

## **Update Report on Portsoken Health Centre for the City of London Corporation Health Scrutiny Committee**

**25<sup>th</sup> November 2009**

This paper provides an update on health service provision for Portsoken residents.

### **GP services**

Tower Medical Practice has offered to extend their current practice boundary westwards into the City of London. This will mean that all geographical areas will be within the boundary of at least one Practice and most areas will have a choice of at least two practices for registration. The boundary extension will come into effect in December. NHS Tower Hamlets will notify Neal Hounsell when this is in place so that we can agree a communication strategy for residents and the Find-a-doctor services.

NHS Tower Hamlets is drawing up a specification for an outreach general practice service to be provided on the Portsoken site on a pilot basis for up to 4 GP sessions per week for a period of about 4 months (in addition to the community services provided there). The specification will be advertised by end November to the 15 practices which currently register residents from Portsoken Ward, aiming to select a practice before Christmas with a view to the sessions starting by end January 2010.

NHS City and Hackney is holding discussions with the Neaman Practice, in terms of them extending their practice boundary, in consideration that a small number of residents may want to register with the practice, even taking into account the distance from the two housing estates.

NHS Tower Hamlets managers will be attending the next Mansell Street residents meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> November at the Portsoken Community Centre.

**Community health sessions** continue to be provided at the Portsoken health centre:

- Women's Health and family planning – half day weekly
- Diabetes nurse led service – drop in for advice and assessment; half day weekly
- Foot health clinic – half day monthly; 27 patients now registered to receive foot care services here; provide mix of planned appointments and drop-ins
- smoking cessation groups