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**Report of the North East Area Manager**

**North East (Outer) Area Committee**

**Date: 27<sup>th</sup> October 2008**

**Subject: Proposal for a new GP-led health centre in Leeds**

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**Electoral Wards Affected:**

All

**Specific Implications For:**

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

Council  
Function

Delegated Executive  
Function available  
for Call In

Delegated Executive  
Function not available for  
Call In Details set out in the  
report

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**Executive Summary**

This report introduces Dr Damien Riley, Director of Primary Care, who is attending this Area Committee meeting to address concerns raised by members at the July Area Committee meeting regarding the proposals for a new GP led health centre in Leeds.

## **1.0 Purpose**

1.0 The purpose of this report is enable the Area Committee to raise their concerns about the proposals for a new GP-led health centre in Leeds with the Director of Primary Care.

## **2.0 Background information**

2.1 Leeds Primary Care Trust (PCT), the local NHS organisation responsible for planning and paying for GP services, produced a consultation document in May 2008 to inform people about their plans to open a new GP-led health centre in the Burmantofts area of Leeds. The public consultation period was for a 12 week period, from 19<sup>th</sup> May to 8<sup>th</sup> August 2008, with drop-in events in various parts of Leeds.

2.2 Members raised several areas of concern regarding this proposal:

- Objections in principle to the policy and concept of these GP-led polyclinics, and the detrimental effect they were likely to have on existing GP practices, given that no extra funding was being made available for this initiative.
- Concerns regarding the suitability of this initiative for Outer Wards compared to Inner-City Wards;
- Difficulties for patients, particularly the elderly and infirm, in obtaining local GP services within a reasonable distance of their homes, and the likely expense and inconvenience of having to travel further to visit a doctor, even if this was physically possible;
- The lack of a local public consultation event anywhere in, or within reasonable distance of, Alwoodley and Harewood Wards.

2.3 A letter was sent to the Leeds NHS PCT to convey these concerns and Dr Damien Riley agreed to attend this Area Committee to respond to the issues raised. A briefing paper on the development of GP services which has previously been circulated to all MPs and Councillors has also been provided, this is attached at Appendix 1 of this report.

## **3.0 Recommendations**

3.1 The Area Committee are requested to:

- a) Note the content of this report;
- b) Submit views and comments.

## **Background Papers**

Minutes of the Outer North East Area Committee, July 2008  
Changes to GP Services in Leeds, May 2008 consultation document