Summary:

The Health & Adult Services Select Committee (HASSC) and other members have recently received a number of notifications from NHS England with regards to the relocation of several GP surgeries in the Borough. These include:

- the relocation of Highgrove surgery, Malborough Road, Dagenham to Barking Community Hospital.
- the relocation of Dr Pervez’ surgery in Third Avenue, Dagenham to 219 High Street, Hornchurch and
- the merger of the Lawns Medical Care (in Marks Gate Health Centre) and the North Street Medical Care practices (in Chadwell Heath).

These re-locations have prompted some questions regarding the provision of primary care in the Borough and whether it is adequate for the local population.

GP commissioning responsibilities for the Borough have recently been delegated to the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) from NHS England. The CCG’s Director of Primary Care Transformation has been invited to attend the HASSC meeting and asked to provide assurance on the following areas:

- whether there is benchmark data on the numbers of practices across London, to allow comparison with Barking & Dagenham
- information on practice sizes in the Borough
- whether there are issues or challenges that relate to GPs retiring and requiring replacement and
- whether there is an estates strategy, as the reasons practices have given for moving include lack of available accommodation.

As GP commissioning responsibilities have now been delegated to the CCG, the HASSC may also wish to seek assurance from the CCG that the process for notifying HASSC and ward members of future potential GP relocations allows members to express their concerns as far in advance as possible, particularly given that NHS England had notified
Furthermore, members are asked to note that the CCG is currently working on developing a Primary Care Strategy with plans to engage with local stakeholders on it from June to August 2015. Appendix 1 of this report provides further details.

**Recommendation(s)**

The HASSC is recommended to seek assurance from the CCG that there is adequate GP provision to meet the Borough’s residents’ needs currently and in the long term and that processes for providing members early notification of potential GP relocations have been established.

**Reason(s)**

This report relates to the Council’s priority to ‘enable social responsibility’ and under it, the objective to ‘ensure everyone can access good quality healthcare when they need it’.

**Financial Implications**

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

**Legal Implications**

There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

**Background Papers Used in the Preparation of the Report:**

None.

**List of appendices:**

Appendix 1