

**CONSULTATION ON THE RECONFIGURATION OF NHS  
AMBULANCE TRUSTS IN HAMPSHIRE AND THE ISLE OF WIGHT**

**ENSURING A PATIENT-LED NHS**

This document sets out local proposals for the configuration of NHS Ambulance Trusts in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight and supplements the national consultation document "Configuration of NHS Ambulance Trusts in England"

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### **For blind and partially sighted people:**

**We can provide copies of this document on audiocassette or printed in larger type sizes to suit your individual needs. Please contact the Director of Corporate Affairs, Hampshire and the Isle of Wight Strategic Health Authority, Oakley Road, Southampton SO16 4GX**

**or**

**E-mail us at: [consultation@hiowha.nhs.uk](mailto:consultation@hiowha.nhs.uk)**

## **Foreword**

This document sets out proposals for the configuration of Ambulance Services within Hampshire and the Isle of Wight and should be read in conjunction with the national consultation document "Configuration of NHS Ambulance Trusts in England" and alongside the local consultation documents on the proposed new Strategic Health Authority and Primary Care Trust configuration in the South East of England and Hampshire and the Isle of Wight respectively.

Your views and those of your organisation are sought on proposals for the reconfiguration of NHS Ambulance Trusts namely:

- that a new NHS Trust is created to provide an ambulance service across the Counties of Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Hampshire and Oxfordshire;
- that in view of the special circumstances the responsibility for the management of the ambulance service remains on the Isle of Wight as part of the function of the proposed new body that will oversee the commissioning and management of all National Health Services on the Isle of Wight.

These proposals have been developed through discussions with local partner organisations and we now want to test these more widely. Your views and comments should be forwarded to us by 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2006.

Professor Jonathan Montgomery  
Chairman

Sir Ian Carruthers OBE  
Chief Executive

Hampshire and the Isle of Wight Strategic Health Authority



**PROPOSALS FOR THE CONFIGURATION OF AMBULANCE SERVICES IN HAMPSHIRE AND THE ISLE OF WIGHT**

This section sets out the proposals for the future organisation of Ambulance Services within Hampshire and the Isle of Wight

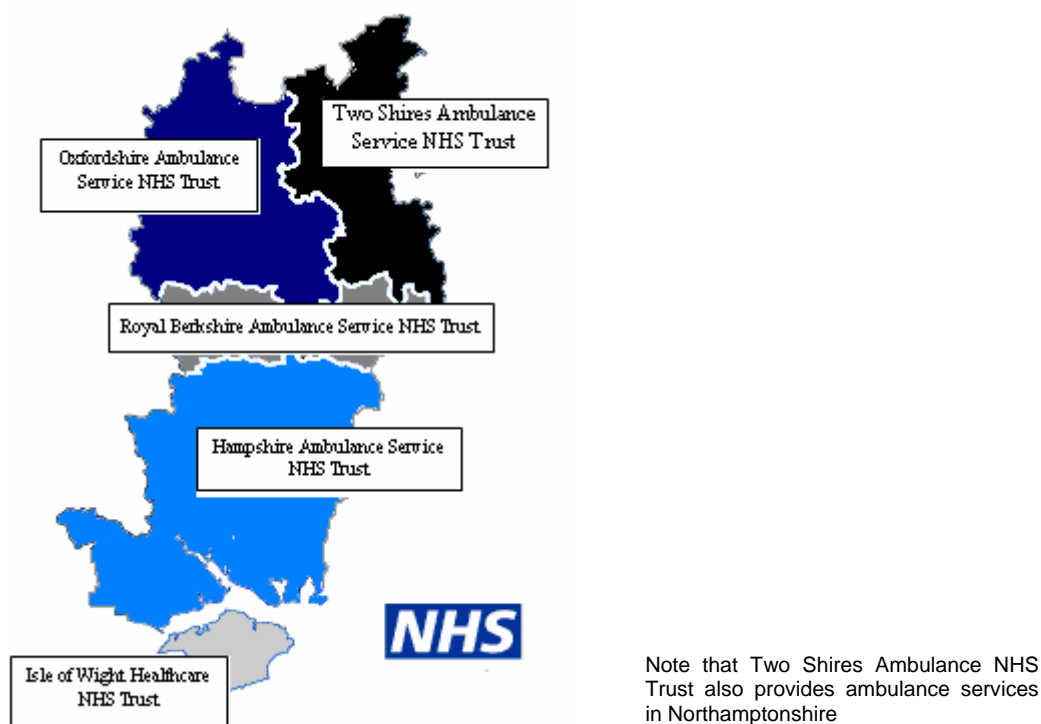
# 1 PROPOSALS FOR THE CONFIGURATION OF AMBULANCE SERVICES IN HAMPSHIRE AND THE ISLE OF WIGHT

