

LOCAL HEALTHCARE BILL

1 Do you think the current proposals for independent scrutiny of service change proposals help achieve the aim of better engaging and involving local communities?	Yes, but the NHS Board must <u>listen</u> and <u>act</u> on the peoples point of view.
2 How could additional guidance to NHS Boards on making public consultation as effective as possible help achieve this aim?	Public consultation must be well advertised at times & places convenient to all ages.
3 Would the appointment of more lay members to NHS Boards - perhaps to directly represent patients or other groups - help achieve the aim? How might this be achieved?	Yes. must be accountable to the groups they represent. Giving regular reports back.
4 In particular, would adding more local authority councillors (one councillor from each local authority whose area a Board serves is currently appointed to that Board) help achieve the aim? Could local authorities have a role in scrutinising public and community engagement?	Yes - perhaps 2 from each area who are well aware of local needs. Yes.
5 Should we develop further the role of the Scottish Health Council to bring about more effective engagement and involvement? If so, what additional responsibilities could the Council take on and what would the benefits be?	Yes. Require more power to challenge the NHS Board and report back to the Public.
6 How could the Public Partnership Forums associated with Community Health Partnerships encourage greater public engagement?	more publicity regards their role and advertising meetings so people can participate.
7 How could local Community Planning Partnerships best ensure improved public engagement with NHS planning?	Local Comm. Planning Partnerships must plan for LOCAL needs.
8 What other measures could be introduced to increase effective engagement and involvement of the public with the NHS in Scotland?	Pay attention to peoples comments, problems, and respond responsibly.
9 what eligibility criteria should candidates meet (e.g., should they be resident in the Board area? Should there	Yes not necessarily, but must be motivated and committed to their responsibilities.

be any other qualifications?)	
10 how could equality and diversity of candidates be promoted?	male & female who can put forward different view points
11 should candidates have to submit profile statements and declare any interests and/or relevant qualifications / skills / experience, for example membership of a political party or a pressure group?	Yes, regarding profile statements, interests relevant qualifications
12. is there a case for excluding candidates standing as a representative of a political party?	No but should be a well balanced representation of different Political Parties.
13. in what circumstances might someone be disqualified from seeking election?	- Criminal history, or mental instability.
14. who should be allowed to vote in the election? Should the same rules as apply to local authority elections be followed?	Yes - for candidates in your area.
15. how often should elections be held, and when? Local authority elections are held every 4 years. Should elections to NHS Boards follow the same pattern?	No. Perhaps 2 years.
16. should directly elected members form a majority of the members on a Board?	Yes.
17. should the existing categories of appointed Board members (lay members, stakeholder members and executive members) remain in place?	Yes.
18. Among the appointed "stakeholder" members on NHS Boards are local authority Councillors. What should their role be if directly elected members sit on Boards?	Present local needs to the NHS, and be directly accountable to their constituents
19 Should NHS Board areas be divided up into electoral wards?	? definition please

20. Would the emergence of groups or individuals with particular views be a difficulty or a potential threat to good governance and direction of the NHS in Scotland?	Could be a problem all Board members must look to the needs of people putting personal view points aside
21. should safeguards be introduced to prevent unrepresentative / disproportionate representation of a political party or special interest group on a Board, and if so what form might such safeguards take?	Yes. NHS Board should be well balanced.
22. Would you favour a simple "first past the post" voting system, a proportional representation approach or another type of system?	?
23. how should voters be allowed to cast their votes? By postal ballot or at a polling station? Or either, depending on the voter's choice?	Either
24. should directly elected Board members be remunerated? If so, at what rate - the same as appointed members currently receive?	Yes. - This should be reviewed.
25. Are pilots a good idea?	Yes.
26. how many pilots should there be?	?
27. how should pilot areas be selected?	area needs.
28. how long should pilots run for?	6 months approx,
29. what criteria should be used to assess and evaluate the pilots?	positive improvement & feed-back
30. should NHS Boards continue to provide generally consistent levels of performance across Scotland and follow national policies and priorities? Or should elected NHS Boards have the freedom to	

exercise local discretion and flexibility?	<i>Freedom to exercise local discretion + flexibility</i>
31. should current guidance e.g. on governance, priorities and performance standards be set out in future in legally-binding form, to ensure that elected Boards comply with them? What would be the advantages and disadvantages of this?	<i>Yes . Showing accountability</i>
32. Ministers currently have powers to remove members. Should they be able to remove elected members? What sort of reasons might justify such a power being used?	<i>Not without public engagement,</i>
33. should NHS resources be used to support direct elections? What do you think would be a reasonable amount to spend on elections?	<i>This should be Government funded.</i>