



**LONDON**ASSEMBLY**LABOUR**

**Dr Onkar Sahota AM MBA FRCGP**

*Working hard for Ealing & Hillingdon*

*City Hall, The Queen's Walk, London SE1 2AA*

*020 7983 6558*

London Social Partnership Forum  
Floor 15, Portland House  
Bressenden Place  
London SW1E 5BH

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To all London Social Partnership Forum trade unions,

I'd like to invite you to City Hall to meet with me to discuss a number of matters relating to the health and care system in London. As the London Assembly Labour group's health lead, I believe it is essential that recognised health and social care unions are round the table when discussing the challenges we face from austerity, Brexit, and our aging population.

The coming months will see unprecedented challenges for the NHS. Not only does the UK's exit from the EU present a vast legislative and regulatory task, it also disrupts recruitment to health services and adds a heavy load of no-deal planning.

In the best of times, this would cause difficulties. But the NHS is going through the tightest spending limits since its foundation. Coupled with increasing numbers of people with complex conditions, the situation is far from ideal.

With this in mind, I would like to invite you to share your expertise and the concerns of your members. I want to make sure the views of the thousands of health workers in trade unions are heard in City Hall and across the NHS.

The voice of trade unions is of particular importance on three matters:

1. Your priorities for the NHS workforce in light of Brexit. My analysis of NHS figures shows that the Government has made no progress reducing vacancies. We need a partnership approach to manage this problem.
2. London's Health and Care Vision is currently being renewed by the London Health Board. Despite this setting the direction for the health system in the capital, few Londoners will be aware of it. Together we can make sure health and social care staff have a say on this.
3. The Mayor is getting new powers and funding for adult skills. The Government's apprenticeship levy has made little mark on the health system, and I am keen to hear your thoughts on how we avoid more missed opportunities.

I hope you will be able to take part in these discussions on the future of health services in London. When I speak to the Mayor and NHS leaders I want to be informed by the views of the staff who keep the whole system running.

Please do liaise with staff at City Hall ([fred.jerrome@london.gov.uk](mailto:fred.jerrome@london.gov.uk)) so we can organise a time to discuss these matters. I look forward to meeting London health leads from your union.

Yours sincerely

**Dr Onkar Singh Sahota AM**  
**London Assembly Member for Ealing & Hillingdon**