



Welwyn & Hatfield Keep the NHS Public Campaign Campaign Newsletter No.12: Summer 2007



Campaign Meeting: Thursday 19th July 8pm
Ludwick Family Centre, Hall Grove, Welwyn Garden City

PCT CONSULTATION SHAM & FARCE

The changes in health care provision being promulgated by the Hertfordshire NHS Trusts will seriously damage the counties health services. **North & East Herts** the proposals concern the continued transfer of services away from the QEII hospital in Welwyn Garden City and its consolidation in the Lister hospital in Stevenage to make the Lister the only acute hospital in the whole of the region. People are being expected to accept the concept of centralization and simply choose which hospital is to be downgraded, thus setting people of each community against each other.

Question 1: Spells out the 'Choices' on offer

A] Lister as the acute hospital with the QEII downgraded. {The NHS Trusts preferred option}

B] QEII as the acute hospital with the Lister downgraded.

The online form only allows the completion in a choice between the Lister and the QEII.

The Welwyn Hatfield Keep the NHS Public Campaign stresses that people avoid the online form and instead completing the form posted to each property and marking BOTH Options A & B to stress the need for both hospitals to remain open.

Question 2: Gives the opportunity to explain this choice and stress the need for complete hospital cover. The region needs BOTH hospitals to properly provide this having only 1 acute hospital means an acute reduction in services with the increased probability of placing lives at risk.

Question 3: Asks people to accept the idea of a hospital being downgraded and the condemning of a community to a second class hospital provision.

We should stress that there is no need for hospitals to have to lose their acute status or services. That the QEII should have ALL its services and staff returned to pre-consolidation levels.

Question 4: Asks people to select an area to receive a lower standard of health care if there is money in the health care budget for 'Urgent Care Centres' for Hertfordshire then why should any town be deprived of one? BOTH Cheshunt Community and Hertford County hospitals should receive them.

Question 5: Seeks reinforcement for this notion, we should stress the need for Both towns to receive the best possible health care provision.

West Hertfordshire; Question 6: Stupidly asks for agreement of consolidation of children's surgery provision at Watford and of depriving Hemel Hempstead children of this urgent service. A resolute NO should be marked hereto express the disgust at such a notion. **Question 7:** Asks people to justify a NO. Simply put Hemel Hempstead needs ALL its hospital services to remain intact its children's live will be put at risk otherwise. The people of Hemel need ALL the support they can get the QEII hospital lost its children's unit in the Trusts consolidation process.

The PFI company Clinicenta were to build an ISTC based Surgicentre at Hemel Hempstead however as the NHS obviously delivers better value for service provision this has been dropped. **Question 8:** Proposes that this Surgicentre be based instead at St. Albans. **Question 9:** Asks people to justify their choice of Question 8 options. The Hemel Hempstead hospital campaign group DHAG has taken the

West Herts Trusts to a judicial review over its proposals and is continuing to fight its corner over the issues involved. We should support the DHAG case for the service to be based by the use of NHS provision at Hemel Hempstead.



PCT: Picket



QEII Hospital: Picket

Get involved: Spread the word: For:

Newsletters: Posters: Leaflets: Petitions: Contact: 01707-272827 & ygwerin@yahoo.co.uk