COUNCIL	Agenda Item 47
28 January 2010	Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject:	**Procurement of a Brighton & Hove GP-Led Health Centre: Overview & Scrutiny Report**	
Date of Meeting:	**28 January 2010**	
Report of:	**The Director of Strategy & Governance**	
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Wards Affected:	All	

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

1.1 The Council's Constitution (Part 6, Paragraph 15.4) requires reports from Overview & Scrutiny Ad Hoc Panels and Select Committees, together with the Executive response to these reports, to be reported to full Council for information.

1.2 In this instance the Overview & Scrutiny (O&S) report does not contain recommendations for the Council's Executive, as it concerns local NHS procurement, an area which is within the remit of the Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee (HOSC), but which is not a responsibility of Brighton & Hove City Council. There is therefore no formal Executive response to this panel report.

1.3 The ad hoc panel report does include recommendations for NHS Brighton & Hove, and NHS Brighton & Hove's response to the report recommendations is reprinted in **Appendix 2** to this report. (The HOSC ad hoc panel report constitutes **Appendix 1** to this report.)

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

2.1 That members note the HOSC ad hoc panel report on the procurement of a Brighton & Hove GP-Led Health Centre and NHS Brighton & Hove's response to this report.

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3.1 At the 04 March 2009 HOSC meeting, members agreed to form an ad hoc panel to investigate NHS Brighton & Hove's procurement of a city GP-Led Health Centre. Councillors Trevor Alford, Kevin Allen and Jason

Kitcat volunteered to sit on the panel, with Councillor Alford as Chairman.

3.2 GP-Led Health Centres are part of a Department of Health initiative to improve access to primary care (i.e. GP services). Each PCT area in England has been obliged to commission additional GP services, offering 7 day a week primary care for registered and unregistered patients in a readily accessible location.

3.2 Potential issues regarding the Brighton & Hove GP-Led Health Centre included matters relating to its location, public consultation, the reputation of the successful contractor (Care UK), and aspects of the procurement process. More detailed information can be found in the ad hoc panel report (**Appendix 1**).

3.3 The panel's report was endorsed by HOSC at its 08 July 2009 meeting, and the HOSC Chairman subsequently wrote to the Chief Executive of NHS Brighton & Hove requesting a response to the report recommendations. NHS Brighton & Hove's positive and constructive response was debated at the 30 September HOSC meeting (and is reprinted as **Appendix 2** to this report).

4. CONSULTATION

4.1 No formal consultation has been undertaken in relation to this report.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

5.1 As this report is to note only there are no direct financial implications, however members should be aware of the implications outlined in the appended reports.

Legal Implications:

5.2 There are no legal implications arising from this report which is brought to Council for noting.

Equalities Implications:

5.3 None directly, although the GP-Led Health Centre initiative is intended to improve access to primary care, and communities experiencing poorer than average access to GP services may include disadvantaged groups (such as homeless people, people with mental health problems, recent immigrants to the UK etc).

Sustainability Implications:

5.4 None directly, although the GP-Led Health Centre is intended to improve access to primary care and may reduce travel times for some patients (e.g. allowing commuters to access GP services on their way to and from work rather than having to make a separate journey from home).

Crime & Disorder Implications:

5.5 None directly.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

5.6 None identified.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

5.7 Improving access to primary care is likely to improve outcomes for patients (as early diagnosis of many conditions is key to successful and cost effective treatment). It should also reduce inappropriate presentation for treatment at A&E. These aims accord with the Council priorities to make “better use of public money” and to “reduce inequality by increasing opportunity”.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Report of the HOSC ad hoc panel on NHS Brighton & Hove’s procurement of a GP-Led Health Centre;

2. Response to the panel recommendations from the Chief Executive of NHS Brighton & Hove

Documents in Members’ Rooms:
None

Background Documents:
None