

### **Draft Annual Health Check Statements**

#### **For discussion by the Commission**

##### **Derby Primary Care Trust**

The Derby Primary Care Trust (PCT) consults the Adult Services and Health Overview and Scrutiny Commission on significant changes or developments they make in health services. The PCT has consulted the Commission on its proposals for re-tendering the Out of Hours Call Handling and Triage Services contract. It presented a detailed report to the Commission at the July 2006 meeting and has largely accepted the recommendations that resulted from the Commission's review.

Statistical evidence shows that there are significant health inequalities between different geographical areas of the city. A report published by the East Midlands Health Observatory shows that the gap in male life expectancy at birth between Arboretum ward and Allestree ward to be approximately 14 years. There is also a similar gap in the female life expectancy at birth between the two areas. The health scrutiny committee conducted a review and produced a number of high level recommendations to address the health inequalities in the city, some of which are targeted at the Derby PCT. The PCT has regularly updated the Commission on its progress towards achieving the recommendations of the final report and in its response it has recognised that the infant mortality in Derby remains at a level which, if current progress is maintained, it is unlikely to reach the 2010 target for a reduction of infant mortality of 10% compared to national average.

The Derby PCT has worked closely with the Council to jointly develop and launch the "Getting Derby Active Strategy". This strategy brings together public, voluntary and private sector organisations to promote and encourage local residents to adopt healthier lifestyles and increase physical activity levels. The PCT was active partner with the Council in organising a successful B-Active conference to encourage a greater take up of physical activities amongst young people.

##### **Derby Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust**

Members of the Adult Services and Health Commission toured the Derby City General Hospital on 7 December 2006 to consider for themselves the progress being made on the development site. During the tour, Members visited a number of wards and looked at how services improvements were being made. Members noted the new procedures to minimise the spread of infectious diseases such as enforcement of a strict two visitors per bed policy and requiring visitors to wash their hands before entering certain wards.

Members were particularly impressed by the new catering arrangements managed by an external contractor. This involves meals being made to order and cooked on the ward using new microwave steam pressure cooking

methods and delivering piping hot food to the patients. This method provides a choice of nutritional meals for the patients such as steamed salmon with new potatoes and cabbage instead of chicken nuggets and chips. It produces little waste due to menu based orders and more importantly, it frees up time for nurses to perform clinical duties since the all catering functions are carried out by contractor.

During the visit, members noticed ineffective signage hospital around the hospital. The Trust informed the members that it is aware of the issues and is taking action to address them, new site developments permitting.

### **East Midlands Ambulance Services NHS Trust**

The Commission has had little direct involvement with East Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Trust. The Adult Services and Health Commission did receive a presentation from senior managers in September 2006 to explain the roles and responsibilities of the Ambulance Service. They outlined the new structure of the East Midlands Ambulance Service and explained the progress being made to meet the national targets. It was stated that the new structure will enable the service to get to patients faster and provide a more integrated service by utilising emergency practitioners and nurse triage services.

### **Derbyshire Mental Health Services NHS Trust**

The Commission has had little direct involvement in the work of the Derbyshire Mental Health Trust during 2006/07, although the Chair and Chief Executive of the Trust have met the Chair of the Adult Services and Health Commission on an occasion. The Commission has been consulted by the Trust in its proposal to acquire foundation status. This involved the Commission receiving a presentation from the Trust's Executive Director for Strategic and Organisational Development who explained how the new structure would lead to improvements in mental health services for Derby residents. The Commission supports any measure that will see improvements in access and delivery of mental health services for Derby residents.