

HEALTH SELECT COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Health Select Committee was held on Monday 24th April, 2006.

Present:- Councillor Mrs Womphrey (Chairman), Councillors Mrs Apedaile Coombs, Dixon, Lupton, Roberts, Mrs Robinson and Sherris.

Officers:- G Birtle, Miss F Shayler (LD)

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Frankland, Harrington, Mrs Nesbitt, Noble and Teasdale.

86 **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Mrs Robinson declared a personal/non prejudicial interest in relation to agenda item No. 4 Review of NHS Dentistry due to being a patient until very recently of one of the Dental Practices listed providing NHS treatment within the information distributed at the meeting.

87 **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 3rd April and 10th April, 2006 were agreed as a correct record.

88 **Review of NHS Dentistry**

Members were provided with a draft copy of the Project Plan Proforma. The Scrutiny Officer was collating written evidence for the review which would be made available to Members on the Council's Intranet site, hard copies would be made available to those that requested it. It was suggested that regular meetings be held throughout June and July to hear oral evidence from appropriate stakeholders.

A press release was thought appropriate and advertising within Dental Practices throughout the borough to encourage public participation. Members suggested that evidence in writing from the public would also be helpful for this review.

Liz Hegarty, Head of Clinical Governance and Lead Director for the PCT was in attendance at the meeting to give an overview of the changes in NHS dentistry and provided information on Dentists within the area that had recently opted to not take NHS patients or only take NHS patients that were Children or exempt adults.

Jill Harrison (PCT) had been dealing with the contract between the NHS and Dentists and would be invited to a future meeting to give evidence.

Members requested information on Dental Technicians and Dental Nurses and whether any changes were soon to be implemented with regard to their

qualifications/requirements. Information on the number of registered patients within the Borough to determine how many will be deregistered as a result of this.

Concluded that:-

1. The Project Plan Proforma be updated to take on board Members Comments.
2. Jill Harrison from the PCT be invited to a future meeting/s.
3. Information as requested above be collated by the Scrutiny Officer and distributed to Members.