

**Independent scrutiny of NHS Boards proposals for major changes in local NHS services**

Please write your response here (please continue on a separate sheet of paper, if necessary.)

Question 1: Do you agree that an expert panel is the most effective way to provide independent scrutiny? If not, what would be your preferred choice?

SEE "FINAL NOTES" IN SECTION "7" FOR ALL QUESTIONS

Question 2: Do you agree that the role of the panel should be to assess the safety, sustainability, evidence-base and value for money of NHS Boards proposals for major changes to local NHS services?



Question 7 Do you have any other comments on either the "FINAL NOTE" consultation process or your preferred choice?

TO COVER ALL QUESTIONS. RESPONSE TO INDEPENDENT SCRUTINY

- ① I AM CONCERNED THAT THIS "INDEPENDENT" SCRUTINY PANEL WILL CREATE YET ANOTHER TIER OF BUREAUCRACY. ALREADY IN PLACE SUPPORTING THE NHS STRUCTURE THERE ARE PPG'S, PFPI, CHP'S, SCOTTISH HEALTH COUNCILS, AND NHS BOARDS. DO WE NEED YET ANOTHER GROUP OF PEOPLE?
- ② IN THEORY IT IS MOST MAGNANIMOUS OF THE GOVERNMENT TO SEEMINGLY CONSULT WITH THE PUBLIC IN ADVANCE OF CHANGE, AFTER ONE OF THE GREATEST CHANGES TO AFFECT THE PUBLIC AND PATIENTS HAS ALREADY TAKEN PLACE - NAMELY THE G.P.'S NEW CONTRACTS AND THE PROVISION OF NHS 24 WITH OOH.
- ③ I AM NOT CONVINCED THAT FORMING YET ANOTHER GROUP ON A NATIONAL BASIS COULD BE TRULY REPRESENTATIVE OF THE VIEWS AND REQUIREMENTS OF THE HEALTH SERVICE NEEDS ACROSS THE WHOLE OF SCOTLAND AND THE ISLANDS.
- ④ WHY NOT USE THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE PPG'S ALREADY IN PLACE FOR CONSULTATION. MOST PPG'S WILL HAVE A CROSS SECTION OF SOCIETY SERVING ON THEM.
- ⑤ IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT THE HEALTH SERVICE WHICH IS PROVIDED, IS INFLUENCED BY THE HEALTH PROFESSIONALS, ALONG WITH THOSE WHO SERVE AT THE COAL FACE, SUPPORTED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO BRING SOME COMMON SENSE TO THE TABLE.
- ⑥ HOWEVER IT WOULD APPEAR THAT AT THE END OF THE DAY POLICY AND SERVICE ARE DECIDED BY POLITICIANS ADVISED BY CIVIL SERVANTS, GOVERNED BY FINANCE!!

Thank you for taking the time to participate in this consultation. We will acknowledge receipt of your response.