

Leicester  
City Council

**WARDS AFFECTED: ALL**

**FORWARD TIMETABLE OF CONSULTATION AND MEETINGS:**

**Cabinet**

**13 March 2006**

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**CONSULTATION ON CHANGES TO LOCAL PRIMARY CARE TRUSTS, STRATEGIC  
HEALTH AUTHORITIES AND AMBULANCE SERVICES**

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**Report of the Corporate Director for Social Care and Health**

**1. Purpose of Report**

This report provides Members with an outline of the proposals for the reconfiguration of the strategic health authorities and ambulance services in the East Midlands, and the two Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) in the city. The report further seeks Members views on the proposals ahead of the 22 March 2006 consultation deadline.

**2. Summary**

- 2.1 The Trent and Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Rutland Strategic Health Authorities launched a 14-week public consultation on 14 December 2005 to gain peoples views on proposals to reconfigure the boundaries of the two strategic authorities and, on behalf of the Secretary of State, the boundaries of the ambulance services in the East Midlands. While Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Rutland Strategic Health Authority (LNR SHA) is leading the consultation on new primary care trusts arrangements in Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Rutland over the same period. All three consultations close on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2006.
- 2.2 The following three consultation documents have been posted in the Members Library:
- a) Consultation on new SHA Arrangements in The East Midlands: Ensuring A Patient-led NHS
  - b) Configuration of the NHS Ambulance Trusts In England – Consultation Document
  - c) Consultation on new Primary Care Trusts arrangements in Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Rutland: Ensuring A Patient-led NHS

### 3. Recommendations

Members are:

(1) asked to give their views on the proposed reconfigurations for a single strategic health authority and ambulance trust for the East Midlands, and one Primary Care Trust for Leicester.

(2) invited to support the recommendations of the Health Scrutiny Committee.

### 4. Legal and Financial Implications

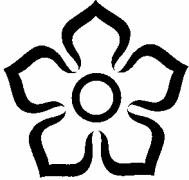
4.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report (Guy Goodman, Head of Community Services Law - ext 7954).

4.2. No direct financial implications for the Council can be identified at this stage. However, many of the services provided by the Council and the NHS are linked and therefore the policies to be adopted by the new NHS organisations could have longer-term implications. (Colin Sharpe, Head of Finance, Social Care and Health, ext. 8800)

### 5. Report Author / Officer to contact:

Roy Roberts, Policy Officer  
252 6778

<b>Key Decision</b>	No
<b>Reason</b>	N/A
<b>Appeared in Forward Plan</b>	No
<b>Executive or Council Decision</b>	Executive (Cabinet)



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## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

### **1.0 REPORT**

- 1.1 The Trent and Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Rutland Strategic Health Authorities launched a 14-week public consultation on 14 December 2005 to gain peoples views on proposals to reconfigure the boundaries of the two strategic authorities and, on behalf of the Secretary of State, the boundaries of the ambulance services in the East Midlands. While Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Rutland Strategic Health Authority (LNR SHA) is leading the consultation on new primary care trusts arrangements in Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Rutland over the same period. All three consultations close on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2006.
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### **1.3 Summary of the Proposals**

#### **1.3.1 A Single Strategic Health Authority For The East Midlands Region**

This will combine the existing Leicestershire, Northamptonshire & Rutland Strategic Health Authority and Trent Strategic Health Authority. If approved, the new strategic health authority will be established by March 2007.

#### **1.3.2 A Single Ambulance Service For The East Midlands Region**

Two Shires Ambulance service will split and the part that covers Northamptonshire will combine with the Lincolnshire and East Midlands

Ambulance Trusts (EMAS). If approved, the new East Midlands ambulance service will be established during 2006/2007.

### **1.3.3 Primary Care Trusts**

For Leicestershire and Rutland, the proposal is for one PCT to cover Leicester City and one PCT to cover the remaining areas of Leicestershire and Rutland. The consultation document also includes two options for Northamptonshire.

If approved, the new primary care trusts will be established by October 2006.

### **1.3.4 Potential benefits of change**

#### **Strategic Health Authority for the East Midlands**

- Improved strategic joint working at regional level with the Government Office for the East Midlands, the proposed new East Midlands ambulance service, the East Midlands Development Agency, and the East Midlands Regional Assembly
- Stronger links with institutions for Higher Education in the East Midlands
- Economies of scale through strategic and partnership working

#### **East Midlands Ambulance service**

- Reduced management costs, which can be reinvested
- Further improvements in the way ambulance services plan for and deal with terrorist attacks or natural disasters
- Greater financial flexibility and resilience

#### **Primary care trusts**

- Develop stronger commissioning (planning and purchasing of local health services)
- Strengthen partnership working and joint planning with local authorities, public sector agencies and voluntary organisations by working to the same administrative boundaries
- Maximise economies of scale to achieve a 15% cost saving and to minimise financial risk

## **1.4 Views the Health Scrutiny Committee**

1.4.1 The Health Scrutiny Committee considered the proposals at its meeting on 4 January 2006 and 14 February 2006.

1.4.2 On 4 January the committee considered and endorsed the proposal for one new Primary Care Trust for Leicester and asked that Cabinet also consider the proposals.

1.4.3 At their meeting on 14 February they considered the proposals for creating a single strategic health authority and ambulance trust for the East Midlands. Though the committee endorsed the general direction of travel they were

concerned that assurances could not be offered in terms of the service resident's could expect from the new organisations. Officers from the LNR SHA and EMAS informed the meeting that – no specifics were available as yet, as this was the consultation stage for the collection of views and opinions ahead of the final decision by the Secretary of State, and that such matters would be the responsibility of the new organisation.

- 1.4.4 The minute extracts from the meetings of the Health Scrutiny Committee are attached.

## 2. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

OTHER IMPLICATIONS	Yes/No	Paragraph references within supporting information
Equal Opportunities	NO	
Policy	NO	
Sustainable and Environmental	NO	
Crime and Disorder	NO	
Human Rights Act	NO	
Older People /People on Low Income	NO	

## 3. BACKGROUND PAPERS – LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

N/A

## 4. CONSULTATIONS

N/A

## 5. REPORT AUTHOR

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