



meeting **HEALTH SELECT COMMITTEE**

date **27 September 2005**

agenda item number

Primary Care Trust Restructuring

Purpose of the Report

1. To inform Members of the timetable for proposed changes to the structuring of Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) in Nottinghamshire.

Background

PCTs

2. PCTs are stand-alone NHS organisations which plan and commission the health care services for their area. They also analyse, assess and monitor public health in their area and receive 75% of the NHS budget.
3. The following PCTs cover the County area:
 - Ashfield and Mansfield PCTs
 - Bassetlaw PCT
 - Broxtowe and Hucknall PCT
 - Gedling PCT
 - Newark and Sherwood PCT
 - Rushcliffe PCT

There is also a Nottingham City PCT.

Strategic Health Authority

4. In 2002, 28 Strategic Health Authorities (SHAs) were established to manage the local NHS. The SHAs have a strategic role and are responsible for:
 - Developing plans for improving health services in their local area
 - Making sure local health services are of a high quality and are performing well
 - Increasing the capacity of local health services - so they can provide more services

- Making sure national priorities are integrated into local health service plans.
5. Nottinghamshire PCTs are managed by the Trent Strategic Health Authority.

Issues

6. On 28 July 2005 the Department of Health published Commissioning A Patient-Led NHS which instructed SHAs to “reconsider the optimal configuration of PCTs and where appropriate, Care Trusts and SHAs and their fitness for purpose.”
7. The Trent SHA will consider proposals for the PCT structure for Nottinghamshire on 20 September 2005. At the time of writing, this report was unavailable but will be reported on at the meeting. The present timetable for the restructuring process is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.
8. If Members agree the Health Select Committee Work Programme then this issues relating to the restructuring and the proposals for Nottinghamshire will be considered as an item at the meeting on 8 November 2005. Members may also wish to respond to the formal consultation in due course.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

the contents of this report are noted.

Councillor James T Napier
Chair, Health Committee

Background papers available for inspection: nil

PCT Restructuring Timetable

20 September 2005	The Nottinghamshire PCT Steering Group has submitted a proposal to the Trent SHA. This will be considered at the Trent SHA board meeting on 20 September 2005.
15 October 2005	Trent SHA submits proposals for restructuring to Department of Health before 15 October 2005.
November 2005	<p>A Ministerial decision is expected by the end of November 2005, this will be followed by a 90 day consultation which should be concluded before the end of March 2006.</p> <p>The Health Select Committee Work Programme includes consideration of the proposals at the meeting on 8 November 2005.</p>
October 2006	Reconfiguration of PCTs should be concluded by October 2006.
April 2007	Changes to SHAs should be completed by April 2007.