

Dear Colleague

Following this week's meetings of the Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (JHOSC), involving councillors from all six boroughs, and our south east London Committee in Common (CiC), it has been agreed that the public consultation into the proposals to develop elective orthopaedic centres will be held during 2017.

In response to feedback from JHOSC and agreed at CiC we are making changes to our consultation materials. We will clearly describe in our consultation document both:

- the three options for improving planned inpatient orthopaedic care in a consolidated model at two sites (the preferred option);
- and the option where providers propose to improve elective orthopaedic care across three sites. This includes how they would expand to meet increasing demand and how they would intend to deliver high quality care.

This will allow the public to consider the pros and cons of both approaches in the consultation. We will also give clearer information on how infection rates and cancelled operations can be reduced by consolidating planned procedures into fewer sites, and a more user friendly explanation of the finances involved.

The south east London Committee in Common accepted the JHOSC's consultation suggestions. It agreed with the recommendation of the evaluation group that the preferred approach for improving care and making services more cost effective is to consolidate onto two sites and that we should continue to progress towards a consultation. We have also agreed that we will ask the providers again to present a collaborative proposition on the three-site and/or the two-site option. The CiC requested that we consider how we factor financial considerations into our evaluation. We will be taking advice on this.

Best wishes

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Our Healthier South East London

Improving health and care together

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