



**Sir Steve Bullock**  
Mayor of Lewisham

Mayor's Office  
Civic Suite  
Lewisham Town Hall  
Catford, London SE6 4RU

29 February 2008

Dear resident,

## Have your say on the future of Lewisham Hospital

The NHS is currently consulting on changes to hospital services across South East London, including those at University Hospital Lewisham. The consultation is called "A Picture of Health". As Mayor of Lewisham I am writing to encourage you to give your views and to let you know the position taken by Lewisham Council.

On 23 January Lewisham Council discussed the proposals. I am not persuaded that any of the proposals as they stand will meet the NHS objectives of ensuring higher quality care and better local services. I believe that Lewisham residents, when choosing a hospital will identify more with Kings' and St Thomas', rather than the hospitals set out in the consultation.

The view taken was that the options in "A Picture of Health" would lead to a reduction of services in Lewisham. In particular, the borough could lose in-patient maternity services, the A&E department and see the excellent Children's Hospital within Lewisham closed. It was also noted that all of the proposals are reliant on a considerable increase in travel by patients and their families around South East London.

The consultation on "A Picture of Health" is open until 7 April 2008. You can find out more about the proposals, download the consultation form or complete the consultation online at a special website: [www.apictureofhealth.nhs.uk](http://www.apictureofhealth.nhs.uk). Alternatively you can call 0800 321 3579 free of charge and ask for more information and a copy of the consultation form.

This consultation is very important to the future of our local health services. I do hope you will make your views heard.

Yours faithfully,

**Sir Steve Bullock**  
Mayor of Lewisham