

Neurology context - Case for change

Current challenges

Future model

- Neurological conditions are individually rare for GPs, access to advice is critical and there are issues in accessing timely support
- Need access to ambulatory acute neurology pathways to avoid hospital admissions

Primary Care



Improved access to support

- Single points of access into standardised pathways
- Routine co-management with specialty and community teams
- Improved access to specialist advice and early support for deteriorating patients
- Routine advance care planning for complex patients
- PCNs to support chronic neurological patients in the community

- Variation in commissioning and service provision
- Workforce challenges – single borough teams unable to resource expertise at scale (e.g. psychology)
- Issues accessing specialist advice
- Inappropriate referrals & screening contributing to long waiting lists and delays in social care

Community Care



Workforce development

- Standardised specification, outcomes monitoring across system
- Direct co-working with specialist teams
- Better MDT working, rotational schemes and upskilling improves recruitment and retention
- Joint posts across multiple teams creates efficient cross-borough working.

- Lack of local subspecialty expertise due to recruitment and retention issues
- Demand and capacity issues – high level of ward referrals and long outpatient waits for new patients
- Issues accessing timely super-specialist investigations and treatments

District General Hospitals



Managing complex and urgent patients

- Address professional isolation and development of expertise through joint working, dual posts and more professional CPD networks
- Support local delivery of specialist care through MDT working
- Establish standardised pathways that facilitate escalation of urgent patients needing super specialist input

- Delays in care for tertiary patients
- Suboptimal local workup
- Challenges delivering care at a single centre for a large, geographically distributed population

Neurosciences Centre



Better supporting local care delivery

- Improved referral systems, with adequate work-up pre-referral and early identification of patients needing specialist input
- Working with DGH, community and primary care to improve local support of complex patients releasing capacity for new patient assessments