**Jeremy Hunt visits Earl’s Court Health and Wellbeing Centre**

Secretary of State for Health, Jeremy Hunt, visited Earls Court Health and Wellbeing Centre today, Friday 05 July, as part of his activities to mark the 65th  anniversary of the NHS.

The Earl’s Court Health and Wellbeing Centre brings together several services in one building including general practice (Greenbrook Healthcare), sexual health (Terrence Higgins Trust), dentistry (NHS Dentist) and wellbeing support (Turning Point). The organisations involved work together in partnership with the aim of delivering care that addresses an individual’s physical, mental and social wellbeing alongside their medical needs.

During his visit Jeremy Hunt viewed the wide range of integrated services the centre offers as well as meeting with individuals involved in service delivery including Peer Mentors, volunteers who have experience of long term health conditions and other lifestyle issues who support and mentor others to make real changes in their lives; a wellbeing coach and Timebank members.

**The Secretary of State for Health, The Rt. Hon Jeremy Hunt MP said;**

*"In 65 years, the NHS has quite simply done more to improve people's lives that any other institution in our history, and its equity and excellence make us the envy of the world.*

*But we know that no institution can stand still, and the challenge of our time is to make radical improvements so that the NHS' heaviest users - our most vulnerable and elderly - stay in good health and out of hospital.*

*To sustain our NHS for the future, I believe we need a much stronger focus on joining up services around people's lives, so that health and care services work more closely together, keeping people healthier and treating them closer to home.*

*Places like the Earl's Court Health and Wellbeing Centre, which provides a range of health and wellbeing and community support services in one place, will help us achieve this."*

**John Piesse, Head of Primary Care in London for Turning Point said;**

*“We were delighted that Jeremy Hunt chose to visit the Earl’s Court Health and Wellbeing Centre as a best practice example of innovative and integrated primary care.*

*Everyone involved in the service is extremely proud of the centre and the work we do here and we enjoyed showing the Secretary of State how the service operates.”*

**Dr Sally Johnson, GP and Medical Director for Greenbrook Healthcare who manage general practice at the service said;**

*“We have quickly built a trusted GP practice in Earl's Court which is highly valued by local patients. Our first rate clinicians, excellent access to GP appointments coupled with the close links to the other services in the centre mean that we are delivering a more holistic approach to primary care and reaching out to the full range of local patients - from the homeless to city commuters. We are delighted to be recognised for the difference we are making."*

**Dr Nancy Yousef, Practice Owner and Principal Dentist said,**

*“NHS Dentist is proud to provide a complete range of high class NHS dental care within this cohesive and pioneering centre. It was very exciting to have Jeremy Hunt visit the Earl’s Court Health and Wellbeing Centre to discuss and acknowledge the hard work and ideals that have contributed into making the centre what it is today.”*

**Adam Wilkinson, Regional Manager for Terence Higgins Trust in London, said:**

*“It was a pleasure to share with the Health Secretary our experience of delivering sexual health services as part of this integrated model of patient care. We have been proud to be part of this innovative partnership, providing high quality care for local people.”*

ENDS

Notes to editors

* Photos are available on request. Please contact Laura Conn, Media and Communications Officer for Turning Point on[laura.conn@turning-point.co.uk](mailto:laura.conn@turning-point.co.uk) / 020 7481 7632 for more information.

         The Earl’s Court Health and Wellbeing Centre, managed by Turning Point, offers a range of NHS services with a commitment to delivering care that goes beyond simply treating medical conditions, but also addresses physical, mental and social wellbeing. The service is based at 2B Hogarth Road, Earls Court, London, SW5 0PT.  For more information visit [www.echwc.nhs.uk](http://www.echwc.nhs.uk/)

         Turning Point is a social enterprise providing health and social care services for people with complex needs, including those affected by drug and alcohol misuse, mental health problems or those with a learning disability. For more information, please visit [www.turning-point.co.uk](http://www.turning-point.co.uk/)

         Greenbrook Healthcare is an innovative primary care organisation caring for NHS patients across London and the home counties in a growing number of GP Practices, Walk-in Centres, Urgent Care Centres and community health services. Greenbrook is dedicated to delivering high quality NHS care and putting patients first. All our services offer convenient patient access, including in the evenings and / or weekends. For more information please visit [www.greenbrook.nhs.uk](http://www.greenbrook.nhs.uk)

         Terrence Higgins Trust is the UK’s largest HIV and sexual health charity with centres across England, Scotland and Wales. We're here to provide information and advice about HIV and sexual health and offer a range of services including sexual health checks, counselling and support groups. We campaign for a world where people with HIV live healthy lives, free from prejudice and discrimination, and we promote good sexual health as a right and reality for all.

         NHS Dentist is a dental practice originally set up in Fulham in 1999. Today we are the largest single contract holder in central London with 17 dentists providing a high quality dental service solely within the NHS. We are proud to be contributing towards improving oral health in two of the largest prisons in London in addition to our high street dental practices. For more information please visit <http://www.nhsdentist-earlscourt.co.uk/>