

NHS BRENT 3rd December 2008 (approved)

CHAIR'S ACTION

INTERMEDIATE CARE – SUPPORTING PEOPLE BETTER IN THE COMMUNITY – BUSINESS CASE

Improving Intermediate Care is a strategic initiative for NHS Brent. At its November meeting the Board approved the initial business case associated with the initiative's development. The business case built upon work previously commissioned by the PCT from The Healthworks and contained both a number of 'quick win' service improvements and a plan to commission external consultancy support to develop the intermediate care strategy, care pathways & business case. A number of factors require the project to be progressed within tight timescales and in line with the work already undertaken by The Healthworks.

These factors include

- DH ISTC programme which will commence in April 2009 with an annual contract value of £1.6 million & a minimum guarantee contract value of 70%
- PCT's operating plan will include a reduction in acute emergency activity requiring the new pathways and providers to be in place and fully operational
- Introduction of the HfL stroke pathway will be high profile
- The provider landscape is very complex for intermediate care
- The initiative is a key partnership priority
- There is a marked lack of internal management capacity to take the work forward

In light of the issues identified it is proposed that The Healthworks should be commissioned to undertake the consultancy work associated with this business case, building upon the work already undertaken.

This would have the following benefits:

- Build upon work already undertaken which has been widely accepted by the local health and social care community
- Reduce the time required to build relationships and understand the local health needs and landscape
- Ability to mobilise very quickly with a consistent team
- Track record of success
- Value for money achieved through lack of duplication & increased likelihood of delivering to required timescales
- Previous Value for Money exercise relating to intermediate care undertaken when The Healthworks were awarded the contract for the initial work (against 3 other providers)

Chair: Marcia Saunders

Chief Executive: Mark Easton

Chair's action:

Chair's action is requested to commission The Healthworks to undertake this consultancy work as a single tender commission. The value of the consultancy work is £150,000 (non recurrent) in 2008/09. Chair's action is requested in advance of the Board meeting to enable the work to commence immediately, thereby ensuring achievement of the required deadlines.

In accordance with Section B5.2 Emergency Powers of Standing Orders (March 2007) we have discussed this proposal with the non-officer (non-executive) members listed below who agree with the proposal.

Chair:  Marcia Saunders

Chief Executive:  Mark Easton

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NED: _____ Chandresh Somani _____

NED: _____ Gerald Zeidman _____

This decision will be brought to the next NHS Brent Board meeting on Thursday, 29th January 2009 for ratification.

Chair: Marcia Saunders

Chief Executive: Mark Easton