

**HIINCHINGBROOKE HOSPITAL CONSULTATION FEEDBACK REPORT
(Report by Head of Environmental and Community Health Services)****1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Members' approval for the proposed wording of the response to Cambridgeshire Primary Care Trust's consultation: 'Seeking Sustainable Health Services for the People of Huntingdonshire'.

2. THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

- 2.1 The consultation document sets out a range of proposals for the future services currently provided by Hinchingsbrooke Health Care NHS Trust (HHCT). It also explains how the proposals may fit with the financial recovery plans of both HHCT and Cambridgeshire Primary Care Trust (the PCT).
- 2.2 Formal consultation started on Tuesday 20 February 2007 and concludes on Tuesday 22 May 2007.
- 2.3 In addition to the published consultation documents, Members have had the opportunity to hear presentations about the proposals: on 1 February and 15 March 2007. These presentations formed part of the PCT's effort to consult widely on the proposals. The PCT has also arranged seven public meetings during the course of the consultation process (between 20 March and 20 April 2007).
- 2.4 The consultation process allows for views to be submitted on-line, in writing or in person. It is intended to provide feedback in writing. The PCT has included within the consultation document a tabulated questionnaire which allows free-text. This format has been used and is intended to be attached to a covering letter to help the PCT in the analysis of the numerous responses that are expected.

3. THE PROPOSED RESPONSE

- 3.1 A draft of the proposed letter is attached (Annex 1). This letter has with it suggested comments within the completed questionnaire.
- 3.2 The letter states that Huntingdonshire District Council (HDC) is anxious that any service changes in relation to Hinchingsbrooke Healthcare NHS Trust should not, as far as possible, reduce the quality and accessibility of services for residents in Huntingdonshire. It also confirms that it is a key objective of HDC that the future of the hospital be secured.
- 3.3 The questionnaire return confirms that of the four options offered the Council's preference is for Option 2. Both the letter and the questionnaire raise some reservations in relation to the proposals within Option 2. These reservations include the dissolution of HHCT as a Trust.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 Members are RECOMMENDED to agree the content of the consultation response (attached) and consent to the response being submitted to the PCT before 22 May 2007.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Consultation documents:

Seeking Sustainable Health Services for the People of Huntingdonshire – Formal Consultation Document (February 2007) Cambridgeshire PCT
www.hinchingbrooke.nhs.uk/future

Seeking Sustainable Health Services for the People of Huntingdonshire – Summary Consultation Document (February 2007) Cambridgeshire PCT
www.hinchingbrooke.nhs.uk/future

Notes of briefings:

Outcomes from the briefing on Hinchingbrooke Hospital, Huntingdonshire DC, 1 February 2007.

Briefing for elected Members at Huntingdonshire District Council: Consultation on Hinchingbrooke Hospital NHS Trust, 15 March 2007.

**Contact Officer: Dr Susan Lammin – Head of Environmental and
Community Health**
☎ 01480 388280