

HEALTH SCRUTINY PANEL

5 JANUARY 2010

**MIDDLESBROUGH & REDCAR AND CLEVELAND COMMUNITY
SERVICES**

MOVING TOWARDS NHS TRUST STATUS

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To introduce the above topic to the Panel and seek the Panel's views for submission to an application process for Middlesbrough and Redcar & Cleveland Community Services to become a NHS Trust.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. That the Panel notes the content outlined in this report.
3. That the Panel considers what views it would like to put forward in a letter to Middlesbrough and Redcar & Cleveland Community Services.

CONSIDERATION OF REPORT

4. Panel Members will be aware that until recently, PCTs provided community services, such as Care at Home and Diagnostics. The section of the PCT which did this is referred to as a 'Provider Arm'. As a result of national policy, PCTs have been instructed to divest themselves from their service provider arms, with those provider arms becoming 'arms length organisations'.
5. Following a period of autonomous operation as a provider of community services, Middlesbrough and Redcar & Cleveland Community Services has now been invited to apply to become a full NHS Trust. As part of that process, Middlesbrough and Redcar & Cleveland Community Services are required to contact local Stakeholders and seek letters of support for the application to become a NHS Trust.

6. The Panel is invited to consider whether it would like to prepare and send a letter of support to Middlesbrough and Redcar & Cleveland Community Services, whilst it goes through the process of applying to become a NHS Trust.
7. If the Panel would like to send a letter of support to Middlesbrough and Redcar & Cleveland Community Services, the Panel is invited to express any comments it would like included in that letter. The letter could then be drafted in consultation with the Chair, before being sent and included in the application process to the Department of Health.
8. It is anticipated that there will be representatives from Middlesbrough and Redcar & Cleveland Community Services in attendance at today's meeting to answer any questions that the Panel has.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

9. NHS Operating Framework 2008/9 & *Transforming Community Services*, Department of Health, (January 2009) are major policy documents on this topic.

Contact Officer:

Jon Ord - Scrutiny Support Officer
Telephone: 01642 729706 (direct line)
Email: jon_ord@middlesbrough.gov.uk