

Subject: Organisations in the Local Health Economy
Date of Meeting: 08 July 2009
Report of: The Acting Director of Strategy and Governance
Contact Officer: Name: Giles Rossington Tel: 29-1038
E-mail: Giles.rossington@brighton-hove.gov.uk
Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 This report seeks to provide basic information about the range of organisations delivering publicly-funded healthcare to Brighton & Hove residents.
- 1.2 These organisations include NHS trusts, but also voluntary and private sector organisations.
- 1.3 **Appendix 1** to this report contains information on the range of providers commissioned by NHS Brighton & Hove. This list has been supplied by NHS Brighton & Hove (copy to follow).

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That members consider this report and determine whether they require any additional information at this juncture.

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 When the NHS was formed in 1948, the bulk of the nation's hospital provision was taken into public ownership. However, not all NHS services were nationalised: primary care services (GP practices, dentists, community pharmacies, opticians) essentially continued to be delivered by the small independent businesses that had previously provided them, a position which is largely unchanged today.

- 3.2 Recent years have seen significant changes in NHS healthcare, with a growing enthusiasm for market economics leading to a variety of initiatives (under both Conservative and Labour governments) which have sought to encourage a 'plurality of providers' – i.e. to involve other sectors of the economy in the delivery of publicly-funded healthcare.
- 3.3 A wide variety of organisations currently provide publicly funded healthcare services. In addition to NHS trusts, these range from charities (some of which may have been involved in healthcare long before the inception of the NHS), through a variety of voluntary sector organisations, to the not-for-profit independent sector (BUPA, South East Health etc.), to profit making small businesses (including GP practices), and profit making corporations (United Healthcare etc.). More details of the organisations providing services for Brighton & Hove residents can be found in the appendices to this report.
- 3.4 Locally, all of these providers are commissioned by NHS Brighton & Hove on behalf of local residents. This means that the PCT is responsible for assuring the quality of services delivered by these providers.
- 3.5 Health Overview & Scrutiny Committees (HOSCs) have no specific statutory powers in respect of non-NHS providers, although there are statutory powers of scrutiny in terms of the PCT commissioning of these services. However, there is no reason why HOSC should not attempt to engage with non-NHS providers, and invite them to meetings etc.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 Officers of NHS Brighton & Hove have been consulted on the contents of this report and have provided the information re-printed in **Appendix 1**.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 None to this report for information

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 None to this report for information

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 None

Sustainability Implications:

5.4 None

Crime & Disorder Implications:

5.5 None

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

5.6 None

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

5.7 None

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Information supplied by NHS Brighton & Hove (to follow)

Documents in Members' Rooms:

None

Background Documents:

None

