



ADULT SERVICES AND HEALTH COMMISSION 11 December 2006

Report of the Director of Corporate and Adult Social Services

Derbyshire Mental Health Trust Consultation on Proposals for Foundation Trust

RECOMMENDATION

1. The Commission is asked to consider and comment on the proposal by the Derbyshire Mental Health NHS Trust to apply to become a Foundation Trust.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 2.1 The Derbyshire Mental Health NHS Trust is seeking to become a Foundation Trust and has begun a public consultation exercise with the patients, public and carers.
- 2.2 NHS Foundation Trusts remain part of the NHS but are given greater levels of autonomy from central government control. They possess three key characteristics that distinguish them from NHS Trusts. These are:
 - Freedom to decide locally how to meet their obligations
 - Accountable to local people, who can become members and Governors
 - Authorised and monitored by Monitor - Independent Regulator of NHS Foundation Trusts.
- 2.3 Foundation Trusts have a greater freedom to set their own priorities, new powers to raise monies such as from the money markets and can decide how to spend their money. They are expected to use all of the extra money and improve patient services.
- 2.4 The Derbyshire Mental Health Trust seeks the views of this Commission on Foundation Trust status. David Pitt, Executive Director Strategic and Organisational Development at Derbyshire Mental Health Trust will address the Commission and explain the role and responsibilities of Foundation Trusts and how the change in the structure will lead to improvement in mental health services for Derby residents.

For more information contact:	Mahroof Hussain 01332 255597 e-mail Mahroof.hussain@derby.gov.uk
Background papers:	None
List of appendices:	Appendix 1 - Implications Appendix 2 - Foundation Trust- Public Consultation presentation slides

Appendix 1

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

1. None arising from this report.

Legal

2. The Local Authority (Overview and Scrutiny Committees Health Scrutiny Functions) Regulations 2002 require local NHS bodies to consult their overview and scrutiny committees on any proposals for substantial development or variation in the provision of their service.

Personnel

3. None arising from this report.

Equalities impact

4. Effective scrutiny is to the benefit of all Derby people.

Corporate Priorities

5. This report links with Council's priority for 2006-09 to build healthy and independent communities, by:
 - improving the health of our communities