Discussions between the Shadow Executive and City Hospitals Sunderland are continuing. The Chief Executive has advised employees that until there is a full assessment of the implications of both the JE outcomes and the assimilation effect of terms and conditions, staff will not be transferred across to AfC.

Amicus workplace representatives/stewards are involved in a series of meetings on site supported by our Regional Officials. The need for collaborative work within the Trust is recognised by Amicus workplace representatives/stewards and officials. Our aim is to learn the lessons of all the testbed EI sites.

The Shadow Executive agreed on 17 June that from that date all job matching procedures and reviews will conform to tightened wording of the JE Handbook in all EI sites and will apply to practice matching. This will be sent out next week with a full explanation of the changes and implications.

City Hospitals Sunderland

(Joint statement by the Shadow Executive)

The Shadow Executive of the NHS Staff Council has discussed the overall outcome from implementation of the Agenda for Change pay system at City Hospitals Sunderland. It notes that this appears very different from the outcomes in the other Early Implementer sites so far, and is working with City Hospitals Sunderland to identify the causes of the difference and any action that may be necessary. The Shadow Executive will also review the lessons to be learned for national roll out.

The Shadow Executive emphasises that the whole point of Early Implementer sites is to identify and resolve problems before national roll-out. It is therefore grateful to management and staff colleagues at City Hospital Sunderland for the work they have done to help test implementation of the Agenda for Change system, and stresses that the fact that problems have been identified does not mean that the process has failed.

Statement Issued on 11 June 2004