

5. EAR, NOSE AND THROAT SERVICE CONSULTATION

Report By: Director of Social Care and Strategic Housing

Wards Affected

County-wide

Purpose

1. To consider the response to the Ear, Nose and Throat Service consultation exercise.

Background

2. On 6th April the Committee was provided with an update on the process for responding to the Ear, Nose and Throat Service consultation exercise being conducted by the Herefordshire Primary Care Trust (HPCT).
3. The consultation document issued by the HPCT was reported to the Committee and it was noted that the deadline for responses was 7th May, 2004.

Draft Response to the Consultation

4. The Sub-Group appointed by this Committee (Councillors TM James, Brigadier P Jones CBE, G Lucas, WJS Thomas and JB Williams.) has produced a draft response for the Committee's consideration as appended.
5. The Sub-Group would have liked to have gathered additional evidence but the time constraints have prevented it from doing so. It is therefore proposed that if further relevant information is brought to the Committee's attention the Director of Social Care and Strategic Housing should be authorised, following consultation with the Chairman, to submit further observations on the Committee's behalf.
6. The approved response will be submitted by the Committee in its role as one of many consultees. When the consultation period is completed and the HPCT has announced its preferred course of action it is suggested the Committee may wish to scrutinise the overall process and examine the evidence considered by the HPCT in reaching its conclusions.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT (a) the Committee considers whether it wishes to endorse the response to the consultation on the provision of Ear, Nose and Throat services as set out in the appendix to this report;

and

(b) that the Director of Social Care and Strategic Housing be authorised, following consultation with the Chairman, to submit further observations on the Committee's behalf in the light of any new information received before the closing date for the consultation exercise.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- None