**Chapter 15 Health policy – answers**

Self assessment

Question 1 of 3

Answer B – Economic. Although clearly the economic situation would have an impact on the formation of national policy, it may be seen as a subset of Leichter's situational context rather than a context in its own right

Question 2 of 3 Answer C Question 3 of 3 Answer D

Short answer questions

Question 1 of 3

A common sense approach would equate public policy with the formal decisions or explicit proposals of governments or public agencies. In practice, the process of policy making is subtler and more complex. Policy may emerge from a series of apparently unrelated decisions and governments or public agencies do not control the outcomes of intended policies with any great certainty. In fact, government policy may be as much about what they choose not to do as about what they choose to do.

Question 2 of 3 For

Increases consumer sovereignty Increases competition to improve quality Increases value for money

Against

Cost pressures may drive down quality Increased bureaucracy reduces efficiency

Increased competition reduces the drivers for integrated services

Asymmetry of information – consumers are ill informed to make effective choices Question 3 of 3

The high level outcomes for public health are:

* Increased healthy life expectancy
* Reduced differences in life expectancy and healthy life expectancy between communities