#### **HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD**

### 16 JULY 2013

Title:	Title: Referral from Development Control Board	
Report of the Chief Executive		
Open		For Information
Wards Affected: NONE		Key Decision: NO
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## Sponsor:

Cllr Worby, Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board

### **Summary:**

On 28 May 2013, the Development Control Board (DCB - a quasi-judicial Committee of the Council that is responsible for taking decisions on large planning applications) considered a planning application from Dr Natalya Bila. The application sought permission for St Martin's Vicarage on Goresbrook Road, Dagenham to be converted from a five bedroom house into a GP practice with first floor living accommodation.

Whilst the Board approved the planning application, in doing so it raised the following concerns and asked that they be recorded in the minutes with a request for the Health & Wellbeing Board be made aware of those concerns. The specific concerns were as follows:

# • the apparent lack of involvement of the NHS in assisting the doctor to relocate

Dr Bila is currently situated at the Heathway Medical Centre (585 Heathway, Dagenham), however the lease expires in January 2014 prompting relocation to ensure business continuity. In light of this the DCB wishes to know:

- What is the role of the NHS in ensuring that GP's find suitable premises for their practices? And;
- O What support is given to GP's to assist with relocation?

### • the upheaval for patients using the doctor's existing surgery

The DCB was concerned that Dr Bila's relocation was driven by the necessity to find accommodation because of the lease expiring at her current location. It appeared that that the relocation was not centred around the needs/desires of patients/residents or undertaken as part of the strategic planning of health services.

### pressure on parking in the area

Two off street car parking spaces are proposed for the doctor's flat but there will be no off street car parking for the doctor's surgery. The DCB was concerned that demand for parking would outstrip capacity; putting pressure on provision in that locality and requiring increased enforcement. In reaching their decision the DCB received advice from Highways Officers who after assessing parking provision in the area judged the parking arrangements to be acceptable for the purposes of this application.

### Recommendation(s)

The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to:

- Note the concerns of the Development Control Board as described above and recorded in the minutes (Minute 5 - DCB, 6pm, 28 May 2013)
- Request that the CCG and NHS England jointly author a report that explains how, in areas where there is significant population growth or decline, decisions are reached with regard to primary care estates in order that the local provision of primary care services matches the needs of the population.