

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**ADULT CARE AND HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY 3 DECEMBER 2003 AT 10.00 A.M.**

(Note: this item will be dealt with after 2.00 p.m.)

Agenda Item No.

5

**"INVESTING IN YOUR HEALTH" - consideration of the decision of the
Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Strategic Health Authority and Eleven
Primary Care Trusts**

Report of the Scrutiny Support Officer

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Executive Member: Jane Pitman (*relations with the health service*)

1. Purpose of report

To invite the Committee to consider the decision of the Joint Committee of the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Strategic Health Authority and Eleven Primary Care Trusts in relation to the "Investing in your health" proposals.

2. Summary

This Committee agreed its response to the IYH consultation document at its meeting on 12 June 2003. This was in turn considered by the Joint Committee of Hertfordshire and five other authorities which met to consider IYH and the complementary consultation paper "Mount Vernon Hospital: The Future of Services for Cancer Patients" which submitted a joint response.

The Strategic Health Authorities and the PCTs met together as a Joint Committee to consider the results of consultation and decide on the way forward. The decision coming out of the meeting is set out in a letter dated 6 November 2003 from John de Braux, SHA Chief Executive (attached at Appendix A).

Sian Flynn, who assisted the Committee during consideration of the IYH proposals in May, has produced a critique of the SHA's response¹ to this Committee's submission (attached at Appendix B).

The Committee have established a short life Topic Group to work with the Health Authority to monitor progress. The remit of the group is:

¹ (Note: the documents referred to in Sian Flynn's critique have not been circulated but are available on request if required.)

- i. To explore ways that evaluation can be made of the changes to the whole health economy in Hertfordshire not just individual services.
- ii. To discuss and agree the nature and content of monitoring information which will enable the SHA and the committee to evaluate progress.
- iii. To agree a programme of monitoring – this may include regular reports on activity, finances and outcomes and/or briefings/visits for the Committee.
- iv. To consider other ways that members of the Committee can helpfully engage in monitoring progress – e.g., attendance at meetings and engagement with stakeholders.

3. Conclusion

The Committee is invited to consider the decision of the SHA/PCTs Joint Committee and decide whether it satisfies the views and concerns expressed by the Committee in its response to the SHA.