## This suggested review will be considered by the Health Select Committee

**Title:** Health Economy

What are the main issues? what is the policy background?, how does it link to the councils corporate priorities?

## 'The Health Economy in Brent' -

The council is committed to reducing health inequalities and improving the health of Brent residents. The White paper "Our health Our Care Our Say" envisages a shift in resources from acute and hospital based services to preventative and community based services.

Brent Council wishes to deliver high quality health and social care services in partnership with health (including the PCT) and our stakeholders and service users.

However there are significant cuts in the health service through a national requirement for the health service to save money. Locally the PCT in particular has made large cuts. In addition policy changes from the Department of Health could result in the Council needing to pick up care funding previously funded by the PCT.

This review would assess the effect of this on some of the people of Brent.

Why are we looking at this area? Have there been recent legislation/policy changes? Are there any performance or budgetary issues?

In order to deliver these priorities we need to see investment in preventative services and community based services.

There are significant pressures preventing the delivery of these services to possibly some of our most vulnerable residents, these include:

- Nationally the Health service is overspent and is being required to deliver savings across the country;
- Cuts have been made in Brent PCT this financial year;
- Savings have been made in CNWL hospitals this financial year;
- A change in policy guidance could mean the Council picking up more financial responsibility to pay for some mental health care. (The changed interpretation of the funding split on S117. Arguably the PCT were more generous than most LAS who do not have a 50/50 split;
- A proposed change in continuing care criteria currently out for consultation may also mean the Council picking up funding for care previously funded by the PCT;
- The cuts in the PCT and mental health services has lead to a shift in what council and PCT pays for;
- Locally the Adult Social Care dept is facing more demand for care services.

What should the review cover? Give brief outline of what members could focus on, which partners to engage with, how residents/public can be involved.

## The review could cover

- a distinct group of vulnerable people and assess what effect the cuts within the health service are having upon their lives. Measures could include the particular impact of not funding or reducing funding to some services;
- The affect upon the lives of the carers of vulnerable people affected;
- We could involve service users through our user consultation for e.g. a group of Older people could be involved through the Better Government for Older People forum;
- Involvement of partners and stakeholders including the PCT, hospital Trusts, Mental Health Trust, voluntary sector organisations.

What could the review achieve?, influence policy change?, improvement to service delivery?, budget savings?, develop partnerships?.

Could influence policy change and contribute to partnership working