# From the executive of the Chaplaincy Leadership Forum:

2 April 2015

The executive members of the CLF met for 24 hours in March to discuss the strategic priorities for chaplaincy in England in the light of the 2015 *Guidelines*.

A strategy paper arising from that meeting has been shared with the full CLF and is now being disseminated more widely. Please find a copy accompanying this letter.

The purpose of the strategy paper is to promote a wider discussion of how chaplaincy should develop over the next 5 years. At a full meeting of the CLF, at which this draft paper was presented, the CLF affirmed that it is important that a shared conversation about health care chaplaincy should lead to a vision for the service which can be supported by as wide a constituency as possible. We are a small professional grouping and achieving clarity about our work and priorities is likely to make a big difference to the future of health care chaplaincy.

The executive of the CLF anticipates that the discussions which take place may well lead to significant changes in the strategy. The paper is offered as a basis for conversation, not as a fait accompli. Please disseminate this as you think fit, including to patient forums and user groups in a position to engage with this agenda.

We appreciate that there are many voices within health care chaplaincy and hope that those receiving this letter will be willing to respond constructively to the idea of having a shared strategy.

Closing date for consultation responses: 30 June 2015.

Responses should be sent to: chaplaincy.guidelines@nhs.net