

APPENDIX 3

Glossary of Terms

Acute	Describes a disease of rapid onset, severe symptoms, and brief duration. Can be used to describe any intense symptom, such as severe pain.
Admission (to hospital)	An attendance at hospital that entails the use of a hospital bed. Outpatient appointments and attendances at Accident and Emergency departments are not admissions.
Audit Commission	An organisation that appoints auditors to all Local Authorities and NHS bodies in England and Wales, and helps bring about improvements in economy, efficiency and effectiveness through value for money studies and the audit process.
Care order	A court order (as provided in Part IV of the Children Act 1989) directing that a child is in the compulsory care of a named local authority, and vesting shared parental responsibility in that authority.
Caries	Dental decay; normally requires filling.
CABG	Coronary Artery Bypass Graft. A surgical procedure that involves by passing a blocked artery using a blood vessel from elsewhere in the body.
Census	A Census of the whole population of the UK is taken every 10 years, the most recent being in 1991. Data from the 1991 Census are available at district, ward and small area (Enumeration district) level.
Child protection register	A central register held by each social services department which lists all the children in the area who are considered to be suffering from, or likely to suffer from, significant harm. An inter-agency child protection must be drawn up for each child who is registered.
Chronic	Describes a disease of long duration very slow changes. Such disease is often of gradual onset. The term does not imply anything about the severity of the disease.
Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)	COPD (ICD-9: 490-496) a chronic, slowly progressive disorder characterised by airflow obstruction.
Conceptions	A total of live births, stillbirths and abortions
Confidence Interval	A statistical tool for indicating the accuracy of an estimated figure. It can reasonably be assumed that the true value lies somewhere within the confidence interval. Throughout the report 95% confidence intervals are used, therefore there is a 5% chance that the true value lies outside the confidence interval. Estimates based on small number of cases are less accurate and will hence tend to have wide confidence intervals.
Coronary Heart Disease (CHD)	CHD (ICD-9: 410-414, ICD-10: I20-5) is a group of conditions associated with the stiffening and narrowing of arteries of the heart due to fatty deposits. The heart is denied blood and the results are chest pain (angina). Heart attack (acute myocardial infarction) or heart failure.
Demography	Description of a population's age, sex and geography.
Deprivation	A state of social, economic and environmental inequality. The term can be applied to individuals, families, social groups, communities or areas. Those experiencing deprivation are being excluded from the acceptable standards of community and economic life.
Emergency Medical Admissions	Episodes of hospital care which have happened at short notice because of clinical necessity.
Enumeration District (ED)	The administrative area of a census enumerator (data collector) during the 1991 census. It is the smallest level of aggregation of census data. EDs vary in size but average about 200 households or 500 people.
GCSE	General Certificate in Secondary Education undertaken mainly by pupils aged 15-16 years old. There are 8 pass grades ranging from A* to G. Five or more A*- C is the standard normally required to prepare pupils to study for GCE A/AS level examinations or the more advanced vocational courses.
GNVQ	General National Vocational Qualifications are designed to develop knowledge, skills and understanding in broad vocational areas like business, manufacturing and retail. There are two levels of GNVQ - Foundation level and Intermediate level - and each is awarded a grade of Pass, Merit or Distinction. Part One GNVQs are aimed at pupils of compulsory school age and are the same vocational standard as a full GNVQ but have half the content.

