

MAYOR AND CABINET			
Report Title	Lewisham's Response to the Government's White Paper 'Equality and Excellence - Liberating the NHS'		
Key Decision	Yes	Item No.	8
Ward	All		
Contributors	The Executive Director for Community Services The Executive Director for Children and Young People The Chief Executive of NHS Lewisham		
Class	Part 1	Date: 15 September 2010	

1 Reasons for Urgency

- 1.1 This report was not available, as required by statute, five working days before the meeting. The Chair is asked to agree the report is urgent because this is the final opportunity for the Mayor and Cabinet to consider the response to the consultation, prior to submission to Council on 23 September and before the official deadline for responses on 11 October 2010. The reason for the delay has been to enable officers to incorporate the views of both the Council and NHS Lewisham, and to include the views from the Healthier Communities Select Committee which took place on 2 September. The delay has enabled the most complete and latest draft to be submitted for consideration by Mayor and Cabinet.

2. Summary and Purpose of Report

- 2.1 This report asks the Mayor to comment on the latest draft response to the Government's NHS White Paper, *Equity and Excellence: Liberating the NHS* and to the specific questions raised in its four accompanying consultation documents. The deadline for responses to be received by Communities and Local Government and Department of Health is 11 October 2010.

This report also asks the Mayor to agree that the Executive Directors for Community Services and Children and Young People be given delegated authority to include any further comments received from NHS Lewisham and to incorporate any further views raised at the All-party briefing scheduled for Wednesday 22 September 2010.

- 2.2 It is proposed that the response is submitted as a joint response from the two organisations and, as elements would affect the future role of the Council, approval will be sought at Council on 22 September.

3. Key Recommendations

3.1 The Mayor is recommended to:

- To note and comment on the draft response to the NHS White Paper.
- To note the response to the NHS White Paper made by the Healthier Communities Select Committee.
- To agree that, prior to submission to Council, the Executive Directors for Community Services and Children and Young People be given delegated authority to incorporate any additional views from NHS Lewisham or that arise from an All-Party member's briefing scheduled for 22 September.

4. Policy Context

4.1 The Council and Lewisham Strategic Partnership are committed to delivering the vision of *Shaping our future* – Lewisham's Sustainable Community Strategy and its six priority outcomes. This includes an outcome to make Lewisham '*Healthy, active and enjoyable – where people can actively participate in maintaining and improving their health and wellbeing*' and a principle that partners in Lewisham will work together to ensure that services are delivered together, efficiently, effectively and equitably.

4.2 On 12 July 2010, the Government published *Equity and Excellence: Liberating the NHS* which sets out its vision for the future organisation of the NHS in England and Wales. This White Paper establishes the Government's vision for the future organisation of the NHS, in England and Wales, based upon a commitment to put patients at the heart of the system, through an 'information revolution' and by providing them with greater choice and control. Many of the measures set out in the paper will require primary legislation which will be introduced in a health bill in the autumn.

4.3 *Equity and Excellence: Liberating the NHS* suggests the following changes to the organisation and regulation of the NHS:

- Putting patients first through greater choice, involvement and control.
- A focus on improved health outcomes to replace process-led targets.
- The creation of an independent NHS Commissioning Board to oversee commissioning and to champion improvement and patient involvement in health services.

- Greater accountability, local autonomy and democratic legitimacy through the development of GP commissioning consortia, working in partnership at local level with local authorities.
- The creation of statutory Health and Wellbeing Boards to ensure coordination, integration and partnership working on social care, public health and health improvement. These functions will replace the current statutory functions in relation to health and care of Overview and Scrutiny committees.
- The creation of HealthWatch England to be the national voice of patients and the public. Local involvement networks will become local HealthWatch branches. Local authorities will retain their statutory duty to support patient and public involvement activity.
- Maintaining NHS spending in real terms, though there will be efficiencies in the region of 45 per cent of total NHS management costs to offset rising demographic demands.
- Abolishing Strategic Health Authorities (SHAs) in 2012/13 and Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) 2013
- New joint roles for both Monitor and the Care Quality Commission (CQC), with Monitor becoming the economic regulator for all health and social care providers and CQC becoming the quality inspectorate.

4.4 The White Paper envisages the following new roles and resources for local authorities:

- PCT public health improvement functions will be transferred to local councils after the abolition of PCTs in 2013. Local Directors of Public Health will be jointly appointed by local authorities and the national Public Health Service. A ring-fenced public health budget will be allocated to local authorities to support their public health and health improvement functions.
- Councils will be required to establish 'health and wellbeing boards' to promote joined up commissioning plans across the NHS services, social care and public health. This will allow local authorities to take a strategic approach on promoting integration across health and adult social care, children's services (including safeguarding) and the wider local authority agenda.
- There will be an extension and simplification of powers to enable joint working between the NHS and local authorities.

4.5 The Government has subsequently published four consultation papers which provide further detail on the White Paper's proposals and ask stakeholders and members of the public to comment and respond to specific questions.

4.6 The four consultation documents are:

- *Local democratic legitimacy in health*
- *Commissioning for patients*

- *Transparency in outcomes – a framework for the NHS*
- *Regulating healthcare providers*

5. Developing the response

- 5.1 The Community Services and Children and Young People's Directorates and NHS Lewisham have developed the draft response to the White Paper and its accompanying consultation documents in partnership.
- 5.2 Healthier Communities Select Committee discussed the White Paper at its meeting on 2 September 2010 . The views of the Healthier Communities Select Committee are included as an appendix to the overall response. The Paper was also tabled at the Children and Young People Select Committee on 8 September 2010.
- 5.3 To facilitate formulating a response, Community Services produced briefing notes on each of the four consultation papers. These have been circulated to partners in the voluntary and community sector, including Lewisham's Local Involvement Network, to help them to develop their own responses to this consultation.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report however the White Paper proposals would mean significant changes to the way in which councils fund Public Health, Social Care and support services in the future and would have an impact on Lewisham.
- 6.2 The cost of co-ordinating the Lewisham response has been met from existing budgets.

7. Legal Implications

- 7.1 There are no specific legal implications in responding to the White Paper consultation. However aspects of the consultation proposals could, if implemented, affect the future role of the Council and in particular its overview and scrutiny function.

8. Crime and Disorder Implications

- 8.1 There are no crime and disorder implications in responding to the White Paper consultation.

9. Equalities Implications

- 9.1 There are no specific equalities implications in responding to the White Paper consultation.

10. Environmental Implications

- 10.1 There are no specific environmental implications in responding to the Green Paper consultation.

11. Background Documents

- 11.1 White Paper "Equity and Excellence – Liberating the NHS a Government"
<http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Healthcare/LiberatingtheNHS/index.htm>

Transparency in outcomes - a framework for the NHS

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH_117583

Liberating the NHS: Local democratic legitimacy in health - a consultation on proposals

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH_117586

Commissioning for patients

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH_117587

Regulating healthcare providers

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH_117782

For further information contact Sarah Wainer, Head of Strategy and Performance, Community Services Directorate on 020 8314 9611