

● Private, profit-seeking companies are being encouraged by ministers to bid for contracts to run GP surgeries in England: this has already happened in Derby, and in Camden and Tower Hamlets in London – despite local opposition.

● GPs have always had their own contracts with the NHS: they are part of it, and know their patients, their area, and their community.

● But if private companies take over, the GPs they employ will be under contract to **them**. Many will be on short-term contracts, making them less likely to feel a commitment to their patients or their neighbourhood.

● Turnover of staff will increase, and GPs may be replaced by nurses, or by less qualified doctors, to save money – and maximise profits for shareholders.

● Commercialisation of GP services could stop doctors providing certain services: you may wind up having to **pay** for services you currently get free from your GP.

● Profit-seeking companies will want to concentrate services in fewer, bigger centres: this could force you to travel further for health care – and mean that GP services, like NHS dentistry, become even harder to access.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

● Join Keep Our NHS Public – www.keepournhspublic.com

● Sign and forward this postcard to your MP

Dear

I am opposed to the privatisation of NHS clinical care, and to bringing in commercial companies to deliver family doctor services

Name (signed)

Address



To

..... MP

House of Commons

London

SW1A 0AA