



Primary Care Team
New Kings Beam House
22 Upper Ground
London
SE19BW

7th September 2006

Gateway reference 7084

Strategic Health Authority Chief Executives
Primary Care Trust Chief Executives

Dear everyone,

Our Health, Our Care, Our Community: investing in the future of community hospitals and services

I am writing to introduce myself and colleagues supporting me to deliver the community hospitals and services programme. Responsibility for this programme has been transferred from Duncan Selbie to Andrew Cash who heads up the Provider Development Directorate and I have been asked to oversee the programme. I am supported by Anna McDevitt and Sarah Lowney – our contact details are at the end of this note. We are of course working closely with a whole range of colleagues including those based in the Capital Investment team, NHS Estates and Facilities and the Capacity Planning Team.

Our Health Our Say Our Community asked PCTs to submit proposals for bids for capital funding to SHAs by the 30th September. The deadline for SHAs to submit proposals to the Department is 21st October. Proposals should be sent to communityhospitalsandservices@dh.gsi.gov.uk

There is no template for submitting information to the Department - the key thing is that you ensure that the proposals address the vision and design principles set out in *Our Health Our Say Our Community*. Our preference would be for the information to be provided in the form of a brief strategic outline case. We are keen that where SHAs are submitting more than one proposal that you indicate their priority and we would also be grateful if you could include a statement about how the proposals fit with the SHA strategic objectives and priorities. I would also be grateful if SHAs could email the name of the lead person in the SHA with whom we should be dealing. Please send this to the mailbox address above by the 15th September.

This is a 5 year programme so there will be other opportunities to submit proposals. We have asked that proposals that could commence at the end of 2006/07 and early proposals for 2007/08 are submitted by the end of December. We will set deadlines for throughout 2007/08 in due course.

One of the first things we are keen to do is develop a communications strategy for the programme – we are keen to explore options such as having a community hospitals website, a programme of workshops, preparing core briefing etc. We will keep you posted as this develops.

With best wishes,

John Pope
Programme Head
Community hospitals and services programme

Contact details

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