

HEALTH SCRUTINY PANEL

29 MAY 2008

**HEALTHCARE ASSOCIATED INFECTIONS: AN UPDATE FROM
SOUTH TEES HOSPITALS NHS TRUST**

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To introduce representatives from the South Tees Hospitals NHS Trust, in attendance to provide an update on Healthcare Associated Infections (HCAIs).

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. That Members of the Health Scrutiny Panel note the content of the briefing from the South Tees Hospitals NHS Trust, ahead of asking any questions felt appropriate.

CONSIDERATION OF REPORT

3. During the 2006/7 municipal year, the Health Scrutiny Panel conducted a review into HCAIs, the impact they have on local health services and how they are being tackled. That investigation produced a Final Report, the Executive Summary of which is attached to this introductory report.
4. As part of that Final Report, the Health Scrutiny Panel asked for periodic updates on progress at James Cook University Hospital in tackling HCAIs.
5. The Panel last received an update on 30 October 2007 (minutes attached), covering such matters as the incidence of HCAIs at James Cook University Hospital (JCUH) and what steps are being taken to combat the matter. The Panel agreed with the South Tees Trust that another update would be provided in a further six months or so.
6. It is to this end that representatives of the South Tees Hospitals NHS Trust will be in attendance at today's meeting to provide an update. Members of the Health Scrutiny Panel may wish to focus specifically on issues such as present rates for HCAIs against targets, how they compare with comparable

facilities and the actions/ campaigns that the Trust is currently engaged in to further reduce incidences. Further, Members may wish to enquire how the incidence of HCAs influences the Trust's Foundation Trust status application.

7. It is anticipated that the South Tees Trust will make a presentation initially, ahead of a wider debate.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

8. Please see attached:

- 8.1 An Executive Summary of the Health Scrutiny Panel's Final Report into Healthcare Associated Infections is appended to this covering report, marked as appendix 1.

- 8.2 A copy of the minutes of the Health Scrutiny Panel on 30 October 2008 is attached as Appendix 2.

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