

Trust Headquarters

Ealing Hospital, Uxbridge Road
Southall, Middlesex
UB1 3HW
Tel: 020 8967 5492

Trust Headquarters

Northwick Park Hospital
Watford Road
Harrow, HA1 3UJ
Tel: 020 8869 2002

Thursday 5 April 2012

Chairman, Councillor Ann Gate
Health and Social Care Scrutiny Sub – Committee
Harrow Council
Civic Centre
PO Box 57, Station Road
Harrow HA1 2XF

Dear Councillor Gate

Re: Proposed merger of Ealing Hospital NHS Trust and The North West London Hospitals NHS Trust

We are writing to update you on the next steps with regards to the publication of the Full Business Case (FBC) for the proposed merger of our Trusts and provide you with a general update on the merger programme.

Full Business Case

As you will be aware from an email from Simon Crawford on 28 March, we submitted the FBC as planned to NHS London on 9 March and we were aiming to present the Business Case to both Trust Boards on the 29 March. However, due to the need to refine the financial elements of the FBC to ensure that it meets the requirements of NHS London we were not able to do so.

NHS London and indeed our Trusts' Boards remain committed to the merger process. As soon as we have a clearer picture of the timescales for publication we will let you know.

Given that we had hoped to present the FBC at your next committee meeting it would be useful to have a discussion with you as to the best way forward. Simon Crawford will be in contact with you after Easter to discuss.

Appointment of Transaction Director

We would like, however, to take this opportunity to formally welcome David McVittie. He has been appointed by NHS London as Transaction Director and will be leading the merger process working closely with ourselves and Senior Responsible Officer Simon Crawford. Many of you will know David as he was previously Chief Executive of Hillingdon Hospital NHS Trust. David has more than 21 years' experience at executive director level in the NHS and private sector. Before working in the NHS he worked for

PricewaterhouseCoopers and British Telecom. He was Chief Executive at Hillingdon Hospital for 11 years.

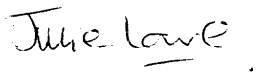
Name for the new organisation

We have started the process of deciding the name for the new organisation. In deciding the name, we are required to follow NHS Identity Guidelines, which are fairly prescriptive about the type of name that can be chosen, and that we consult with staff and neighbouring NHS organisations.

As part of our consultation with staff, we shared a shortlist of names and asked staff to vote on their preferred options via an online survey. Their preferred choice was **London North West Healthcare NHS Trust**. At a meeting of both Trust Boards on 29 March, this name was endorsed and it was agreed that we would now consult with neighbouring NHS Trusts. Final agreement on the name will be required from Department of Health.

Finally, can we take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing interest and support, and apologise for any inconvenience the change in timetable regarding the FBC may have caused in the planning of your meetings. We hope this update was helpful. Please feel free to contact our offices if you would like to discuss any of the matters in this letter in more detail.

Yours sincerely,



Julie Lowe
Chief Executive
Ealing Hospital NHS Trust



Peter Coles
Chief Executive
The North West London Hospitals NHS Trust