

HEALTH SCRUTINY PANEL

A meeting of the Health Scrutiny Panel was held on 22 July 2005.

PRESENT: Councillor Dryden (Chair), Councillors Mrs H Pearson and K Walker.

OFFICIALS: C Arbuthnot, J Bennington, P Dyson, I Nicholls and J Ord.

PRESENT BY INVITATION: Annette Hurndell, Divisional Manager (Medicines), South Tees Hospitals NHS Trust.

****APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were submitted on behalf of Councillors Lancaster, Regan and Mawston.

**** DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were made at this point of the meeting.

**** MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Health Scrutiny Panel held on 8 June 2005 were submitted and approved.

EMERGENCY ADMISSIONS REVIEW - SOUTH TEES HOSPITALS NHS TRUST- DRAFT FINAL REPORT

The Panel considered the draft final report on the Emergency Admissions into James Cook University Hospital (JCUH) focussing on the conclusions and recommendations contained therein and suggested the following amendments and inclusion of the following:-

- i) reference to be made to the findings by a number of Panel Members following a visit to the Carter Bequest Community Hospital and the Intermediate Care Centre and comments raised regarding the overall complaints procedures;
- ii) that the report includes a summary and glossary;
- iii) that paragraph 26 be amended to reflect that whilst the statements made were generally the case in respect of general medicine the specialists readmission rates were currently higher than the benchmark (CHKS) which had been set taking into account a number of hospitals of similar size to JCUH;
- iv) that reference be made to the investigation to be undertaken by the Trust's Clinical Governance Committee of the reasons for the slight increase in re-admissions as indicated in iii) above;
- v) that 'there is a great social care need in Middlesbrough and' be deleted in respect of paragraph 41;
- vi) that the action taken by the Trust in response to concerns raised at the meeting of the Panel held on 8 June 2005 be acknowledged and details be provided on the pilot of a leaflet to be given to all patients and/or carers on discharge which included information on contact numbers; would be made available in larger format and other languages;
- vii) that the second sentence in respect of recommendation (a) be deleted;
- viii) that the systems referred to in respect of recommendations (d) and (e) be part of an open and transparent process and details given of the action taken;
- ix) that in respect of recommendation (g) 'as soon as circumstances allow' be substituted for 'as soon as possible';

- x) that the list of acknowledgements includes a reference to the relevant staff following the visit by the Panel to the A & E Unit at JCUH.

AGREED as follows:-

1. That the draft final report on the Emergency Admissions into James Cook University Hospital Review be approved subject to the amendments outlined above.
2. That a copy of the report by the Clinical Governance Committee of the South Tees Hospitals NHS Trust regarding re-admission rates be provided to the Panel.
3. That in order to assist in directing any future scrutiny work the Panel receives a copy of the South Tees Hospitals NHS Trusts' quarterly complaints report.
4. That the final report be presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Board scheduled for 6 September 2005.

TOBACCO CONTROL SCRUTINY REVIEW – DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Panel considered the draft terms of reference for the review into Tobacco Control in enclosed public places in Middlesbrough as outlined in the report of the Scrutiny Support Officer.

In terms of compiling the evidence, reference was made to potential witnesses including the Mayor, Executive Members, Middlesbrough PCT, Chamber of Commerce, Local Licensees Association, Forest, Ash, University of Teesside, University of Durham and North East Public Health Observatory.

AGREED as follows:-

1. That the terms of reference for the review into Tobacco Control in enclosed public places in Middlesbrough be as follows:-
 - a) To take evidence on the health impacts of passive smoking.
 - b) To establish the views of the local population in relation to tobacco control in enclosed public places.
 - c) To investigate the economic impact on Middlesbrough's businesses of tobacco control measures.
 - d) To investigate the views of interest groups as to the impacts of tobacco control.
 - e) To consider any lessons from elsewhere in the UK where Tobacco control has been implemented.
2. That the proposed list of potential witnesses for the review be approved subject to the addition of the Youth Service and Schools.
3. That depending upon availability The Mayor and a representative of Middlesbrough PCT be invited to the first and second meeting of the review respectively.

**** OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD UPDATE**

In a report of the Chair of the Health Scrutiny Panel, Members were advised of the key matters considered and action taken arising from the meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Board held on 14 June and 12 July 2005.

NOTED