



meeting	EMAS SELECT COMMITTEE	
date	14 May 2007	agenda item number

## Joint report of the Chair of the EMAS Select Committee and the Head of Scrutiny

### Healthcare Commission

#### Purpose of report

1. To provide the EMAS Select Committee with the opportunity to consider evidence from the Healthcare Commission.

#### Background

2. This scrutiny review was triggered by the weak performance of the East Midlands Ambulance Service Trust in its Annual Health Check for 2005-06.
3. The Healthcare Commission is the inspectorate and improvement agency for the NHS. The Healthcare Commission manages the Annual Health Checks process and awards ratings to NHS Trusts. In 2005-06 the Healthcare Commission stated: “East Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Trust was given a score of not met for existing national targets. This means that it automatically received a score of weak for quality of services.”

#### Issues

4. At the meeting on 19 March 2007 Members agreed to invite the East Midlands Ambulance Service Trust and the Healthcare Commission to attend the next meeting of the Select Committee on 14 May 2007.
5. The Healthcare Commission has been invited to attend the meeting on 14 May 2007 and has been asked to provide a presentation on EMAS' 2005-06 star rating focusing on:
  - Why the Trust was rated as weak
  - What information/criteria this was based on
  - What the Healthcare Commission asked for/expects to see improved for 2006-07.
6. The Select Committee is reminded that at the time of the last Annual Health Check, EMAS operated across

- Nottinghamshire,
  - Leicestershire (inc Rutland) and
  - Derbyshire.
7. Since the Health Check was undertaken EMAS has been disestablished and a new Trust created. The new Trust is also called EMAS and now covers:
- Nottinghamshire,
  - Derbyshire,
  - Leicestershire (inc Rutland)
  - Lincolnshire,
  - North Lincolnshire,
  - North East Lincolnshire and
  - Northamptonshire.
8. In undertaking this review the Select Committee should note that EMAS is a new organisation.

### **Recommendations**

9. It is recommended that the EMAS Select Committee consider the information provided by the Healthcare Commission.

**Councillor EDW Llewellyn-Jones**  
**Chair of the EMAS Select Committee**

**Lynn Senior**  
**Head of Scrutiny**

Background Papers:

Agenda papers and minutes of the Nottinghamshire County Council Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting – 30 October 2006 and 8 January 2007.

Publications:

- The Annual Health Check: Guidance on the Assessment of Core Standards - The Healthcare Commission  
<http://www.healthcarecommission.org.uk/assetRoot/04/01/84/98/04018498.pdf>
- Assessment for Improvement: The Annual Health Check. Criteria for Assessing the Core Standards - The Healthcare Commission  
<http://www.healthcarecommission.org.uk/assetRoot/04/01/74/27/04017427.pdf>
- How's your local NHS doing? – The Healthcare Commission
- The Annual Health Check in 2006/2007, Assessing and rating the NHS – The Healthcare Commission, September 2006