

Date: Wednesday 3 July 2002

Venue: Committee Rooms 3 & 4, National Assembly for Wales

Title: Child Surveillance and the draft report "Health for all Children" (Hall 4)

Purpose

1. To advise the Committee of the proposal to establish a working group to consider the recommendations of the 4th.edition of the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health guidance on child health surveillance and how they can be taken forward in Wales

Background

2. The Committee received conflicting advice about the recommendations on child surveillance in this draft report. Concern was expressed that changing the pattern of surveillance after the age of 4 months, from a system of routine visits to one negotiated with the family, might not be best for some families.

3. Guidelines have already been developed locally in some parts of Wales, taking into account the draft report, but also bearing in mind local experience.

Present Position

4. It is proposed that a working group should be set up, to include members from the Service and Welsh Assembly Government officials to develop advice on good practice in the Wales context, drawing on the Royal College guidance, local experience, information about social factors [including deprivation] and taking into account the changing arrangements for service delivery in Wales.

Action for the Committee

5. The Committee is invited to note the paper.

Jane Hutt
Minister for Health and Social Services