

Ref: RW/WP  
Date: 19 May 2009

LB Chief Executives

Chief Executive's Office  
Civic Centre  
Rainham Road  
Dagenham  
RM10 7BN

Dear Colleagues

I write to update you on CELC's most recent regular meeting with Ruth Carnall. Following discussion of the policy paper at the Leaders' Committee, London Councils will write to Ruth shortly to seek her endorsement of the approach set out toward borough based primary and community commissioning. Ruth briefed us that she is happy to receive such a request, and welcomes the opportunity to endorse the need for joint work between London Councils/Capital Ambition and NHS London to gather momentum.

As you know Ruth has already given a commitment to London Councils that no substantive PCT Chief Executive post will be advertised without the agreement of the relevant borough in order to encourage discussions at local level. Ruth reiterated that this commitment remains.

This letter asks you to respond briefly, if you wish to do so, in relation to your borough's optimal choice for integration with your local PCT. Please do not feel the need to reply if you do not wish to do so, but if your council would like to take forward integration, please let us know at which level:

- Back-office integration, for example in relation to support services
- Integration of commissioning with joint posts etc.
- Wider corporate integration between the two organisations in order to address broader policy aims such as regeneration

Our intention is to arrange an event in July with NHS London to share learning from existing joint working and integration, share current thinking, and consider next steps including how more detailed discussions can be taken forward. At such an event you would ideally attend with your PCT counterpart, but if there is not agreement between your council and the PCT on the optimal way forward, you are of course welcome to attend in order to discuss the best way forward.

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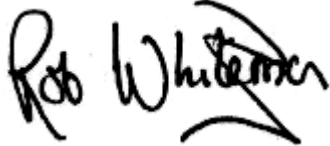
Ruth Carnall is writing to PCT Chief Executives to update them of our discussion, reiterate her expectation that all PCTs will actively engage with local councils to maximise the opportunities for joint working and integration and to advise them of the forthcoming workshop.

I am sure you would agree that this is a very positive way forward and constitutes Ruth Carnall's clear signal to London local government that NHS London would like to work with us in order to quicken the momentum of borough commissioning proposals.

I look forward to hearing from you, and we will then let you know as soon as possible the proposals for an event. At the same time when we are aware of the quantum of work that boroughs would like to take forward, this will be raised with Capital Ambition in terms of capacity to support the work needed.

With very best regards.

Yours sincerely



**Rob Whiteman**  
Chief Executive