

HEALTH SCRUTINY PANEL

15 JANUARY 2009

**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.
3. It is also suggested that Members give consideration to the preparation of a paper, outlining the Panel's thoughts on progress, since the completion of the original scrutiny review.

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 29 May 2008 (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 HCAs against targets, how they compare with comparable facilities and the actions/ campaigns that the Trust is currently engaged in to further reduce incidences.
7. It is anticipated that the South Tees Trust will make a presentation initially, ahead of a wider debate.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

8. Please find attached a copy of the Executive Summary of the Panel's original final report (Appendix 1) and the relevant extracts from the minutes of the Panel meeting on 29 May 2008(Appendix 2), where the last update was received.

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