Health Action Zone (HAZ)	Partnerships of Local Authorities, Health Authorities and other organisations, established to pioneer creative approaches to modernising services and responding to social exclusion. The South Yorkshire Coalfields HAZ was one of the first 11 HAZs and officially began in April 1999.
Health Authority (HA)	The local administrative area of the NHS. Health Authorities are responsible for assessing the health needs of the local population, developing strategies to meet those needs, and developing and monitoring targets and standards.
Health Improvement Programme (HImpP)	A HImpP is a local health strategy lead by the Health Authority. It is intended to improve health and health care in partnership with NHS Trusts, Primary Care Groups/Trusts and Local Authorities.
High Level Performance Indicators	See NHS Performance Indicators
Hospital Activity	Measurement of the number of patients treated at a hospital. Standard units of measurement are admissions and FCEs.
ICD	'International Classification of Diseases', a system which categorises ill-health, mortality and its causes. Mortality data are coded according to the ninth revision (ICD-9). Hospital activity has been coded using the tenth revision (ICD-10) since April 1995.
Immunisation	Protection of individuals from communicable disease by administration of a substance (also vaccination).
Intermediate care	Services to promote independence and improve quality of care for older people. These include rapid response teams, integrated home care teams and intensive rehabilitation services.
Key stage 2 (Educational tests)	National curriculum test for pupils aged 11 years at state schools in England.
List (practice)	The patients registered with a GP or dentist.
Looked after children	A looked-after child is someone who is either: provided with accommodation, arranged by a local authority social services department, for a continuous period of more than 24 hours; or: someone subject to a relevant court order under part IV or V of the Children Act 1989. This included children subject to accommodation under agreed series of short-term placements (often called 'short breaks', 'family link placements' or 'respite care'). Most looked-after children cease to be looked after on reaching their 18 th birthday. A very small number may continue to be looked after up to their 21 st birthday under section 20(5) of the Children Act.
Morbidity	The state of being diseased.
Mortality	Number of deaths in a given period excluding stillbirths.
National Service Frameworks (NSFs)	These set out plans, based on evidence of what works best, to ensure that in future these standards of care are available to everyone. Therefore people in every part of the country can get the top quality and treatment and care they need, whether from their local doctors or community services, local district general hospitals or specialist regional centres.
NHS Performance Indicators	Performance indicators are part of the NHS performance assessment framework (PAF). The framework is intended to improve the quality of services across six areas: health improvement, fair access, the effective delivery of appropriate healthcare, efficiency, patient/carer experience, and health outcomes of NHS care. The performance indicators are a set of 49 indicators covering all six areas of the PAF.
NHS Plan	A national strategy published in 2000, which intends to increase investment and refocus services around the needs of patients.
Nursing Homes	Look after more heavily dependant people who may be immobile or even unable to eat without help. They often provide convalescent care after hospital treatment. They are staffed by a mix of qualified nurses and nursing auxiliaries. They are registered with, and regularly inspected by the local Health Authority.
Orthodontics	The branch of dentistry concerned with the growth and development of the face and jaws and the treatment of irregularities of the teeth.
Pathology Laboratory	A hospital department that takes samples from patients to assist diagnosis and prognosis of disease.

Placements	A formal decision made regarding where, and with whom, a child should live.
PM10	Particulate matter (PM) with a mass aerodynamic diameter less than 10 micrometers (μm) - PM10. In other words, these are the (smaller) particles that make it through some type of pre-separator (removes large particles) and are collected on a sampling medium (filter).
Prediction Interval	A confidence interval for a predicted rate.
Prevalence	The number of persons with a disease or an attribute at a specified point in time (strictly 'point prevalence'). Prevalence rate is the number as a proportion of the total population.
Primary Care Group/Trust	Primary Care Groups are responsible for promoting health, commissioning services and developing primary care and community care services with ultimate accountability remaining with the Health Authority. Primary Care Trusts are intended to consolidate the work of PCGs, and accountability will pass from the HA to the PCTs. Doncaster Central has been a PCT since October 2000.
PTCA	Percutaneous Transluminal Coronary Angioplasty. A surgical procedure that involves passing an instrument in a thin wire along the walls of arteries to widen them.
Registration (cancer)	Cancer registration is the systematic collection of data on the occurrence and characteristics of malignant neoplasms and non-malignant neoplasms
Residential homes	These are for people needing assistance with daily living tasks: washing, dressing, bathing, mobility etc. They provide personal care in much the same way as a caring relative would at home and are inspected by Social Services. The Doctor and District Nurse would continue to provide health care for residents in the same way as if they were in their own home.
Respiratory disease	Diseases of the respiratory system. This includes the following conditions: pneumonia, influenza, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, emphysema, bronchitis and asthma.
Revascularisation	A collective term for surgical treatments that improve the flow of blood to the heart. CABGs and PTCAs are examples of this.
Saving lives: Our Healthier Nation	A national policy to promote public health in England. The aims of the policy are to: improve the health of the population as a whole, and to narrow the health gap by improving the health of the worst off in particular. The four main targets are circulatory disease (coronary heart disease and stroke), cancer, mental health, and accidents.
Screening programmes	The process of investigation of a population to identify the existence of a disease. Screening tests sort out those apparently well persons who probably have a disease from those who probably do not. Positive tests are usually followed up with a diagnostic investigation to establish whether or not the person really does have the disease.
South Yorkshire Coalfields	The area of south Yorkshire covered by Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham Health and Local Authorities.
Suicide	Intentional self killing (ICD-9: E950-9, E980-9 (excluding E988.8)). For comparative purposes deaths from 'suicide' included deaths from injuries undetermined whether accidentally or purposely inflicted.
Tamoxifen	Tamoxifen has been used for more than 20 years to treat patients with advanced breast cancer. It has recently been found to reduce the incidence of breast cancer in women at high risk of developing this disease.
TEOM	Tapered Element Oscillating Microbalance: a device that measures levels of PM10 particulates in the air.
Top level indicators	Data that enables individuals to assess the overall performance of an organisation, programme or project.
Townsend Score	A measure of material and social deprivation. The score is calculated using the following data from the 1991 census: unemployment, housing tenure, overcrowding and car ownership.
Trent Regional Office	The Department of Health has a number of regionally based offices, which support and monitor the health communities in an area. Trent RO covers the HAs of South Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire.
Vaccination	See Immunisation.