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via Hannah High

Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire
Health Authority
12 OCT 2005
Clinical Services and Public Health



From the Office of Sir Nigel Crisp KCB
Chief Executive, Department of Health and NHS

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10 October 2005

Dear Dr Jewell,

Thank you for your letter of 21 September about *Commissioning a Patient-Led NHS*. The support of the Association of Directors of Public Health (ADsPH) for this process is very much appreciated.

As you recognise, the major reorganisation of Primary Care Trust (PCT) structures and the introduction of practice-based commissioning provide significant opportunities to improve the public's health: a key test of its success is strengthening the public health delivery system. Greater congruence with PCT and local government boundaries is recognised as one of the key factors for consideration in assessing PCTs. The role of the Director of Public Health and its fit within the executive functions of the new organisations as they evolve are areas under consideration as part of this process.

As you are aware, the Department has been actively engaging with key stakeholders, including public health representation, to maximise the benefits of this approach.

I look forward to a continuing productive relationship with ADsPH as we take the agenda forward.

Yours sincerely,

NIGEL CRISP