

AGENDA ITEM:

**HEALTH SCRUTINY PANEL**

**3 JUNE 2010**

**END OF LIFE CARE REVIEW  
AN INTRODUCTION**

**PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1. To introduce the topic of End of Life Care as the Panel's next area of study.
2. To introduce NHS representatives to the Panel, in attendance to provide an initial briefing around the topic of End of Life Care and assist the Panel in planning the study.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

3. That the Panel notes the information provided today by the speakers.
4. That the Panel considers how it would like to advance the study of End of Life Care.

**CONSIDERATION OF REPORT**

5. The Health Scrutiny Panel will recall at previous meetings, it has expressed a strong interest in considering the topic of End of Life Care and how End of Life Care is currently provided in Middlesbrough.
6. The Panel agreed that as a first step, it would welcome an initial briefing on the topic to cover some introductory information. This would be information such as recent developments in End of Life Care, regional developments around the End of Life Care Strategy and the developments required to ensure End of Life Care plays a bigger role in healthcare and has greater thought given to it.
7. To fulfill that function, the Panel will today hear from Professor Edwin Pugh<sup>1</sup>. Professor Pugh is the North East's regional clinical lead in the End of Life Care Strategy.

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<sup>1</sup> Edwin Pugh is a Consultant in Palliative Medicine based at North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust, providing help to patients and their families in the hospital and community.

8. In line with the Panel's request, Professor Pugh has been asked to speak around the following themes:
  - 8.1 The apparent relatively recent emergence of End of Life Care and its development into a significant area of clinical endeavour
  - 8.2 The role of regional clinical lead for End of Life Care and what that means
  - 8.3 The impact of the regional work on End of Life Care
  - 8.4 Challenges facing local health and social care systems pertaining to End of Life Care
  - 8.5 The questions that the Health Scrutiny Panel should be asking of local organisations, when considering End of Life Care
9. Following consideration of Professor Pugh's presentation and any associated debate, the Panel is asked to consider the steps it would like to take next. It could be that the Panel would like to hear from Health & Social Care Commissioners about the current spend on End of Life Care, where that money is spent and the level of intelligence that is currently available about local need and capacity for End of Life Care.
10. In addition, the Panel will no doubt gather a great deal of information at the meeting today. It is suggested that terms of reference be presented to the next Panel meeting, to govern the End of Life Care Review.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

11. No background papers were used in the production of this paper.

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Professor Pugh is Chairman of the Regional Clinical Group for end of life care and the Regional Public Health Group for 'A Good Death'. Information from [http://www.tees.ac.uk/sections/research/health\\_socialcare/members.cfm?pugh=true](http://www.tees.ac.uk/sections/research/health_socialcare/members.cfm?pugh=true)