

To what extent did the North East London Integrated Care System help deal with Covid?

There has been significant coordination and collaboration across NEL ICS and BHR ICP and within borough partnerships to manage the response to Covid over the past few weeks including:

- **Coordination of key programmes** including Covid vaccination by NEL supporting local rollout. Partners within boroughs have also been working together to deliver vaccines to their populations involving collaboration between PCNs, sharing staff and public estate, sourcing volunteers.
- Collaboration between providers to best **manage capacity** across NEL e.g. ITU and elective care.
- Using structures set up in the first wave to work across health and social care ensuring more **rapid prioritisation and decision-making** including NEL Gold Command Group, the BHR System Operational Command Group, the NEL Clinical Advisory Group.
- Managing **communications** across partners to ensure consistent messaging to the local residents. Includes dealing with enquiries from the public on a variety of matters including covid vaccination.
- **Sharing learning** across NEL e.g. models for GPs working in acute settings.

- **The BHR Strategic Operational Command Group** has continued to meet to oversee a significant programme of work to manage local service pressures and improve care to local residents focussing on;
 - Schemes to improve discharges
 - Increasing step down capacity
 - Enhancing community and primary care pathways to manage people at home (including roll out of pulse oximetry)
 - Enhancing capacity in mental health and primary care (e.g. more slots in hot hubs)
 - Improve support to care homes
 - Improve end of life care through working with the hospice.
- **Deployment of staff** into other roles and areas of greater priority e.g. CCG staff to NELFT, BHRUT, primary care; enabling staffing of the Nightingale facility; covid vaccination work
- Consideration of **health inequalities** impact and mitigations with reference to first wave across NEL