

**Special Meeting of the Children, Young People and Healthy Communities  
Overview and Scrutiny Committee - 17 January 2008**

**CLOSER TO HOME**

**Item 4**

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**Recommendation** – that the Committee considers how the Council should respond to the NHS public consultation on the “Closer to Home” proposals.

**BACKGROUND**

The NHS is currently carrying out a public consultation across North Cumbria regarding the future of health services and the future role of its hospitals.

These proposals entitled “Closer to Home” are part of a strategy to provide more health services closer to people’s homes and a copy of the consultation on the proposals is attached.

The public consultation is due to end on 1 February 2008 and the Committee is invited to recommend the council’s response to this consultation to be considered by full council at its meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2008.

It is proposed that the meeting draw up the recommendations following a number of witness sessions to look at all the issues involved. A draft running order is appended (Final confirmation is still awaited from a number of witnesses) and a set of preliminary questions that have been sent to the potential witnesses. The A & E session is likely to be a presentation rather than questions as it is a late addition to the timetable.

Also appended is the response of the “Save Our Services” Group to these proposals.

**List of Appendices**

- Appendix “A” - Cumbria NHS Primary Care Trust – Closer to Home Consultation Document
- Appendix “B” – Draft running order
- Appendix “C” - Preliminary Questions
- Appendix “D” - “Save Our Services” Group response to the Closer to home Proposals

**List of Background Documents:** None