

Cheltenham Borough Council

Social & Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee:

29th March 2004

Dentistry Services - Cheltenham

Report of the Group Director Social & Community

1. Summary and recommendation

- 1.1 At the last meeting of the committee, the Chair asked that a report be brought to the next meeting on the provision of dental services in Cheltenham, and in particular the shortage of NHS dental services.
- 1.2 It would be normal for such concerns to be raised through the County-wide Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC), which the County Council administers, and on which Councillor Zoe Forbes sits as this council's representative. The issue is already on the work programme for the OSC but is not due to be considered until some time in 2005, following a pilot study in the Dursley area.
- 1.3 A representative of the Cheltenham and Tewkesbury Primary Care Trust (PCT) has therefore agreed to attend the committee meeting to brief members on the current arrangements for the provision of dental services both nationally and locally and to advise the committee proposed changes to those arrangements at a local level.
- 1.4 I am sure that members will welcome the PCT's offer to brief members and answer their questions as far as possible. I would also remind all members of the need to treat all speakers, but particularly those from external organisations, with due respect and politeness.
- 1.5 **I recommend that the committee raises any concerns which it may have about dental services in Cheltenham through Councillor Forbes as the council's representative on the County Health OSC.**

2. Implications

- 2.1 **Financial** *None arising from this report.*
- 2.2 **Legal** *None arising from this report.*
- 2.3 **Human resources** *None arising from this report.*

2.4 **Equal opportunities, social justice and anti-poverty**

The provision of adequate and affordable dental services as part of a wider NHS particularly for those committees unable to afford the costs of private health care, is a relevant concern for this committee, even though it has no remit either to provide or commission such services.

2.5 Environmental

None arising from this report.

Background papers

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Accountability

Deputy Health, Wellbeing & Economy

Neighbourhood regeneration
