RFL)
- Blue – West of London (Imperial)
- Purple – South West London (St. Georges)
- Orange – South East London (Kings)
- Green – Outer North East London (InHealth)

## Impact of COVID – 19 & London Recovery

- As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic all routine breast screening in London was paused from 23 March 2020 except for High Risk women. NHS England approved the recommencement of screening in July 2020 and all London services entered a recovery programme. There was a national requirement for all screening services to recover by June 2022
- The London backlog peaked in August 2020 at around 160,000 clients and London services are now concluding their recovery programmes
- CELBSS/ NLBSS (RFL services) were some of the first in London to conclude their COVID recovery plans and have recovered round length (the interval between screening appointments, target 36 months) and other core KPI's
- Post recovery, services are now working through 'invitation smoothing plans'. To ensure service recovery post COVID, screening activity increased in 2022/ 23 above 'normal' levels of screening. To ensure that this spike in activity isn't felt in future years, a smoothing plan for activity has been required by NHSE for all London services. This is in place and on plan for CELBSS and NLBSS

# CELBSS Performance and Activity Data

	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	2022-2023
% Uptake (50-70)	23.0%	58.2%	39.2%	41.2%	43.4%	46.8%	50.1%	41.4%	49.1%	51.6%	51.3%	51.7%	45.0%

	2022-2023	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	2023-2024
Roundlength within 36 months (50-70)	77.5%	61.9%	91.9%	99.2%	99.0%	99.3%	99.1%	96.6%
% Uptake (50-70)	40.6%	51.3%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	51.3%
Screen to Normal	98.5%	97.6%	99.0%	98.1%	97.7%	94.4%	96.7%	97.3%
Screen to DOFOA	98.2%	62.8%	100.0%	82.0%	44.8%	15.8%	25.2%	59.7%
Screen to assessment	78.3%	45.1%	87.2%	66.5%	34.4%	14.4%	21.8%	48.4%
Total Technical Recall	2.6%	3.6%	3.0%	3.3%	2.6%	3.2%	3.3%	3.2%
No. Invited 50-70	67768	4128	4602	5305	5304	4500	4408	28247
No. Screened	35856	2484	3284	3303	3251	2608	3122	18052
No. Assessed	1426	143	177	193	117	129	118	877

# CELBSS/ NLBSS Recovery – Uptake Recovery Agreed with NHSE

KPI	Target
Uptake of Breast Screening Invitation	>70%

NB – Uptake on previous slide includes 2022/23 figures, alongside April 2023/24 performance.

Uptake performance takes 6 months to finalise, therefore the most current uptake is April 2023.

## Improvement of Uptake – CELBSS

Currently achieving >50% uptake. Pre-COVID uptake 50-55% annually.

### 3 month trajectory – Q1/ Q2 2023/24 – achieved

- Aim to maintain current service delivery during transition to timed appointments & recruitment of Health promotion team (achieved)

### 6 month trajectory – Q3/ Q4 - achieved

- Uptake takes 6 months to secure and stabilise. Sites show gradual increases in uptake >40% CELBSS

### 12 month trajectory – 2024/ 25 onwards

- Exceed 55% uptake CELBSS

- Services have built a health promotion team to work across NLBSS and CELBSS (Bands 3, 5 & 7 - 18-24 month fixed term posts with NHSE/ Alliance funding).
- Internal nursing team supporting multiple projects, roadshows and community events to improve uptake.
- Early focus on clients with learning disabilities and reaching areas of the population most significantly impacted by .

## CELBSS/ NLBSS Service Capacity Increases

- Service expanded weekend and evening work.
- CELBSS achieving pre-COVID levels of activity and planning to increase on this through 2023/24.
- Adapted booking templates to incorporate a move back to a pre-COVID model including a 44 screening target per daily clinic.
- New booking algorithm (probability based booking) in place across the national screening programme.
- A computer algorithm determines client attendance probability based on the COVID period, post COVID, it allowed the system to effectively overbook clinics (due to the application of low attendance expectations to all clients).
- This updated algorithm has reduced the probability of attendance for specific screening clients and as a result created more appropriate and manageable clinics.

