



meeting	JOINT HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	
date	14 November 2006	agenda item number

Report of the Head of Scrutiny

Wellbeing and Social Inclusion Service – Consultation Nottinghamshire Healthcare Trust

Purpose

1. To provide Members with an opportunity to respond to the consultation on proposals of Nottinghamshire Healthcare Trust (NHCT) to develop a Wellbeing and Social Inclusion Service for Nottingham City and South Nottinghamshire

Background

2. At the meeting of the Joint Committee on 12 September 2006 Members agreed to consider changes to the local NHS proposed by Nottinghamshire Healthcare Trust. Further information was provided to Members at the meeting on 10 October 2006.
3. The Service and Finance Strategy containing the changes was considered by the NHCT Board on 28 September 2006. The report to the NHCT Board indicates the intention of the Trust to discuss the proposals contained within the strategy with the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and to hold a public consultation on the proposals between 1 November 2006 and 31 January 2007.

Issues

4. Adele Cresswell, Justine Schneider and John Howat will be attending the meeting on behalf of NHCT to present and discuss the proposals for change.
5. NHCT has provided further details of the proposals and these are attached as an appendix to this report. This appendix includes details of the consultation process which was launched on 1 November 2006.
6. At the meeting of the Joint Health Scrutiny Committee on 10 October 2006 Members requested diagrammatic evidence of the pathway through the affected services. This is also attached as an appendix.

7. The consultation document is also attached as an appendix and Members are invited to formulate a response to it. As part of the Joint Health Scrutiny Committee's role to consider "whether a proposal for change is in the interests of the local health service" Members may wish to explore, amongst others, the following issues:
 - Demand and use of the current service
 - Demand for the new service and the rationale for providing it
 - Impact on patients of the changes
 - Impact on other agencies/partners/social care
 - Financial impacts of the reconfiguration
 - Consultation with public, patients, partners, staff etc. Consultation to date and proposed.
8. The Chair and Vice-Chair have invited comments on any implications arising from the proposals for voluntary groups and Adult Social Care and Health Departments. The Patient and Public Involvement Forum has also been invited to comment.
9. As part of the Joint Health Scrutiny Committee's role to consider "whether, in developing the proposals for service changes, the health body concerned has taken into account the public interest through appropriate patient and public involvement and consultation" Members may wish to request that the findings of the consultation and an explanation of how they are to be acted upon be brought to the Joint Committee upon the conclusion of the consultation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

10. It is recommended that:
 - a) Members consider the proposals and agree a response to the consultation.
 - b) The results of the consultation process be provided to the Joint Health Scrutiny Committee meeting in February or March 2007.

Lynn Senior
Head of Scrutiny

Background Papers: Finance and Service Strategy