

Agenda Item 4 – Item referred from other Committees

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 20 FEBRUARY 2008

SC30 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 28 November 2007 were received, confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record subject to the amendment of the resolution in Minute SC24 to read:

“RECOMMENDED that the Community Committee encourages the Council to support the Princess Alexandra Hospital, Harlow in its ambition to become an NHS Foundation Trust in 2008”.

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 28 NOVEMBER 2007

SC20 PRINCESS ALEXANDRA HOSPITAL NHS TRUST – CONSULTATION ON FOUNDATION TRUST’S STATUS

The Committee received a presentation by Malcolm McFrederick on behalf of the Chair of the Princess Alexandra Hospital NHS Trust. Mr McFrederick explained that he was a member of the Hospital Board of Governors. He circulated a consultation document and summary document regarding the ambition of the hospital to become an NHS Foundation Trust. He described this process as similar to that of becoming a mutual society or public benefit corporation, necessitating a demonstration of the organisation’s future and current financial competence and greater accountability to local people and staff. The advantage of such a change would be that the Hospital Board would have greater discretion to spend hospital funds as it wished. The project envisaged representation on the Council of Governors of two elected public from Uttlesford and one partner member from the councillors of the Uttlesford District Council.

Mr McFrederick asked for the Uttlesford District Council support for these proposals and asked the Council to leaflet its staff encouraging them to become members of the organisation. Mr McFrederick answered Members’ questions regarding this project.

RESOLVED that the Council supports the Princess Alexandra Hospital, Harlow in its ambition to become a NHS Foundation Trust into 2008.