



21 March 2007

To all Stakeholders

Dear Colleague

**Re: Creating an NHS Fit for the Future  
Public Consultation**

As you may be aware, NHS organisations locally have been discussing and debating with clinicians, the public and other key stakeholders the future shape for health services across East Sussex. We want to create a local NHS that is fit for the future and delivers services that offer:

- Quality and clinical safety
- Access and choice
- Value for money

As a result of these discussions, we are about to move to a period of formal public consultation about the future of our local services, with particular reference to maternity, special baby care and gynaecology services.

At a joint Board meeting of East Sussex Downs and Weald and Hastings and Rother Primary Care Trusts (PCTs), the Board confirmed that the proposals will go forward to public consultation. The consultation will start on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2007, or as soon after as possible, and run for 15 weeks.

We are holding a series of public meetings during the consultation period and welcome attendance from any interested individuals, organisations and members of the public. Dates and times are detailed as follows:-

Seaford	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	6.30pm	Seaford Baptist Church, Main Church Hall, Belgrave Road, Seaford BN25 2EE
Hastings	Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	7pm	White Rock Theatre, Hastings TN34 1JX
Eastbourne	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	7pm	Gold Room, Winter Garden, Eastbourne BN21 4BP
Crowborough	Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	7pm	Beacon Community College, East Beeches Road, Crowborough TN6 2AS
Newhaven	Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> May	2pm	Hillcrest Community Centre, Hillcrest Road, BN9 9EA
Bexhill	Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> May	2pm	St Peter's Community Centre, Church Street, Old Town, Bexhill TN40 2HE
Uckfield	Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	11am	The Weald Hall, Uckfield Civic Centre TN22 1AE
Hailsham	Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	10.30am	Hailsham Community Hall, Vicarage Lane, Hailsham BN27 2AX

**East Sussex Downs and Weald PCT**

**Hastings and Rother**

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Primary Care Trust Headquarters  
36 - 38 Friars Walk, Lewes East Sussex BN7 2PB  
01273 485300  
[www.eastsussexdownswealdpct.nhs.uk](http://www.eastsussexdownswealdpct.nhs.uk)

Rural Rother	Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> May	2pm	Main Hall, Thomas Peacocke Community College, The Grove, Rye TN31 7NQ
Lewes	Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> June	7pm	Assembly Room, Town Hall, Lewes (via Fisher Street) BN27 2DG
Hastings	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	2pm	White Rock Theatre, Hastings TN34 1JX
Eastbourne	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	2pm	Gold Room, Winter Garden, Eastbourne BN21 4BP

All meetings are planned to last 2 hours.

In addition to these meetings, senior members of the PCT are happy to attend existing groups and forums to present the options for change and to answer questions. If you would like to arrange for someone to attend a meeting, please contact Angela Paice by email [angela.paice@esdwpct.nhs.uk](mailto:angela.paice@esdwpct.nhs.uk) or on 01323 747710.

Once consultation formally starts on 26<sup>th</sup> March, or as soon after as possible, we will be sending you further detailed information outlining the proposals. In addition to this, a dedicated website will be available, which will include all the information we send out, plus additional information as the consultation progresses. The website address will be [www.southeastcoastfff.nhs.uk](http://www.southeastcoastfff.nhs.uk) - and will be available after 26<sup>th</sup> March.

We are committed to keeping you informed.

With best wishes

Yours sincerely



**Nick Yeo**  
**Chief Executive**

PSC&amp; ITEM 42

**Rye Town Council**

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**From:** "Sam White" <Sam.White@eastsussex.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 18 April 2007 12:43  
**Subject:** Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee Evidence Gathering Programme on Fit for the Future Proposals

**Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee Evidence Gathering Programme on Fit for the Future Proposals**

East Sussex Primary Care Trusts' (PCTs) 'Fit for the Future' proposals for the future configuration of health services in the County have been published and public consultation started.

The main specific proposals for change outlined in the consultation relate to services for childbirth, special baby care and inpatient gynaecology. The PCTs have put forward four options, but confirmed to the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) that they will look at any alternative options put forward during the consultation and assess these in the same way as their own proposals.

HOSC is committed to a full, balanced examination of the available evidence, and consideration of the range of opinion on the proposals before formulating its response to the PCTs shortly after the close of public consultation, which ends on 27 July 2007.

HOSC is organising a series of evidence gathering meetings around the County where we are inviting key individuals and organisations to give their perspective on the proposals and to answer questions from HOSC members on specific elements.

**HOSC evidence gathering meetings:**

<i>Time</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Venue</i>	<i>Town</i>
<b>2pm to 5pm</b>	<b>Thursday 17 May 2007</b>	<b>Gold Room Winter Garden</b>	<b>Eastbourne</b>
<b>3pm to 7pm</b>	<b>Thursday 7 June 2007</b>	<b>Sussex Hall, White Rock Theatre</b>	<b>Hastings</b>
<b>10am to 1pm</b>	<b>Friday 22 June 2007</b>	<b>Council Chamber County Hall</b>	<b>Lewes</b>
<b>10am to 1pm</b>	<b>Wednesday 25 July 2007</b>	<b>Council Chamber County Hall</b>	<b>Lewes</b>

Further details on the programme for these meetings will be available nearer the time on the HOSC website [www.eastsussexhealth.org](http://www.eastsussexhealth.org)

**Would you like to come to a meeting?**

Members of the public are welcome to attend any or all of these meetings to listen to the evidence and discussion. If you are planning on coming, please contact Sam White on 01273 481581 or email: [sam.white@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:sam.white@eastsussex.gov.uk)  
 This will help us with seating arrangements.

**Have you got a question about Fit for the Future proposals?**

It is not possible for members of the public to participate in the discussion but if there are

particular questions which you think should be asked, please send these in to Sam White by email, post to him at East Sussex County Council, Room C6F, County Hall, St Anne's Crescent, Lewes, East Sussex BN7 1SW, or contact a HOSC member.

Regards

Councillor Bob Lacey OBE  
Chairman  
East Sussex Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

*Sam White  
Scrutiny Support Officer  
Democratic Services and Scrutiny  
C6F, County Hall,  
St Anne's Crescent, Lewes BN7 1SW*

**Tel: 01273 481581**

**E-mail: [sam.white@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:sam.white@eastsussex.gov.uk)**

***Check out East Sussex Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee website on [www.eastsussexhealth.org](http://www.eastsussexhealth.org) for the latest information on health scrutiny in the county.***

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You can visit our website at <http://www.eastsussex.gov.uk>