Cancers Diagnosed	Total
2019-20	349
2020-21	124
2021-22	286
2022-23	Not yet available



# CELBSS Data & Activity Exception Reporting

KPI Key	Target	KPI	Target	KPI	
Round Length (invited every 36 months)	>90%	Uptake of Breast Screening Invitation	>70%	Technical Recall (repeat examinations)	<2%
Screen to Normal (Routine Recall results issues within 2 weeks of screen)	>95%	DOFOA (Assessment appointment offered within 21 days of screen)	>95%		

- Service working through COVID Recovery following Pan London pause to screening in 2020
- Round Length – 96.6% and target currently achieved by the service (one of the national expectations post COVID recovery)
- Screen to Normal – 97.3% and target currently achieved by the service
- Screen to Assessment – 48.4% and under target. Impact on this target is a reduction in assessment capacity through 2023/24. Doctors strikes have significantly impacted service delivery, assessment capacity reduced by Barts Health (estate lease owners) during COVID and service in the process of re-gaining required capacity
- Technical Recall – 3.2% and under target. Increased number of trainee mammographers working within CELBSS
- Screening Activity – Currently achieving pre COVID levels of activity
- Assessment Activity - Currently achieving pre COVID levels of activity

## Breast Screening within the Hackney Population

- Through 2023/ 24 a major service focus is reducing health inequalities which increased during COVID for all of London's breast screening services
- Screening uptake fell across the national programme and within London during COVID, which is also a key focus going forward
- As a service we have expanded our team to focus specifically on health promotion initiatives and have appointed into three new posts. These include a band 3, 5 and 7, as part of a nurse led team
- We continue to engage with many stakeholders within the Hackney population including cancer alliances, GPs and community teams
- Uptake fell by up to 15% during COVID and improvement trajectories have been agreed with NHSE London commissioners. CELBSS is on track to achieve these trajectories (>40% Q2, >55-60% Q3/4 onwards (target 70%))
- Overall KPI's aside from those linked to uptake continue to perform well, above target and this applies to the Hackney population.
- Screening clinic booking templates have been adapted to incorporate a move back to a pre-COVID model including a 44 client screening target per daily clinics
- A new booking algorithm (probability based booking) is in place across the national screening programme with the aim of increasing clinic utilisation
- All women invited are sent a text reminder 1 week and 48 hours before their appointment to remind them to attend. They can call and change the time, location and date of their appointment if not convenient (weekend appointments available). They are given an appointment to a screening site closest to their home address.
- The service offers high risk screening for eligible women, this could mean more frequent screenings for eligible women or screening below the age of 50

## Health Promotion within the Hackney Population

- **PWLD project:** To reduce health inequality and improve access to screening the health promotion team has been working closely with the Learning Disability (LD) team in Hackney since March 2023 to improve screening uptake among People With Learning Disabilities (PWLD). We have held 2 targeted sessions for this population with the LD team, booked 20% of eligible women and screened 80% of the women booked - all screened normal. We have reasonable adjustments in place for PWLD some of which include access to easy read materials, longer appointments, carer support at the appointment and pre-visits.
- **Newsletter:** During breast cancer awareness month in October 2023, we have partnered with the communications team in the Hackney council to send out an article in the Hackney council newsletter - "Love Hackney" which reaches over 120,000 residents, highlighting our work with PWLD and encouraging women to be breast aware and attend screening
- **Community champions:** We have developed links with public health strategists in the council and Volunteer Centre Hackney (VCH) to deliver community champions training for increasing awareness of breast cancer and screening within the borough population
- **Partnership:** The health promotion team is working closely with the Leanne Pero Foundation to deliver training to ambassadors working with the black community on breast awareness and screening and we are going to engage with their social media followers via Instagram
- **GP engagement:** We have engaged with the cancer alliance GP lead to make introductions to primary care. We plan to speak at the GP forum for Hackney. We update GPs on changes to screening programme, request them to encourage women from their practice who have missed their appointment to attend and offer any health promotion support they might need in terms of reports on uptake, events at their practice or resources for health promotion
- **Language project:** We have iPads in place at all our screening sites with google translate installed to reduce language barriers faced at screening. This is in addition to official translation agencies we engage with to communicate with clients when English is not their primary language.