

**STUDY – PARKING AT HINCHINGBROOKE HOSPITAL  
(Report by the Head of Democratic and Central Services)**

**1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 This report provides the Panel with opportunities to review progress of the study into car parking at Hinchingsbrooke Hospital and to consider whether any further action needs to be taken.

**2. ISSUES RAISED IN THE COURSE OF THE STUDY**

- 2.1 The Panel has, since June 2009, been engaged in a study on car parking at Hinchingsbrooke Hospital. The study culminated, at the last meeting, with discussions with the Hospital's Facilities Manager and representatives of the Cambridgeshire Local Involvement Network (Link). Following that meeting, a report has been compiled and, by the time the Panel meets, it will have been sent to the Hospital for consideration as part of its deliberations during its own review of its parking arrangements.
- 2.2 There now are opportunities to review the study's progress and to identify further actions. One of the discussion points that arose concerns the general principle of charging for hospital parking. As there is an ongoing debate at the national level on this, the Panel may wish to make its views known to the Department of Health or locally.
- 2.3 Another issue that has been discussed is the level of public transport that serves the Hospital. While a recommendation on this has been made to the Hospital, other organisations also have a role here and the Panel might engage with them on possible ways of making improvements.
- 2.4 The Panel also has been acquainted with the British Parking Association's Hospital Parking Charter. Given that the Hospital's Facilities Manager has offered to return to discuss parking with the Panel in the future, it would be possible to make an assessment on the degree to which the Hospital complies with the Charter once it has been introduced.
- 2.5 Finally, mention has been made of the Guided Bus and alternative ways of reaching the Hospital, such as cycling and walking.

**3. CONCLUSION**

- 5.1 The primary purpose of the study, which was to examine and make recommendations on the operation of the Hospital's car parks, has substantially been achieved. It only remains to determine whether there are any other matters that need to be addressed before the study can be regarded as concluded and to plan any follow-up work. A few of the issues that have been discussed are outlined above. The Panel might pursue any of

these or others that have arisen. Members may also want to identify a timescale for carrying out follow-up work.

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Report and Minutes of meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Social Well-Being) held on 2nd June, 7th July, 1st September, and 3rd November 2009 and 2nd February 2010.

**Contact Officer: Tony Roberts – Scrutiny and Review Manager**  
**☎ 01480 388015**