

Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee

20 September 2007

Avon Valley Practice – Proposal to Close Surgery at Netheravon

Outcomes of Public Consultation

Purpose of Report

1. To provide the Committee with the information relating to the outcome of the consultation on the future of the surgery at Netheravon.

Background

2. Details of the consultation on the future of the surgery at Netheravon were brought to the Committee in July 2007 and three members were asked to respond to the consultation on behalf of the Committee. Those comments are attached at Appendix 1.
3. The consultation focussed on a proposal by the Avon Valley Practice to close the branch surgery at Netheravon and concentrate services at their other sites in Upavon and Durrington.
4. The PCT has a duty, as the commissioner of primary care services for the population covered by the Avon Valley Practice, to lead any consultation on changes to those services on behalf of the practice. It must also make the ultimate decision, about whether those services should change, therefore amending the General Medical Services (GMS) contract awarded to the practice.
5. The PCT's Board paper, attached at Appendix 2, gives greater detail about the background to the consultation, the process followed and the findings from the consultation itself. The PCT's own appendices are also included for further information.
6. It also includes recommendations to the Board about the future of the surgery and the services offered by the practice in general.
7. The PCT Board is due to meet to consider this issue on 18 September, two days before the Health OSC meets. Therefore it will be necessary for the Committee to receive a verbal update from the Director of Corporate Affairs and Communications on the day.

Recommendations

The Committee is asked to:

- i. Endorse the response to the consultation made by the three members on its behalf following the last meeting.
- ii. Note the process for consultation followed by the PCT and agree that, although not carried out under Section 11 of the Health and Social Care Act, 2001 by agreement with the Committee, it was nonetheless allowed for adequate consultation and representation by members of the public to inform the PCT Board's decision.
- iii. Note the decision taken by the PCT Board, following the verbal update to be given at the meeting, provided members are satisfied by the grounds on which that decision has been taken.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications to the Council in this report.

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