

HAMPSHIRE AND ISLE OF WIGHT LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

24 November 2006

JOINT WORKING WITH THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE

Background note by the Director

INTRODUCTION

1. The Association aims to assist authorities to work together on children, wellbeing and health. The Lead Chief Executives for this work are the Unitary and County Council Chief Executives, Dave Yates (New Forest), Simon Eden (Winchester) and Bernie Topham (Eastleigh). At their September meeting, Members received an update on arrangements within Hampshire for area working by the new Primary Care Trust (PCT). As part of that briefing, the PCT announced that it considers the relationship with local authorities to be fundamental to improving the health and wellbeing of shared populations.

PURPOSE OF THE 24 NOVEMBER BRIEFING BY PROFESSOR MONTGOMERY

2. Jonathan Montgomery, Chair of the Hampshire PCT, will further update Members at this meeting following extensive consultation with local authorities to ensure full engagement within three sub-areas of Hampshire:
 - north and east (Basingstoke and Deane, East Hampshire, Hart and Rushmoor)
 - south east area (Fareham, Gosport and Havant)
 - western area (Eastleigh, New Forest, Test Valley and Winchester).
3. It is intended that these areas will be the same as those for Hampshire County Council's Children's and Adult services to facilitate joint work. The PCT Area Director of Public Health is a joint appointment between the PCT and district councils in the area. In the case of South East Hampshire, following consultation with Havant, Gosport and Fareham, there will in addition be a joint Members' Panel. The PCT Area Directors will aim to ensure there is appropriate support to and representation on Local Strategic Partnerships as well as to the local authorities.

PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION AT 24 NOVEMBER MEETING

4. The arrangements for joint working in the policy areas of children, wellbeing, health and scrutiny all need to be considered. Members' views will be appreciated at this formative stage.
5. Arrangements in Hampshire need to be addressed in the light of the call for better joint working generally within the Local Government White Paper and in this Association's objectives and Action Plan. These arrangements do impact on the Unitary Authorities. The Isle of Wight in particular has developed joint arrangements from which the mainland authorities can learn.

NICK GOULDER
Director

Date: 10 November 2006

Annex: 0

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