

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executive Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Cabinet
Date:	27 September 2010
Title:	Hampshire County Council response to the 'Equity and Excellence: Liberating the NHS' White Paper consultation
Reference:	1998
Report From:	Director of Adult Services

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1. The decision:

1.1. That the Cabinet:

- a) approved the response to the NHS White Paper consultation as proposed in the documents at Appendices C and D, subject to some strengthening to reflect the views expressed in the Minutes of the Meeting (Minute 143 refers);
- b) approved work to commence to put in place arrangements for a reconstituted Health and Wellbeing Board to meet the Government's requirements, building on the current health and wellbeing partnership arrangements, with a further report to Cabinet in early 2011 setting out plans for the new Board and other workstreams relating to the implementation of the NHS reform programme; and
- c) approved the proposal that the County Council to work in partnership with the PCT to manage the transition and to seek to work with GPs to support their new commissioning responsibilities.

2. Reasons for the decision:

- 2.1 The Government White Paper entitled 'Equity and Excellence: Liberating the NHS' sets out plans to restructure the NHS. The plans include abolition of Primary Care Trusts and Strategic Health Authorities, establishment of a national, independent NHS Commissioning Board and the devolution of the majority of commissioning responsibilities (but not for primary care) to GP consortia. Responsibility for local health improvement is to transfer to local authorities who will employ the Director of Public Health.

2.2 A Health Bill setting out the required legislative changes and a White Paper setting out the programme for public health are planned for later in 2010.

2.3 The proposals in the White Paper will have major implications for the County Council, particularly around democratic legitimacy in health, joint strategies and partnership working, and social care commissioning. It is therefore important for the County Council to respond to the consultation exercise and consider how it will work in partnership with NHS Hampshire and GPs to take forward this agenda.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

None.

4. Conflicts of interest:

4.1. Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker: None

4.2. Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted: None

5. Dispensation granted by the Standards Committee: none.

6. Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent: not applicable.

7. Statement from the Decision Maker:

Approved by:

Date:

27 September 2010

**Executive Member for Policy and Resources
Councillor T K Thornber CBE**