

**Cabinet Member Interview –  
Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle, Health & Adult Social Care and Susanna White,  
Chief Executive of NHS Southwark**

**To Councillor Dixon-Fyle:**

1. At the Council Assembly on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> July, in answer to a question about progress on the redevelopment of Dulwich Hospital, the cabinet member answered that she, Tessa Jowell and NHS Southwark were “dealing with this matter proactively”. She also said, “I intend to hold a series of meetings over the coming months....to see what leverage we can bring to bear....to ensure the site is developed to serve the local community’s health interests”.

At the Council Assembly on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2010, in answer to a detailed question asking the cabinet member to explain why essential services continue to be stripped away from Dulwich Hospital despite a promise in November 2009 that this was only temporary, she persisted in the mantra that she was, “working with the PCT to ensure the Dulwich Hospital site (and the lift) is brought back into use to assist in the medical well-being of local people”. There is nothing to show for all the cabinet member has stated.

Would the cabinet member please now set out in detail the outcome of all her proactive work, and the successful outcomes she has achieved to bring Dulwich Hospital back into full use, and to secure its development for the well-being of local people and the people of Southwark?

2. Does the cabinet member agree that the scrutiny and referral function of the current health scrutiny sub-committee should be subsumed within the health and wellbeing board (if boards are created)?
3. How best can we ensure that arrangements for scrutiny and referral maximise local resolution of disputes and minimise escalation to the national level?
4. What arrangements should Southwark Council put in place to ensure that there is effective scrutiny of the health and wellbeing board’s functions? To what extent should this be prescribed?
5. Since the cabinet member’s appointment, can she outline what specific changes and actions she has taken to continue to improve adult social care in Southwark, particularly around safeguarding and personalisation?
6. Given that most residential and nursing care is provided by external providers and at a time of budget savings, what strategy does the cabinet member have through commissioning to ensure the ongoing provision of local high quality safe residential and nursing homes, to minimise disruption to vulnerable adults and ensure excellent care?
7. The cabinet member for children’s services is currently leading on universal free school meals for every primary school child. What advice have the cabinet member for health & adult social care and her officers provided her with regarding the effect of free school meals on childhood obesity rates?

8. What is the cabinet member intending to do with Southwark's share of the extra £2 billion for social care as a result of the Comprehensive Spending Review and has she received any details about this money?'
9. What planning is taking place for the absorption of certain PCT functions within LBS, and are consultants being used to advise on this and if so at what cost?
10. Can the cabinet member outline what intermediate care is available in the borough, since the closure of the beds in Dulwich Community Hospital, and what she is doing to ensure this crucial service is re-provided?
11. What level of provision will those GPs who are taking on substance misuse clients be providing for education and vaccination for BBVs (blood borne viruses e.g. hep B)?
12. Can the cabinet member confirm how much Labour's pledge to half the price of meals on wheels will cost?
13. Can the cabinet member confirm whether she is considering raising eligibility criteria from substantial to critical?
14. Can the cabinet member explain how she intends to protect the services that are provided by the voluntary sector around health and adult care, particularly when many of these organisations provide preventative services that bring in additional match funding?
15. Can the cabinet member confirm what representations she has made to the new Coalition Government in regards to the flawed adult and children's social care funding formula that was introduced by the previous government, which fails to recognise the level of need in Southwark?
16. Can the cabinet member detail her involvement in helping Southwark Pensioners Centre secure a new premises in Southwark and what progress has been made?

**To Susanna White:**

1. How can the Chief Executive of NHS Southwark justify the certainty of making decisions about health care for the people of East Dulwich and Dulwich even more remote, and less responsive, and less transparent, by the irresponsible creation of the supra-galactic health bureaucracy called the "NHS South East London Sector"?
2. Where in the Establishment Agreement is there any reassurance for constituents, especially the elderly and the vulnerable, that their critical and

immediate clinical needs and concerns will be better dealt with by this ludicrous empire of health mismanagement?

3. Can the Chief Executive confirm what plans are in place to increase GP provision and other primary services in the north of the borough to meet the demands of new residents and future residents?
4. Can the Chief Executive confirm why none of the section 106 money that is ring fenced for health has been spent to date and what plans if any she has to spend this money in the future?
5. With the pending reorganisation of substance misuse services at Marina House and CDAT, what additions and changes to the service are planned, to ensure the reorganisation does not have a disproportionate effect on those with mental health issues?