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| COMMITTEE: | Cabinet |
| DATE: | 13 March 2003 |
| SUBJECT: | Health Scrutiny in East Sussex |
| REPORT OF: | Director of Housing, Health & Community Finance |
| Ward(s): | All |
| Purpose: | To advise Cabinet of County-wide proposals for the Scrutiny of Health functions. |
| Contact: | Neil Fuller, Director of Housing, Health & Community Finance, Telephone 01323 415301 or internally on extension 5301. |
| Recommendations: | <p>a) That Cabinet note the status of current proposals regarding the Scrutiny of health functions on a county-wide basis.</p> <p>b) That Cabinet endorse proposals contained within attached East Sussex County Council (ESCC) report, giving specific consideration to</p> <p>i) nomination of non-executive Member to proposed Overview & Scrutiny Committee and,</p> <p>ii) future resource requirements for this proposed scrutiny function.</p> |
| 1.0 | <u>Background / Introduction</u> |
| 1.1 | The attached ESCC letter and proposal document (<u>Appendix 1</u>) represents a response to the recently introduced Health & Social Care Act 2002 giving powers to local authorities with Social Services departments to undertake the scrutiny of health and health services within their locality. |

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| 1.2 | In exercising this power, it is expected that, for two tier authorities, close operational arrangements will be developed with District and Borough Councils. |
| 1.3 | Eastbourne Borough Council's Director of Housing, Health & Community Finance has attended two meetings of County and District Officers for the purposes of considering and developing such proposals. |
| 2.0 | <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Detailed Overview and Scrutiny Committee Proposals</u></p> |
| 2.1 | It should be noted from the attached proposal document that key considerations have been the need to comply with health overview and scrutiny regulations as well as provide for co-opted members from Districts and Boroughs with full voting rights. |
| 2.2 | In the context of Joint Officer discussions, the following considerations were specifically raised by the Director of Housing, Health & Community Finance: |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ø Inability of existing structures to provide necessary representative framework (e.g. Health & Social Care Partnership Board). Ø Need to avoid unwieldy mechanisms and any potential duplication of activity. Ø Extent to which prior consideration of Scrutiny Programme might assist in developing most effective structures and establishing necessary resource requirements. Ø Need for clear understanding of local scrutiny requirements and extent of impact upon existing local structures (e.g. Eastbourne Borough Council Scrutiny Committee, Healthy Eastbourne Board). Ø Scale / cost of proposals and extent to which resource implications have not been considered in context of Eastbourne Borough Council's 2003 / 04 budget process. |

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| 3.0 | <u>Consultations</u> |
| 3.1 | It is anticipated that results of consultation undertaken to date will be available for Cabinet. |
| 3.2 | In particular, such proposals have been discussed with Eastbourne Downs Primary Care Trust and Community Health Councils. |
| 4.0 | <u>Human Resource Implications</u> |
| 4.1 | In the absence of any draft scrutiny programme, the extent to which local scrutiny requirements will impact upon existing Members and Officer structures is unclear. Areas / structures potentially affected include: |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ø Eastbourne Borough Council Scrutiny Committee Ø Healthy Eastbourne Board Ø Eastbourne Strategic Partnership |
| 5.0 | <u>Financial Implications</u> |
| 5.1 | In addition to the above, it should be noted that attached proposals identify a need to consider financial contributions from this Authority from 2004 / 05. |

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| 6.0 | <u>Recommendations</u> |
| 6.1 | That Cabinet note the status of current proposals regarding the Scrutiny of health functions on a county-wide basis. |

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| 6.2 | <p>That Cabinet endorse proposals contained within attached East Sussex County Council (ESCC) report, giving specific consideration to</p> <p>i) nomination of non-executive Member to proposed Overview & Scrutiny Committee and, ii) future resource requirements for this proposed scrutiny function.</p> |
| <p>Neil Fuller</p> <p>Director of Housing, Health & Community Finance</p> | |
| <p>Background Papers:</p> <p>The Background Papers used in compiling this report were as follows:</p> <p>(None, other than attached appendix)</p> | |
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