



Leicester
City Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the
HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Held: WEDNESDAY, 4 JANUARY 2006 at 5.30pm

P R E S E N T :

Councillor Westley - Chair
Councillor Green (Liberal Democrat Spokesperson)
Councillor O'Brien (Conservative Spokesperson)

Councillor Dempster

Councillor Sood

I N A T T E N D A N C E

Councillor Gill – Cabinet Lead for Social Care and Health
Dr Steve Whitehead – Advisor to the Committee

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29. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were asked to declare any interests they may have in the business on the agenda and/or indicate that Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act applied to them.

Councillor Westley declared a non-prejudicial interest in that he had a relative who was employed at the Leicester Royal Infirmary.

**35. PRIMARY CARE TRUST (PCT) 'FIT FOR PURPOSE' REVIEW -
COMMISSIONING AND PATIENT-LED NHS**

The Chief Executive of the Leicestershire, Northampton and Rutland Strategic Health Authority submitted a document on the consultation on new PCT arrangements in Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Rutland.

The options for change were outlined along with the reasons behind the need for change and the criteria for development. Two options were outlined, both of which proposed a single PCT for Leicester City. It was anticipated that the new PCTS would be created by October 2006. It was explained that a single PCT within the City would benefit dialogue between the Council and the PCT and would have various benefits to patients including stronger commissioning, more choice, patient involvement and greater focus on health inequalities.

Members asked for more information about consultation on the process.

Concern was also raised about the stigma associated with mental health issues in some minority communities which may mean the issue would not be addressed adequately from consultation. Members also asked if the new system would lead to better financial arrangements.

The consultation process was explained and Members' advice concerning mental health issues was accepted. It was stated that the financial position of the PCT would improve under the new system.

RESOLVED:

- 1) That the proposal for one Primary Care Trust for Leicester City be endorsed by the Committee.
- 2) That the report and the comments of the Health Scrutiny Committee be referred to Cabinet for consideration and that Cabinet be recommended to submit their comments at the end of the consultation period.