

Briefing Paper on the Transition Board and NHS Reforms  
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### National developments

The Future Forum reported back to Government on 13 June, following the 'Pause' in the progress of the Health and Social Care Bill. The Forum looked at four themes:

- Choice and competition
- Clinical advice and leadership
- Patient involvement and public accountability
- Education and training

The Government responded to the recommendations on the four themes the Forum considered on 14 June. The response is attached at Annex 1.

Some of the changes accepted by the Government will require changes to the Health and Social Care Bill.

The changes proposed will need further consideration locally. One specific issue locally emerges as a result of the expectation that consortium boundaries will normally be co-terminous with local authority boundaries, unless there is good reason. The current boundaries for the commissioning consortium covers City of York, part of North Yorkshire and East Riding. If these boundaries are to be preserved the agreement of the National Commissioning Board will be required, and the views of the local Health and Well Being Board will be taken into account

### Local developments

The York Transition Board is meeting regularly and is chaired jointly by the Council's Chief Executive and the Primary Care Trust's Chief Executive.

Membership includes the Chair of the GP Commissioning Consortium for the Vale of York, The Primary Care Trust Locality Director, The Associate Director for Public Health, the Council's Directors for Adults, Children and Education, and for Communities

and Neighbourhoods and Communities, The Chair of York LINK, The Chief Executive of York CVS and the Chief Executive of York Hospital Foundation Trust

Four work streams have been established, each with a project plan, a project sponsor and project lead:

- Establishing a Health and Wellbeing Board
- Transfer of some Public Health functions to the local authority
- Establishing a York HealthWatch service
- Development of Joint Commissioning arrangements

Progress is good on all four work streams, but any key decisions on new arrangements will be made within current governance structures. A paper will be represented to Council Cabinet in September with formal proposals, for example, on the establishment of a Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board in October.

During the summer activities will include:

- A workshop for stakeholders who currently have an interest in the planned function of Health Watch to help shape how York Health Watch will be commissioned.
- Consultation on the draft Terms of Reference for the Health and Wellbeing Board
- Discussion with colleagues in North Yorkshire and East Riding to explore how joint commissioning might be able to work across the current proposed boundaries for the new Commissioning Consortium

### Roles for Health Scrutiny and Overview Committee

The Government's response to the Future Forum proposals makes it clear that:

'Health and WellBeing Boards will be subject to oversight and scrutiny by the existing statutory structures for the overview and scrutiny of local authority executive functions. The existing statutory powers of local authority overview and scrutiny functions will continue to apply. In line with the principles of the Localism Bill, local authorities will have greater discretion over how to exercise these powers.'

Local authorities will still be able to challenge any proposals for the substantial reconfiguration of services, and we will retain the Government's four tests for assessing service reconfigurations.'

Health Overview and Scrutiny will have the opportunity to comment on the draft terms of reference for the Health and Well being Board in the next months.

The Chair and Vice Chair of the Scrutiny Committee have been invited to attend the workshop to help shape HealthWatch on 11 July.

Further updates on the progress of the work of the Transition Board will be provided to the Scrutiny Committee, on a regular basis and on specific issues as required or requested.