

PUBLIC SERVICE TRUST FOR HEREFORDSHIRE

PORTFOLIO RESPONSIBILITY: CORPORATE STRATEGY AND FINANCE

CABINET

20TH SEPTEMBER, 2007

Wards Affected

County-wide

Purpose

To consider the outcome of the recent public consultation within the County concerning the proposal to establish Public Service Trust arrangements in Herefordshire.

To agree the next stages in the process which will culminate in the completion of a partnership document.

Key Decision

This is not a Key Decision.

Recommendations

- THAT (a) the outcome of the public consultation regarding the Council and Herefordshire Primary Care Trust proposal to establish a Public Service Trust arrangement in Herefordshire be noted;**
- (b) the Public Service Trust Steering Group's recommendation to support taking this forward within Option 3 be endorsed; and**
- (c) draft roadmap and timetable be approved.**

Reasons

This report is in a slightly different format from the usual Cabinet report because it incorporates the attached report which will be reported in the same format to both the Primary Care Trust and the Council. The supporting information is therefore enclosed in the attached report and appendices. It is important to point out that the report takes forward the proposal to appoint a Chief Executive who will act both as Chief Executive of the Council and Chief Executive of the Primary Care Trust. The Council's involvement in that appointment is in accordance with the Council's constitution and in accordance with the constitution the appointment will have to be approved formally by Council.

Financial Implications

The establishing of a Public Service Trust arrangement has been the subject of initial work by the respective chief financial officers of both the Council and Primary Care Trust. It demonstrates a net financial benefit to the parties from the arrangements but a much more

Further information on the subject of this report is available from
N.M. Pringle, Chief Executive, on (01432) 260044

detailed financial appraisal will have to be completed and incorporated within the partnership document on which the Public Service Trust arrangement will be based. There are no direct implications arising from this report other than those associated with the appointment of a Chief Executive. The Council and Primary Care Trust respective contributions to the post will be less than the current joint provision for those posts. Depending on future decisions there may be consequential costs arising from the joint running of those posts during the handover period and if they are not addressed through the current partnership funding they will have to be funded through the Primary Care Trust and Council.

Risk Management

The Public Service Trust Steering Group has established a risk register for the Public Service Trust Project. The risk register is reported at each meeting and is kept under review as part of the project. The register contains a schedule of risks, proposed solutions and identifies the officer with lead responsibility for each item. The Steering Group is scheduled to review the register in detail at a forthcoming meeting. There is a separate paper at Appendix 1 (iv) which addresses the Chief Executive appointment.

Alternative Options

The alternative options are set out in the report attached but include:

1. to maintain the status quo
2. to delay the timetable and devote further time to detailed preparation.

Consultees

There has been a public consultation exercise. The details of which are included in the appendices.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Public Service Trust for Herefordshire – 20th September, 2007

- i) Perception Matters, Views Count – Statistical analysis: Results of the public consultation by Herefordshire Council and Herefordshire Primary Care Trust on the future of public services in Herefordshire - August 2007.
- ii) Health Scrutiny papers – 14th August 2007 (previously published*)
- iii) Minutes of the Health Scrutiny meeting – 14th August, 2007.
- iv) Chief Executive appointment.
- v) Public Service Trust arrangements, Roadmap for Development
- vi) Project Plan/timetable.

* Not attached but available.

Background Papers

Background papers are identified on page 12 of the main report.