

Appendix 7 – Email to East Sussex Hospitals Trust

To: Kim Hodgson, cc Judith Clabby

Message from Councillor Sylvia Tidy

**East Sussex Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee
3.30pm Monday 28th January 2008
Council Chamber, East Sussex County Council, St Anne's Crescent,
Lewes, East Sussex BN7 1SW**

Dear Kim

HOSC is meeting on the 28th January to consider the East Sussex PCTs' decision on the Fit for the Future proposals and the PCTs' response to HOSC's recommendations published in October 2007.

One of the key tasks for HOSC at the meeting will be to consider how the PCTs have assessed the alternative options put forward during consultation, in line with HOSC's recommendations that a full assessment of all proposals should be carried out prior to PCT decision making, including discussion with hospital clinicians (Recommendation 1) and that the Boards should consider alternative locations and models for midwife-led care (Recommendation 2).

To assist HOSC in considering this, it would be helpful to have the Trust's view on whether the Trust's leadership, and relevant clinical staff in the affected departments, were consulted adequately as part of the process by which these options were assessed. In addition, whether you are satisfied with the robustness of the assessment of the range of proposals.

Please could you let us have your response by **12 noon on Thursday 17th January 2008** so that it can be included in the agenda pack sent out to HOSC members and witnesses within the statutory deadline.

We are not currently expecting anyone from East Sussex Hospitals Trust to attend the meeting on the 28th but would be delighted to welcome you or your representative to the meeting if the Trust would like to be represented.

Regards

Councillor Sylvia Tidy
Chairman
Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee