

Questions to be answered and information to be at hand before strategic decisions in the area can be taken

The Forum's "Save our NHS" Group, having worked on these matters over the past six months or so, would respectfully suggest that, as well as consideration of the matters highlighted in bold throughout this submission, the following information needs to be to hand before the HCSC and Mayor and Cabinet can make properly informed proposals and decisions on these difficult matters.

Residential Care Homes

- 1) How many residential care homes are there in the borough?**
- 2) How many beds are there in average and in total?**
- 3) Are there any distinctions in the type of care given?**
- 4) How many beds in each home (or on average and in total) does the Council have under contract?**
- 5) How many care homes have opened in the last five years?**
- 6) How many care homes have closed over the same period?**
- 7) Have any care homes withdrawn from or refused to consider contracts with the Council? And if so how many and what reasons were given?**
- 8) How does the Council receive and monitor feedback from service users (and/or their families)?**

Care in the home

- 1) What has the budget been for social care each year since 2010?**
- 2) How many individual care packages and how many total hours have been provided in the community each year?**
- 3) How many care agencies providing care in the person's home are there in the Borough?**
- 4) How many of these have started up in the last five years?**
- 5) How many agencies have closed in the same period?**
- 6) Have any withdrawn from Council contracts? And if so how many and for what reasons?**
- 7) Have any refused to consider Council contracts? And if so how many and for what reasons?**
- 8) Are there distinctions in the range of work the care agencies provide? And if so what are they?**
- 9) How does the Council receive and monitor feedback from service users (and/or their families) and, crucially,**
- 10) If someone no longer can qualify for help with social care but cannot afford to pay commercial rates what happens to them and does the Council arrange any monitoring of their situation? If so, what monitoring is done and by whom?**

Generally

- 1) What is happening on the "front-line" with the "preventative" services given cuts to the voluntary sector (e.g. the closure of small lunch clubs)?**
- 2) Do you have any data on attendance at A&E by Lewisham residents over 65 and delayed discharge at Lewisham Hospital?**

Judy Harrington and Cathy Ashley
"Save our NHS" Group of the LPF
December 2016