

12th August 2019

Dr Mo Abedi Chair, NHS Enfield Clinical Commissioning Group Holbrook House Cockfosters Road Barnet EN4 0DR via e-mail

Dear Dr Abedi,

Re.: proposals to reduce the opening times of the Urgent Care Centre at Chase Farm Hospital

At Healthwatch Enfield, it is our job to amplify voices of local people on key issues that affect them; over the last few weeks we collected over 370 items of feedback relating to the proposal to reduce the opening times of the Urgent Care Centre at Chase Farm Hospital.

In relation to closing the Urgent Care Centre at Chase Farm Hospital at 9:00pm instead of 10:00pm, 84% of local people, who provided feedback to Healthwatch Enfield, did not agree with the proposal. Our research findings suggest that the Urgent Care Centre at Chase Farm Hospital is seen as a valuable resource. Those we heard from, were concerned that the proposed changes:

- will further reduce the provision of urgent care services in Enfield
- will make accessing urgent care services in Enfield more difficult
- will have an impact on A&E departments and the ambulance service

Based on local residents' feedback, **Healthwatch Enfield recommends** that NHS Enfield Clinical Commissioning Group working with NHS Barnet Clinical Commissioning Group and Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust:

- (1) maintain opening times of the Urgent Care Centre from 8:00am to 10:00pm so that residents can attend up to 10:00pm and be seen
- (2) works with local people and stakeholders to develop ways to raise awareness of the Urgent Care Centre at Chase Farm so that use of available resources is maximised. Any solutions developed should ensure that:
 - opening times are clear, including that patients can attend up to 10:00pm to be seen
 - treatments, procedures and conditions that can be dealt with by the Urgent Care Centre are clear

A summary report outlining our findings is attached for your consideration.

We look forward to hearing from you with your response to the outcomes of the engagement on the proposal to reduce the opening times of the Urgent Care Centre at Chase Farm Hospital.

Yours sincerely,

Patricia Mecinska, Chief Executive

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