

<b>MEETING:</b>	<b>HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>
<b>DATE:</b>	<b>18 MARCH 2011</b>
<b>TITLE OF REPORT:</b>	<b>RESPONSE TO SCRUTINY REVIEW OF GENERAL PRACTITIONER (GP) SERVICES</b>
<b>REPORT BY</b>	<b>INTERIM DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH</b>

**CLASSIFICATION:** Open

### **Wards Affected**

County-wide

### **Purpose**

To consider an update on progress in response to the recommendations made in the Scrutiny Review of GP Services.

### **Recommendations**

**THAT**

(a) **progress in response to the findings of the scrutiny review of GP Services be noted, subject to any comments which the Committee wishes to make;**

**and**

(b) **the Committee considers whether it requires any further progress reports to be made.**

### **Background**

1. On 1 March 2010 this Committee approved the findings of the Scrutiny Review of the GP Services.
2. The Committee agreed that the response to the Review be reported to the first available meeting of the Committee and consideration be given at that meeting to the need for any further reports to be made.
3. On 18 June 2010 the Committee considered the response to the review, compiled from feedback from NHS Herefordshire, PCT Directors and Associate Directors of Integrated Commissioning.
4. The Committee agreed, amongst other things, that the response be noted subject to the Sustainable Communities Director being invited to reconsider and strengthen his

response on rurality and transport co-ordination; the Local Medical Committee be invited to comment on the response by NHS Herefordshire to the Review (the Secretary to the Local Medical Committee subsequently commented that in his view the responses of NHS Herefordshire were on the whole fair and reasonable and would have the support of GPs.); and a further report on progress in response to the review be made in six months time with consideration then being given to the need for any further reports to be made.

5. It was intended that the issues relating to rurality and transport co-ordination referred to above would be considered as part of the report made to the Committee on access to services in November 2010. However the Committee agreed in November that a further report be made including information on access, based on distance, to GPs, Community Hospitals, Hereford Hospital and other specialist hospitals out of the County to enable the Committee to understand how the difficulties of distance are overcome or mitigated to ensure appropriate attention at health facilities and that further information be provided to the Committee on the proposed level of future support for community transport and how any reduction would affect the access to health care. These issues remain on the Committee's work programme.
6. An appendix to this report setting out progress in response to the recommendations in the scrutiny review will be circulated separately.

#### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- None