

**PATIENT FOCUS AND
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT STRATEGY**

PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this paper is to seek formal Board approval to the 'Patient Focus and Public Involvement Strategy – 2006-2010.

BACKGROUND

2. The draft strategy and action plan were approved by CMT in May and issued for consultation to a wide range of stakeholders (including on the website) at the end of June 2006.
3. Iain Hair presented the responses to consultation to the Board meeting in October, but hadn't at that stage amended the document.
4. Members will recall that respondents were supportive of the aims of the strategy and of the principle themes which it seeks to address. A number of detailed points were raised and most of these have been addressed and amendments incorporated into the document attached.
5. This is a high level strategy with a detailed action plan setting out a number of developments, the costs of which have been reflected in the Board's financial plan.
6. Public, patient and carer engagement is a rapidly developing area of work, with considerable activity currently underway at policy level on a national, regional and local level e.g. the very recent issue of HEAT-related targets raises the significance of certain PFPI issues and will require the development of additional systems of engagement and data capture.

RECOMMENDATION

7. It is recommended that the Board:-
 - approves the attached strategy and action plan; and
 - seeks a progress report, along with an assessment of the need for further review, after 12 months, reflecting the pace of current developments.

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