

HEALTH SCRUTINY PANEL

13 APRIL 2010

INFORMATION UPDATES FOR THE HEALTH SCRUTINY PANEL

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To present two information updates to the Health Scrutiny Panel regarding services for carers and the measuring of performance at James Cook University Hospital.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. That the Panel notes the information updates presented today and considers whether it would like to take any further action.

CONSIDERATION OF REPORT

3. The purpose of this report is to bring to the Panel's attention, two issues which the Panel secretariat has pursued with the local NHS recently, at the request of the Chair.
4. Firstly, Panel Members may have seen recent publicity around services for carers and associated respite funding (Please see Appendix 1). At the request of the Chair, Panel support staff contacted NHS Middlesbrough to make enquiries regarding the local picture for carers services and respite funding. The response from NHS Middlesbrough is attached at Appendix 2. Panel Members are asked to consider whether the information contained at Appendix 2 is sufficient, or whether further information/investigation is requested.
5. Secondly, Panel Members may have seen the recent BBC programme entitled 'Trust us, We're an NHS Hospital' (Please see associated news story at Appendix 3). The Programme centred on the topic of the performance regime within the NHS and how NHS organisations report their performance. At the request of the Chair, a letter was sent to the South Tees Hospitals NHS

Foundation Trust, asking for comments on the issues raised in the documentary. A letter has been received outlining the South Tees Trust's comments and is attached for the Panel's attention. The Panel is asked to consider whether it is happy to note the attached information, or whether it would like to consider the topic in more detail.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

6. Please see attached Appendices.

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