

NHS



**NOT
FOR
SALE**

Keep our NHS Public

Save the NHS from profit making private companies

The government has set up a new body, the **Cooperation and Competition Panel** to accelerate the carve up the health service by intervening on behalf of aggrieved private-sector companies to force Primary Care Trusts to put services out to tender and prevent NHS trusts co-operating to provide a comprehensive service for local people.

We have a chance, through the "consultation" process (**which ends on 30 April**), of rejecting the Panel's plans, which would hold up the government's gallop towards NHS privatisation.

The Keep Our NHS Public campaign does not believe the consultation is a true consultation as it fails to ask stakeholders their opinion on the most important question of all.

That question is: whether Primary Care Trust services should be provided by private companies and voluntary sector bodies, or should most effectively in terms of cost and quality continue to be provided directly by the National Health Service.

Contact Keep Our NHS Public:
www.keepournhspublic.com

What you can do (by 30 April)

- **If you are a GP or a patient in a GP surgery**
- **As Keep Our NHS Public (KONP) members**
- **As Local Involvement Networks (LINKs) members**

The consultation documents are online at <http://ccpanel.org.uk/reports-and-guidance/guidance-documents.html> together with a form in which you can make your response.

In **Section 9: GENERAL QUESTIONS in the documents** you should respond to two questions in particular numbered 5 and 6 (feel free to respond to any of the others as well):

Question 5. Do the guidance documents have any significant omissions; if so what?

You have not given any evidence that commissioning out PCT services to the private and independent sectors is better than retaining them in the NHS in terms of either quality (the most important issue) or cost. You simply assert that competition is good and

must inevitably result in better services. Where is your evidence for this?

Question 6. Does the guidance cover all relevant matters, insofar as these can be identified; if not, what additional material should be included?

You must consult on whether the British public want to see NHS services privatised and sold off to big private health care companies which are primarily interested in profits for shareholders and not in the quality or cost-effectiveness of services.

You must provide evidence as to why these private profit-seeking companies should be seen as "world class", and what appropriate skills and knowledge they have to offer NHS organisations tasked with delivering a universal and comprehensive health care system

Send your response to the Cooperation & Competition Panel

Interim Guidelines Consultation, Cooperation and Competition Panel, 1 Horse Guards Road, London SW1A 2HQ UK or consultations@ccpanel.gsi.gov.uk

Tell the new "Cooperation & Competition Panel" the public rejects NHS privatisation