

EXTRACT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE CABINET MEETING HELD ON 16 DECEMBER 2003

392. **Key Decision - Use of Section 31 Health Act 1999 Flexibilities:**

The Head of Community Care Services introduced the report and advised Members that, following the Board meeting of the Primary Care Trust (PCT) earlier that day, he now wished to amend the recommendation set out at paragraph 2.1 of the report. He reported that the PCT Board had not agreed to the proposals within the report as the financial arrangements in the Section 31 proposals were based on spend level and, in view of the PCT's financial position, the Board had not felt that it could make a commitment above the current budget for next year. The Head of Community Care Services advised that he was therefore seeking an in principle decision in respect of recommendation 2.1.

Cabinet considered the option of not proceeding with the arrangements and the resulting implications. The Head of Community Care Services stated that he hoped to submit an update report to Members in the New Year following further detailed discussion with the PCT.

RESOLVED: (1) To agree, in principle, the use of Section 31 of the Health Act Flexibilities effective from April 2004 for the service areas set out in Section 6.1 of the report of the Executive Director (People First) subject to further negotiation with the Primary Care Trust;

(2) to agree, in principle, the service integration and management of the services set out in Section 6.2 of the report of the Executive Director (People First) by April 2005 at the earliest;

(3) that, subject to (1) above, the Joint Commissioning Partnership Board be established and suggested appointments to the JCPB be agreed;

(4) that a further report on the implementation of further Section 31 Flexibilities necessary to achieve the integration as outlined in Section 6.2 of the report of the Executive Director (People First) in 2005 be submitted to Cabinet.

Reason for Decision: To improve the delivery of Council and Primary Care Trust services to local residents through mutual cooperation and joint arrangements.