

Health Service Circular



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sets out a specific action on the part of the recipient with a deadline where appropriate

Shaping the Future NHS: Long-term Planning for Hospitals and Related Services - Consultation Document on the Findings of the National Beds Inquiry

For action by: Health Authorities (England) - Chief Executives
NHS Trusts - Chief Executives
Chief Executives of Primary Care Groups

For information to: Health Authorities (England)- Chairman
Local Authorities - County Councils Chief Executives
Local Authorities - London Borough Councils Chief Executives
Local Authorities - Metropolitan District Councils Chief Executives
Local Authorities - Shire Unitary Authorities Chief Executives
NHS Trusts - Chairman
Social Services Directors - England
Local Authorities - Non-Metropolitan Districts Chief Executives
Primary Care Groups - Chairs
Special Health Authorities (England) - Chairs
Community Health Councils, Chief Officers

Further details from:

National Beds Inquiry 0171 972 4861
Room 409,
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<http://www.doh.gov.uk/nationalbeds.htm>

Additional copies of this document can be obtained from:

Department of Health
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It is also available on the Department of Health web site at
<http://www.doh.gov.uk/coinh.htm>

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Shaping the Future NHS: Long-term Planning for Hospitals and Related Services – Consultation Document on the Findings of the National Beds Inquiry

Summary

This circular covers the consultation document on the findings of the National Beds Inquiry, including the supporting analysis.

Action

Chief Executives of Health Authorities, NHS Trusts and Primary Care Groups to take the lead locally to ensure that the findings are discussed widely to encourage contributions to the consultation exercise.

Please send responses by **15 May 2000** to the National Beds Inquiry, Room 409 Wellington House, 133-155 Waterloo Road, London, SE1 8UG, telephone 0171 972 4861, Fax 0171 972 4833 or via the Website above.

Background

Ministers established the National Beds Inquiry, chaired by the Chief Economic Advisor to the Department of Health, Clive Smee, to advise on how hospital beds and other health and social services should be planned over the next 10 – 20 years. The Inquiry has thrown up major issues about the future patterns of health and social services, particularly for older people.

The findings of the Inquiry are being published today for three months' consultation, with a closing date of 15 May.

NHS Executive Regional Offices and Social Care Regions will be arranging structured listening events for representatives from Health Authorities, NHS Trusts, Primary Care Groups and Social Services Departments and other local partners. Chief Executives may wish to use these as a vehicle for developing comments and to ensure that partner agencies have an opportunity to help shape the local response.

This circular has been issued by:

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