

# report



meeting	<b>HEALTH SELECT COMMITTEE</b>	
date	<b>2 May 2006</b>	<b>agenda item number</b>

## **Report of the Chair of the Health Select Committee**

### **Rushcliffe Mutual**

#### **Purpose of the report**

1. To invite the Health Select Committee to consider proposals to establish a community benefit company (mutual) in Rushcliffe.

#### **Background**

2. Rushcliffe Primary Care Trust (PCT) has been developing plans to establish a community benefit company or mutual benefit society (Mutual) in Rushcliffe.
3. The PCT has invited the Health Select Committee to consider the issues around developing a Mutual and has suggested that the representatives of the PCT attend a Scrutiny meeting.
4. The proposed Mutual would be “a non-profit making public benefit corporation set up for the benefit of its members.”
5. It is proposed that in order to do this, “the Mutual will have to contract for Clinical Services to a defined population. The Mutual will act as clinicians do now. It will provide services and where appropriate commission services from other provider’s e.g. acute trusts. It will be both the provider and commissioner but the difference is that the Mutual will retain any surplus for reinvestment locally for the benefit of members.”
6. The PCT has provided the Select Committee with three briefing papers from which the above quoted information has been extracted. The briefing papers are attached as appendices to this report.
7. The PCT has yet to undertake formal consultation with the public, partners or stakeholders and is currently developing plans for future consultation. The Borough Council has not yet been asked to express a view.

## **Issues**

8. The PCT proposes that the Rushcliffe Mutual would come into existence prior to the anticipated PCT restructuring in September/October 2006.
9. The PCT reports that as of 21 April 2006 17 of the 18 GP surgeries in Rushcliffe had been visited by the PCT and were supportive of developing the proposals. There was one exception where the GP surgery had yet to be visited.
10. The PCT has also been approached by GP Surgeries in Clifton which have indicated an interest in participating in the Mutual.
11. The briefing papers suggest that the Mutual may be able to improve access to affordable dentists within the Borough. Members may wish to investigate this as part of the work looking at NHS Dentistry.

## **Options**

12. The Select Committee may wish to consider this issue in greater depth including any potential
  - implications for the people of Rushcliffe
  - implications for the rest of Nottinghamshire
  - implications for partnership working with the County Council and other agencies.
13. The Select Committee may also wish to identify issues from the briefing papers that require clarification.
14. The Select Committee could consider the business case and implementation plans being prepared by Rushcliffe PCT. The Select Committee may also wish to consider the three specific work streams identified in the briefing papers: the Business work stream, the Governance work stream and the Services work stream.
15. The proposal may have implications for residents of the City, particularly Clifton. The Health Select Committee may wish to consider whether a City Councillor with an involvement in Clifton or Health Scrutiny should be co-opted to any future meeting considering the Rushcliffe Mutual.
16. The Health Select Committee may also wish to seek the views of the Rushcliffe Public Patient Involvement Forum (PPIF) or other health partners.

## **Recommendations**

17. It is recommended that the Health Select Committee
- a) recommend that further consideration of the Rushcliffe Mutual be included in a future Scrutiny work programme
  - b) consider the information provided and identify any additional action or information that is required.

**Councillor James T Napier**  
**Chair, Health Select Committee**

Background papers: nil.