

Victoria Borwick AM  
Chair, Health and Public Services Committee

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Dame Ruth Carnall CBE  
Chief Executive  
NHS London  
Southside,  
105 Victoria Street  
London SW1E 6QT

20 December 2011

Dear Ruth

**London-wide co-ordination of mental health services**

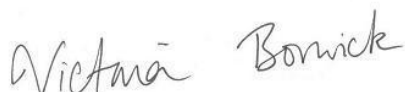
The Health and Public Services Committee recently met with a panel of expert guests to discuss the challenges facing mental health services in the capital. At this meeting, guests highlighted the continuing need for pan- London oversight of mental health services beyond 2013, to provide effective leadership during a period of major financial and structural change, to support the QIPP programme and to support the implementation of new models of care.

In addition, guests spoke about the need to provide support for Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) as the new commissioners of mental health services. One guest suggested that a London-wide group of mental health experts could be established to support CCGs in their new commissioning role, and to produce an annual report on the state of mental health in London that encompassed comparisons of local services.

The Committee supports the need for continued pan-London leadership of mental health and the need for expert support for CCGs. I am therefore writing to ask NHS London to support and facilitate these proposals so that when NHS London winds down, there is some continued pan-London oversight, support and co-ordination of mental health services.

I would be grateful if you could respond to this letter by 24 February.

Yours sincerely,



**Victoria Borwick AM**  
**Chair, Health and Public Services Committee**