

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?

Mixture of decision conference and expert panel to ensure balance of expertise and local participation.

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?

Agree but think there is also a role in ensuring changes are carried out.

Question 3:

Do you agree that the chair should be a lay person appointed by Scottish Ministers?

Yes

Question 4:

Do you agree that the panel should have a lay majority among its members?

Yes

Question 5: Do you agree that the panel should assess the evidence and options during the process of public engagement prior to consultation, and provide a commentary on these that would be available to the Board and to Ministers in reaching decisions?

Yes

Question 6. Do you have any other comments on how independent scrutiny should be carried out, or on the guidance on "Informing, engaging and consulting the public in developing health and community care services" at Annex 3?

Need to ensure that independent involvement is not tokenistic

Question 7

Do you have any other comments on either the consultation process or your preferred choice?

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