1.1 It is proposed that a new NHS Trust is created to provide an ambulance service in the area covered by the proposed new Strategic Health Authority in Thames Valley and Hampshire. This new NHS Trust would encompass the following existing ambulance services:

- Royal Berkshire Ambulance NHS Trust;
- Buckinghamshire area within the Two Shires Ambulance NHS Trust;
- Hampshire Ambulance Service NHS Trust;
- Oxfordshire Ambulance NHS Trust.

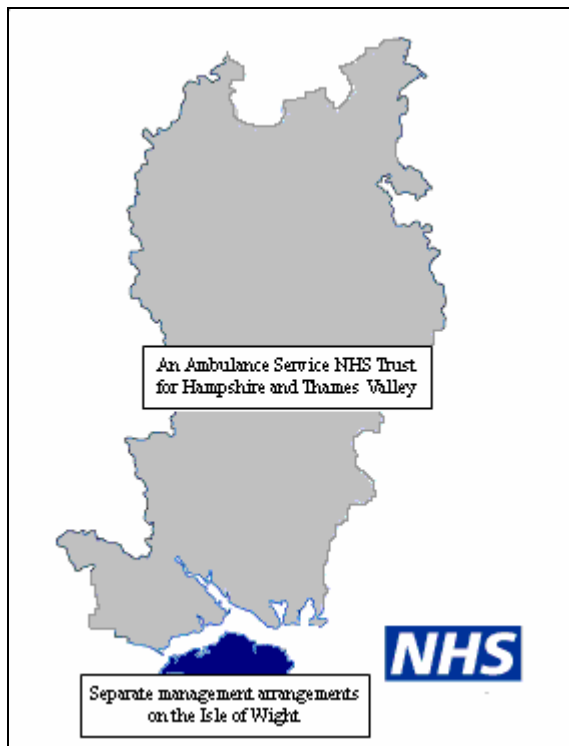
1.2 The current configuration of the Ambulance Services NHS Trusts is shown in Figure 1.

**FIGURE 1: CURRENT AMBULANCE SERVICES IN THAMES VALLEY, HAMPSHIRE AND ISLE OF WIGHT**



1.3 Currently the ambulance service on the Isle of Wight is managed by the Isle of Wight Healthcare NHS Trust and it is proposed that ambulance services should continue to be managed by the proposed single NHS organisation on the Isle of Wight. The proposed new NHS Trust for ambulance services and the management arrangements for the ambulance service on the Isle of Wight are shown in Figure 2.

**FIGURE 2: FUTURE CONFIGURATION OF AMBULANCE SERVICES IN THAMES VALLEY, HAMPSHIRE ISLE OF WIGHT**



1.4 The rationale for this proposed unique arrangement is the special circumstances of the Isle of Wight. These are detailed in Section 3 of the consultation document outlining proposals for the configuration of Primary Care Trusts in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. In summary, the reasons include:

- the Island is relatively remote with restricted overnight transport to the mainland and disproportionately long travel times during the day. In many cases “local Services” inevitably means “services on the Isle of Wight” because of these commuting difficulties;
- the wish to ensure a service that is sensitive to the needs of the Isle of Wight population;
- the gains from close integration with urgent care and other health and social care services on the Island;
- the well developed proposals with strong local support to bring health and social care services together in a new organisation.

1.5 It is recognised that the resulting Ambulance Service will be much smaller than in any other part of the country and it would be performance managed and ‘benchmarked’ to ensure it remains fit for purpose.

