



*Local Government Association*

# LGA Health Commission

Niall Dickson

Chief Executive, King's Fund  
& Chair, Health Commission

promoting better local government

# Why a commission?



Local Government Association

- Long standing question over local accountability in health care services
- Acceptance across the political spectrum that local decision making needs to be more explicit and accountable
- As the NHS becomes more devolved the need to address local accountability becomes greater to ensure
  - improvement in nature and responsiveness of services

# The terms of reference

- The LGA has established a cross party Commission to examine accountability for health in the context of a new consensus in support of a more localist approach to public services.

# The terms of reference

The Commission will examine how to :

- Engage local people in decisions about allocation of health resources and about the delivery of services;
- Hold the healthcare commissioning and delivery system to account;

# Terms of reference

- Reconcile national funding with local accountability; and
- Consider where funding for both healthcare services and public health beyond the healthcare system, should sit.

- May take into account:
  - governance, accountability
  - strategic direction
  - regulation, inspection, scrutiny
  - service delivery, improvement
  - patient & user involvement

# Commissioners

- Chair: Niall Dickson
- Niall Dickson, King's Fund (Chair)
- Rt. Hon. Stephen Dorrell MP (Conservatives)
- Baroness Jay (Labour)
- Cllr. Sue Anderson (Liberal Democrat)
- Dr Richard Taylor MP (Independent)

# Commissioners

- Dame Jane Roberts, Councillors Commission
- Anita Marsland, Knowsley Council & PCT
- Jan Sobieraj, Sheffield PCT
- Pauline Brown, Homerton University Hospitals
- Prof. Gerry Stoker, University of Southampton
- Prof. Julian Le Grand, London School of Economics
- Dame Jo Williams, Mencap
- Dr Andrew Vallance - Owen, BUPA



- Written call for evidence
- Oral sessions with key groups
- Experts' session
- Public's views

## Three sections:

- What services are provided - who decides and how are they held to account? (Commissioners)
- How good are services: what are the existing and potential levers for accountability regarding responsiveness, quality and safety? (Providers)
- The public health: what is the range of services and how should the commissioners and providers of these services be held to account?

# Timescale



*Local Government Association*

- Very tight timetable
- Runs alongside Darzi review
- Meetings Jan – May 2008
- Final report:  
LGA Annual Conference, July 2008