

Report on	Council responses to Southern and Northern Health & Social Services Trust 2017/18 Savings Proposals
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Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	X

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update members on the development of consultation responses on behalf of Mid Ulster District Council to the Proposed Savings Plans for 2017/18 put forward by the Southern and Northern Health Trusts .
2.0	Background
2.1	The Southern and Northern Health and Social Care Trusts are currently consulting on Savings Plans as part of the Department of Health's aim to save £70m before the end of the financial year 2017-18.
2.2.	It was agreed that members would be given an opportunity to reflect on the proposals put forward and present a structured response on behalf of Council .
3.0	Main Report
3.1	The proposed savings plans have emanated from the Department of Health's indication of financial pressures within the health service. Both the Southern and Northern Health and Social Care Trusts have developed and are consulting on proposed Savings Plans for 2017 / 2018.
3.2	On a review of the savings plans and consultation documentation the Northern Health and Social Care Trust is aiming to achieve a saving of £13 million, while the Southern Health and Social Care Trust is aiming to save £6.4 million over the period.
3.3	Examination of the proposed cost cutting exercises show that the Northern Health and Social Care Trust's cuts are likely to have an impact directly upon patients and services. Their proposals have been broken down as Savings of Low Impact (£6.320m) and those of Major and/or Controversial Impact (£6.680m). Whereas within the Southern Trust the Savings of Low Impact are identified as £6.325m and those identified as Major and/or Controversial Savings of Impact total £75k.
3.4	Each Health and Social Care Trust is carrying out a 6 week consultation from 24 August-5 October 2017. This reduced consultation period from the standard 12 week period has

3.5	<p>been rationalised on the basis that the proposed cuts are not being made on a permanent basis but only within year 2017-18 (the end of the financial year).</p> <p>Council had previously requested that Members be given an opportunity to meet with senior representatives of both the Northern Health & Social Care Trust and the Southern Health and Social Care Trusts. These meetings were scheduled for the morning of Wednesday 27th September in Cookstown and an opportunity should be taken to reflect on the matters discussed at same, to finalise the Council's response to both Proposed Savings Plans and the potential impact on Mid Ulster District.</p>
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<p><u>Financial & Human Resources Implications</u></p> <p>Financial: N/A</p> <p>Human: N/A</p>
4.2	<p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>N/A</p>
4.3	<p><u>Risk Management Implications</u></p> <p>N/A</p>
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	It is recommended that members reflect on the consultations and the out workings of the meetings with representatives of the Health & Social Services Trusts to assist in the finalisation of Councils response to the proposed savings plans.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Not applicable.