

WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

A period of not more than fifteen minutes shall be allowed at each ordinary meeting for questions submitted by members of the public who either live or work in the area of the authority.

The following written questions have been received from members of the public.

(a) Ken Kirk

“Should the Health and Wellbeing Board, in its function of identifying the health service needs of Brighton and Hove, scrutinise the proposed tendering of services by the CCG to –

- a. minimise the fragmentation of the local NHS
- b. ensure the financial security of local health services so that trusts are not denuded of profitable services
- c. maintain the skill-base of local medical staff since the redundancy of well-trained medics is likely to follow outsourcing to a for-profit provider?

Does the H&WB in its role in overseeing the CCG actively challenge its decisions in the interests of the people of Brighton and Hove?”

(b) Jozette Power

“In view of the City Council's referendum on a possible council tax rise, does the Health and Wellbeing Board share my concern that the people of Brighton and Hove are generally unaware of what is happening to their health services and that their views should be sought on the subject of are they –

1. concerned by the take over their health services by alternative providers;
2. supportive of the fragmentation of the unified NHS into pieces to offer to the private sector;
3. aware that the publicly-run NHS will be left with the rump of unprofitable services that the private sector have decided it can't make money from?”

(c) Dave Baker

“The presidents of British Association for Sexual Health and HIV and the Royal College of Physicians have written to all local councils:

“Tendering has negatively impacted on the provision of sexual health services, destabilising, disintegrating and fragmenting services, causing significant uncertainty amongst patients and staff, and reducing overall levels of patient care.”

They are warning against tendering, saying it's not in the interests of patient care. Monitor's guidance for commissioning say the interests of patients determine whether tendering should occur.

Therefore, on the basis of what evidence would this Board offer B&H's sexual health services to tender outside the NHS?"