

Paul Bates,
Chief Executive,
Worcestershire PCT,
Ground Floor, West Wing,
Wildwood,
Wildwood Drive,
Worcester
WR5 2LG.

22 August 2008

Our ref: 56:730/24

Dear Paul,

DEVELOPING A STRATEGY FOR HEALTH – EMERGING ISSUES

Thank you for taking the time to come and talk to the HOSC about the PCT's discussion paper 'Developing a Strategy for Health – Emerging Issues' and its operational plan 'Our plan for caring for your health'.

As you will know from the meeting, Members were extremely positive not only about the nature and content of the document but also the way in which the PCT is sharing, and seeking views on, the things, which it considers important in the future.

Members recognised that the aim of the Strategy was to engage the public and partners in a debate about those key issues which should be included in the Trust's Strategic Plan which will be published for consultation later this year. The HOSC will look forward to discussing your Strategic Plan with you in due course.

From a HOSC perspective, Members, save from a couple of comments, have concluded that the issues included in your strategy reflect the issues which they feel are important in the coming months.

Comments raised centred around the following areas:-

- There is a need to ensure clarity around the demographic challenge faced by the PCT. The operational plan anticipates a population increase of around 38,000 by 2026 yet the Regional Spatial Strategy seems to be looking more towards an increase in the region of 80,000. From the answers given to the Committee I know that this is an area you are looking to clarify.
- Joint care for the elderly was also recognised as an increasing challenge and the Committee were pleased to hear of the initiatives you are putting in place to continue to deal with such challenges.

Marcus Hart
County Councillor
Chairman of the
Health Overview &
Scrutiny Committee

Electoral Division
Kidderminster – St Johns

County Hall
Spetchley Road
Worcester
WR5 2NP

Home
38 Primrose Way
Kidderminster
Worcestershire
DY10 1NG

Tel: 01562 851145
Fax: 01562 862231

Email: marcus.hart@wyreforestdc.gov.uk



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Tel 01905 766654 • Fax 01905 766644 • Minicom (01905) 766399 • DX 29941 Worcester 2
www.worcestershire.gov.uk

u:\u162 cs\u072 democrtic services\07 scrutiny\02 health from may 05\mail documents\2008 08 22
health strategy.doc

- As indicated earlier the Committee was particularly pleased with the emphasis the PCT are placing on communications and customer care initiatives.

Finally, like you, I think it would be extremely helpful to have further discussions not only to develop a timetable of issues which may require consideration by the HOSC but also to talk about wider consultation issues and involvement of the public. I will ask John Jordan to liaise with you to identify a suitable time to begin such discussions.

Once again thank you for your time and I hope these comments are helpful to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Hart', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Marcus Hart
Chairman, Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee