

**SOUTH EAST ENGLAND REGIONAL ASSEMBLY
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Date: 19 October 2007

Subject: **Regional Health Summit 28 September 2007**

Report of: Head of Policy

Recommendation:

That the Committee notes this report.

Purpose of Report:

To update the Committee on the issues discussed at the Health Summit on 28 September 2007.

Key Issues:

The meeting was well attended by senior representatives from a range of organisations including the Assembly, SEEDA, GOSE, SHAs and RAISE. Discussions began with an update on the implications of the Sub-National Review of Economic Development and Regeneration. Members shared concern over the lack of emphasis in the SNR on the important role of social, environmental and economic partners. The Summit also discussed the possible role of the new Parliamentary regional select committees.

The Summit received a presentation outlining the NHS financial regime, including the complex national formula which determines Primary Care Trusts' (PCT) funding. Discussions revealed that although the formula calculates need primarily based on indicators of ill-health, there is flexibility in how the money is spent and some can be allocated to preventative measures in addition to health care provision.

Members received an update on the progress of South East Coast SHA's 'Creating an NHS Fit for the Future' strategy. It was emphasised that it ties in with Lord Darzi's national review of the NHS; efforts are being made to ensure that national engagement takes account of, and feeds into, existing discussions and consultations.

A presentation was given explaining the role of NHS Foundation Trusts and the timetable for their implementation in the South East; all NHS Trusts have the opportunity to apply to become an NHS Foundation Trust by 2009.

The Summit considered progress on the Regional Health Strategy. Following discussion at the September Executive Committee, the final draft of the Regional Health Strategy will be taken to Executive Committee in December, in order to seek Assembly endorsement. The intention is to launch the final Regional Health Strategy on 7 February 2008 at the annual South East Public Health Conference. Members considered the potential role of green infrastructure in developing good physical and mental health. Members emphasised the importance of accessibility, especially for deprived groups.

Members received a summary of the efforts to strengthen the Department of Health's regional presence, which build on the capacity of the Regional Public Health Groups and Regional Development Centres. The changes were welcomed as bringing regional leadership to social care.

The next meeting of the Summit is on 22 January 2008.

This report consists of only this cover sheet.

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