



Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Scrutiny Board (Health)

Date: 23 November 2010

Subject: Equity and Excellence: Liberating the NHS – Local Update

Electoral Wards Affected:

Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Purpose

1.1 This report seeks to introduce a range of inputs to help provide the Scrutiny Board (Health) with an overview of local development and progress against the proposals set out in the White Paper '*Equity and excellence: Liberating the NHS*' – which set out key proposals for change and reform.

2.0 Background

2.1 In early July 2010, the new Government published its overall vision for the future of the NHS via its White Paper, '*Equity and excellence: Liberating the NHS*' – which set out key proposals for change and reform. In mid-July 2010, under the umbrella of the White Paper, the Government also published a suite of consultation papers setting out more specific and detailed proposals.

2.2 At its meeting on 21 September 2010, the Board considered the Government's proposals and heard from representatives from NHS Leeds and Leeds City Council on the likely implications for the Leeds health economy.

3.0 Liberating the NHS – proposals

3.1 The White Paper set out and proposed a number of significant changes for the NHS, including:

- Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) and Strategic Health Authorities (SHAs) to be phased out and ultimately abolished.

- Power and responsibility for commissioning local health services to be devolved to GP consortia, with every GP to be a member of a 'shadow' consortium by 2011/12.
- The health improvement role of PCTs to transfer to local authorities.
- The establishment of local authority Health and Well Being Boards (in shadow form by April 2011) to join up health care, social care and local health improvement.
- The current performance regime to be replaced with separate frameworks for public health and social care.
- The establishment of Health Watch.
- The establishment of National Commissioning Board.
- All NHS Trusts to become or affiliated to existing Foundation Trusts.

3.2 The Scrutiny Board (Health) agreed and submitted a consultation response that primarily focused on the proposals set out in the consultation document 'Democratic Legitimacy in Health'. To date, the Government has not yet produced a summary and/or response to the public consultation.

3.3 Nonetheless, the Scrutiny Board (Health) agreed to maintain an overview of local development and progress against the proposals: Appropriate representatives have been invited to attend the Scrutiny Board meeting in this regard.

4.0 Recommendations

4.1 Members are asked to consider and note the details presented in this report and identify any specific matters that require further scrutiny, including any aspects to be included in the Board's work programme.

5.0 Background Documents

Scrutiny Board (Health) – Equity and Excellence: Liberating the NHS – White Paper (21 September 2010)