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Title of paper	Harmonised constitutions update
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Presenter	Ben Westmancott, NWL Governance Programme SRO			
Author/s	Riordan Hill, NW London Governance Programme Manager			
Responsible Director	Ben Westmancott, NWL Governance Programme SRO			
Clinical Lead	CCG Chair			
Confidential	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Items are only confidential if it is in the public interest for them to be so

The Governing Body is asked to:

Note the process for NHS England's approval of the revised constitution, following the recent members vote.

Summary of purpose and scope of report

In September the Governing Body made a recommendation to the CCG's members to approve the revision to its constitutions.

Following this a members vote was conducted where the revisions were approved.

The complete documentation has been submitted to NHS England with a request for ratification.

Initial conversations with NHS England have suggested that they will be able to do this by the end of November, allowing the Joint Committee to go live in December.

What are the benefits of this project?

Taking a joint approach to decisions like this will provide the CCGs with a stronger voice and will help reduce the postcode lottery in care for patients. For example, we have a much greater negotiating power when we work as one and we can seek greater improvements for patients, such as reducing the time between a referral and treatment by speaking to our providers with a single voice.

It also allows us to provide greater scrutiny and influence on any decision that affects our area. For example, we will have more influence on improving patient safety and the quality of services local people get from our hospitals and other providers if we join together.

Taking a decision in public once rather than the same decision in public eight times will also improve the efficiency of the organisation and enable decisions to be made more quickly which in turn allows service improvements to be implemented earlier for patients.

Quality & Safety / Impact on Patients

The collaborative development programme is designed to directly benefit patient care by enabling the NW London CCGs to achieve a unified, corporate approach to commissioning that enhances clinical leadership, enables us to better share our collective capacity and capability, and releases more time to devote to support primary care development.

Significantly, moving forward with the proposals will allow us to respond directly to the patient view of service fragmentation, so that we can work towards reducing unwarranted clinical variation so that we avoid a 'postcode lottery' for access to and quality of care for the people in NW London.

Equality analysis

An Equality Impact Assessment of the *establishment* of the NW London Joint Committee has been conducted. The impact of issues considered by the Joint Committee are subject to the same policies and procedures that apply to matters for Governing Body consideration.

No other equality impacts have been identified.

Finance and resources

A single financial control total for NW London is now in place and NW London will be held to account for its shared delivery.

It is a commitment of the CCGs that an outcome of the development work is that any new arrangements will cost no more than existing models in terms of staffing costs; moreover it is intended that the new ways of working will in fact enable us to drive more effective commissioning and therefore release greater operating efficiencies across the sector.

Risk

Any residual risks are well mitigated and will be monitored to conclusion.

Supporting documents

None.

Governance, reporting and engagement

None.

Conflicts of interest

None have been identified relating the development of this paper and those matters it covers.