1.6 Under this proposal the Isle of Wight would continue working with neighbouring NHS Ambulance Trusts to ensure the benefits of sharing best practice and

collaborating in areas such as emergency planning, audits, staff education and development and procurements are maintained and enhanced.

- 1.7 The alternative option would be for Ambulance Services on the Isle of Wight to be provided as part of the proposed NHS Ambulance Trust covering Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Hampshire.

## **2 CONSULTATION PROCESS**

- 2.1 These proposals are for organisational and managerial changes to the NHS Ambulance Trusts in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight and form part of the national proposals set out in the national consultation document "Configuration of NHS Ambulance Trusts in England". They need to be considered alongside proposals for Strategic Health Authorities and Primary Care Trusts which are being consulted upon separately but simultaneously to this consultation.

- 2.2 These proposals will not change the way clinical services are delivered although they are intended to improve the way those services are run.

- 2.3 In summary the proposals for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight are:

- that a new NHS Trust is created to provide an Ambulance Service across the Counties of Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Hampshire and Oxfordshire;

and

- that in view of the special circumstances of the Isle of Wight it is proposed to retain the management of the Ambulance Service on the Isle of Wight as part of the function of the proposed new organisation which would commission and manage National Health Services on the Isle of Wight.

- 2.4 The organisational proposals for the Isle of Wight would see the future dissolution of the Isle of Wight Healthcare NHS Trust, the current provider of the Ambulance Service. For legislative purposes, the new organisation will be a Primary Care Trust and will replace the current Isle of Wight Primary Care Trust and Isle of Wight Healthcare NHS Trust. Responsibility for making decisions on the dissolution of NHS Trusts rest with the Secretary of State and responsibility for consulting on this has been delegated through this process to the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Strategic Health Authority.



## Timetable for Local Consultation

2.5 The following sets out the timetable for consultation.

DATE	ACTIVITY
14 <sup>th</sup> December 2005	Three local consultations begin on the reconfiguration of Strategic Health Authorities, Primary Care Trusts and Ambulance Trusts.
22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2006	Consultation ends.
5 <sup>th</sup> April 2006	Submit findings from consultation on ambulance services to the Secretary of State for Health.

2.6 This is part of a wider consultation on Strategic Health Authority, Primary Care Trust and Ambulance Service configuration across the whole of England.

### Copies of the Consultation Document

2.7 Information about this consultation is being distributed widely, including to the following:

- Members of Parliament;
- Police and Fire Authorities;
- County, unitary and district local authorities;
- Health Overview and Scrutiny Committees;
- Patient and Public Involvement Forums;
- Primary Care Trusts and NHS Trusts in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight;
- Private health care providers in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight;
- Universities in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight;
- Unions and Professional Associations including Local Medical, Dental, Ophthalmic and Pharmaceutical Committees;
- Town and Parish Councils;
- Councils for Voluntary Service;
- NHS staff and Primary Care Practitioners in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight;
- Public libraries in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

2.8 Printed copies of this consultation document and a summary leaflet are available:

In writing from: Director of Corporate Affairs  
Hampshire and Isle of Wight Strategic Health Authority  
Oakley Road  
Southampton SO16 4GX

By e-mailing us: [consultation@hiowha.nhs.uk](mailto:consultation@hiowha.nhs.uk)

2.9 The consultation document is also available from our consultation website at [\*\*www.hiow.nhs.uk/cplnhs\*\*](http://www.hiow.nhs.uk/cplnhs)

### **Making Your Views Known**

2.10 Views and comments on these proposals should be sent:

In writing to: Sir Ian Carruthers OBE  
Chief Executive  
Hampshire and Isle of Wight Strategic Health Authority  
Oakley Road  
Southampton SO16 4GX

By e-mail to: [consultation@hiowha.nhs.uk](mailto:consultation@hiowha.nhs.uk)

By fax to: 023 8072 5587 marked "**CPLNHS consultation**"

2.11 We will also be organising local meetings to discuss these proposals. Details of these meetings will shortly be available from the above address and from our consultation website at [\*\*www.hiow.nhs.uk/cplnhs\*\*](http://www.hiow.nhs.uk/cplnhs). They will also be advertised in the local press.

2.12 We look forward to hearing from you and receiving your comments.