

Brighton & Hove City Council

Item no. on agenda

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

Meeting: **Joint Commissioning Board**

Date: **18 April 2005**

Report of: **Programme Director Health and Social Care**

Subject: **Shaping the Future of Services in Sussex for Mental Health,
Learning Disability and Substance Misuse Services**

Wards affected: **All**

1. Purpose of the Report

1.1 This report gives an update on the outcome of the informal discussion phase and the next steps in the process.

2. Recommendations

2.1 To note the report.

3. Information/Background

3.1 The informal discussion phase of the above consultation exercise was completed in February. The Project Steering Group met on 8 March 2005 to consider the response to the discussion phase and to agree how this should be taken forward. The City Council was represented on the Steering Group by the Chair of Adult Social Care and Health Sub Committee and by the Director of Housing and City Support.

3.2 The Steering Group are recommending that there should be a formal consultation on the provider configuration for these services in Sussex. It is proposed that the consultation should take place from early summer this year. The consultation will set out and appraise the following options:

Option 1: Remain with three separate organisations providing these services but with greater collaboration between them. The current joint management arrangements between East and West Sussex would end.

Option 2: Merge the West Sussex Health and Social Care and East Sussex County Healthcare Trusts from April 2006 but keep South Downs Health as an independent organisation for Brighton and Hove working collaboratively with the new merged trust.

Option 3a: Fully merge all three organisations' mental health, learning disability and substance misuse services from April 2006 or...

Option 3b: Fully merge the East and West Sussex Trusts from April 2006 with South Downs Health joining at an agreed later date which would be no later than April 2007.

3.3 Further work is in hand within Brighton & Hove to consider the implications of Options 3a and 3b on all services provided by South Downs Health NHS Trust, including integrated services, and a further report will be brought to this Committee in due course.

4. **Consultation**

4.1 The consultation process is being managed by PCTs in Sussex, with Western Sussex PCT coordinating and leading the process. The consultation will be carried out in compliance with Section 11 of the NHS Act 1999 and will be put before the Health and Overview Scrutiny Committee.