

HEALTH SCRUTINY PANEL

10 SEPTEMBER 2009

PATIENT TRANSPORT SERVICES – AN UPDATE

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To introduce a paper from the North East Ambulance Service (NEAS), providing an update on progress in the development of Patient Transport Services.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. That the Panel notes the contents of the progress report and considers what action it would like to take following receipt of the update.

CONSIDERATION OF REPORT

3. Members of the Panel will recall that in 2007/8 municipal year, the Panel conducted a study of Patient Transport Services from James Cook University Hospital. The study focussed on people attending outpatient appointments and those requiring transport following discharge.
4. As part of the Review's conclusions, the Panel requested regular updates on the progress of development to Patient Transport Services. The Panel last received an update 26 February 2009. The most recent update has been received from NEAS and is appended to this brief covering report at Appendix 1.
5. It is expected that a NEAS representative will take the Panel through the salient points of the update, ahead of answering any questions that the Panel has. Depending upon the discussion at today's meeting, the Panel may wish to make representations to NEAS. The Panel is asked to bear in mind that the next update is currently scheduled for March 2010.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

6. Please see:

- Appendix 1 – An update paper from NEAS on Patient Transport Services
- Appendix 2 – Minutes of the Health Scrutiny Panel on 26 February 2009, when PTS was last discussed.

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