EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

This Order is the third commencement order made by the Secretary of State under the National Health Service Reform and Health Care Professions Act 2002 ("the Act"). One order has also been made by the National Assembly for Wales.

Article 2 brings into force on 1st January 2003:

- (a) section 20 of and Schedule 6 to the Act which are concerned with the establishment for England of the Commission for Patient and Public Involvement in Health;
- (b) section 21 of the Act which extends the regulation-making power in respect of overview and scrutiny committees contained in section 7 of the Health and Social Care Act 2001;
- (c) an amendment to section 29 of the National Health Service Act 1977 (arrangements and regulations for general medical services) to change the reference to interim suspension of a medical practitioner under the Medical Act 1983; and
- (d) repeals of three pre-consolidation amendments in Schedule 2 to the National Health Service (Primary Care) Act 1997.