

HEALTH SCRUTINY PANEL

23 JUNE 2010

END OF LIFE CARE – DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To provide the Panel with DRAFT of Terms of Reference to consider, to govern and direct the investigation into End of Life Care (EOLC).

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. That the Panel considers the DRAFT Terms of Reference and following any amendments felt necessary, adopts the terms of reference.

CONSIDERATION OF REPORT

3. As the Panel is aware, EOLC has been selected as a priority area for Health Scrutiny. As a first step, the Panel hosted a seminar on 3 June 2010, where it heard from a practising EOLC Consultant, Professor Edwin Pugh. The Panel heard about some of the history of EOLC, recent changes to life expectancy and causes of death, the challenges posed by an ageing population and what it all means for the future of EOLC.
4. At the conclusion of the seminar, the Panel charged its officer support with the responsibility of drafting terms of reference for the Panel to consider. In addition, the Panel requested that the DRAFT Terms of Reference be discussed with Professor Pugh, to ensure that no important aspects are missed and they are sufficiently broad to consider all of the important issues. The DRAFT Terms of Reference have been discussed with Professor Pugh and it is felt that the Terms of Reference include all of the important elements of EOLC that require attention. As such, the DRAFT Terms are outlined overleaf:
 - 4.1 To establish the current spend on End of Life Care in Middlesbrough and ascertain where those resources are spent

- 4.2 To establish the range, nature and location of services available for End of Life Care in Middlesbrough, the capacity of those services and the level of need placed against them
- 4.3 To consider the implications of implementing 'A Good Death', in the light of current service provision in End Of Life Care and the developments required to address future need
- 4.4 To consider what can be done by the wider community, other than the local NHS, to make a 'good death' the norm in Middlesbrough.
- 4.5 To consider what could be done to ensure carers received adequate support, when caring for someone at the End of Life.
- 4.6 To seek the views of the local health and social care economy on the current position of End of Life Care in Middlesbrough and the areas of development felt necessary.
5. The Panel is asked to read the above DRAFT Terms of Reference and consider whether they are suitable, make any amendments felt necessary, and adopt them to govern the review.
6. On behalf of the Panel, contact has already been made with a number of local NHS organisations, the Department of Social Care and local hospices. This has been to notify them of the Panel's area of work and to invite them to subsequent meetings of the Panel to provide information and speak with the Panel.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

7. No background papers were used in the production of this report.

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