



**North West London Collaboration of
Clinical Commissioning Groups**

15 Marylebone Road
London NW1 5JD

By Email

Mr Mansfield QC
c/o Peter Smith
Room 39
Hammersmith Town Hall
London
W6 9JU

11th March 2015

Dear Mr Mansfield

I am replying to your letter of 3 March 2015 to my colleague Thirza Sawtell and on behalf of all the Chairs and Chief Officers of NHS organisations in North West London.

I should begin by saying that we are all keen to co-operate with your healthcare commission and to provide you with as much information as we can. We wish to approach this matter in a spirit of openness and transparency and we hope you do too.

Your letter raises questions around three particular issues and makes a new request for some additional documents.

Specifically you raise the issue of the Investment [sic] Making Business Case (IMBC). We think you are referring to the Implementation Business Case (ImBC). You may be aware that this is simply one stage in the normal process of developing and implementing service changes within the health system. The ImBC is not currently completed and has not, therefore, been approved by the CCGs. In addition we have promised the Overview and Scrutiny Committees in the affected boroughs that we will make it available to them first, as soon as it is approved.

You also raise the matter of the Tri-partite review of A&E performance in North West London which was commissioned by NHS England, the NHS Trust Development Authority and Monitor. I am afraid it is not within the power of the North West London CCGs or local NHS Trusts to provide this document or any information about it. We would recommend that you approach NHS England about this document.

Furthermore, you raise the question of the CCGs' out-of-hospital strategies. I am grateful to you for acknowledging that the written submissions from the CCGs include information about their out-of-hospital strategies. However, you go on to say the information provided is not satisfactory for your purposes and you ask for "a clear statement of the progress planned and achieved to date". I will ensure that we prepare a statement that gives you more detail.

Finally, you ask for the minutes of the Shaping a Healthier Future Patient and Public Representative Group. We will certainly make these minutes available to you.

In the interests of openness, transparency and clarity for our local communities we believe it would be sensible and appropriate for us to agree with you the next steps as you proceed with your commission. We particularly feel it would be helpful for us to provide you with a single line of communication to NHS organisations in order that there is no confusion over which further documents you may require and who would be the most appropriate NHS representatives to provide you with these documents and/or to provide you with oral evidence.

I therefore propose the following course of action:

1. That you provide us with a copy of all the evidence the commission has received and any other documents upon which you are proposing to rely. We assume this will include documents such as the paper entitled "Briefing for North West London Commission on Shaping a Healthier Future" dated 5 January 2015 and written by Seán Boyle and Roger Steer. By providing this evidence pack you will enable NHS representatives to review the evidence and then address any questions or underlying assumptions when we give oral evidence.
2. That you give us a full and final list of any further documents you may require in order to avoid confusion and to allow us to do our best to provide you with them.
3. We will then ensure that the appropriate NHS representatives make themselves available to give you oral evidence once we have had an opportunity to review the written evidence you have received along with any other documents you are relying upon.

We think it is unlikely that items 1 and 2 above will be completed before the end of this month (March 2015) and we therefore propose that oral evidence from NHS representatives should be scheduled for the session fixed in early May. If that is not convenient for you we would be content to agree another date soon thereafter.

I hope this successfully addresses the matters raised in your letter and provides us all with a sensible and effective way forward. I hope, in particular, that by offering myself as the conduit for any future enquiries you may have with NHS organisations in North West London we will be able to streamline our communications and move forward rapidly.

I can confirm that this approach is endorsed by all NHS organisations in North West London and for the purposes of clarity that no NHS organisation or representative will expect to provide you with oral evidence before your hearing in May 2015.

Yours sincerely



Clare Parker

On behalf of the Chairs & Chief Executives of NWL Clinical Commissioning Groups