# NHS OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY STUDIES

## 1 SUMMARY

1.1 To invite Members to consider topics for future NHS scrutiny studies in Essex.

# 2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Members will recall that in 2003 powers were given to those authorities with Social Services functions to carry out formal scrutiny of NHS services. In Essex a partnership forum has been created to help ensure that second tier Councils are included in the process.
- 2.2 Members have previously indicated that they would wish to invite County Councillor R A Pearson to meetings when NHS scrutiny studies are being discussed, and Councillor Pearson has indicated that he will be attending the meeting.

#### **3 SCRUTINY STUDY PROPOSALS**

- 3.1 Following earlier suggestions, the partnership forum has decided that the following subjects will be topics for studies over the next few months.
  - Cancer drug usage in South Essex.
  - Diabetes services
  - Primary Care.
- 3.2 The Council has now been asked for suggestions for the next set of studies after these. In line with previous committee discussions, two topics have already been reiterated to County:
  - Hospital acquired infections.
  - Nutrition of elderly and other hospital in-patients unable to feed themselves (including fluid intake).
- 3.3 Members are invited to suggest further topics they would wish to be considered for studies.

## 4 **RECOMMENDATION**

## 4.1 It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES**

To advise Essex County Council of any topics that this Council wishes to see considered for future health scrutiny.

Graham Woolhouse

Head of Housing, Health and Community Care

# Background Papers:-

Letter from Essex County Council 21 December 2004.

For further information please contact Graham Woolhouse on:-

Tel:-3300E-Mail:-graham.woolhouse@rochford.gov.uk