

# MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL

## AGENDA ITEM 4

### HEALTH SCRUTINY PANEL

5 DECEMBER 2012

#### **MATERNITY AND PAEDIATRIC SERVICES IN NORTH YORKSHIRE – A BRIEFING ON IMPLICATIONS FOR MIDDLESBROUGH**

#### **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1. To introduce senior representatives from the South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, in attendance to speak about pressures facing Maternity & Paediatric Services based in North Yorkshire and possible implications for Middlesbrough.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

2. That the Panel considers the briefing relating to Maternity & Paediatric Services, the possible implications for Middlesbrough and considers how it would like to progress its consideration of the matter.

#### **Consideration**

3. The Panel will recall that there has been significant amount of local publicity in North Yorkshire about the pressures faced by Maternity & Paediatric Services, based at the Friarage Hospital in Northallerton, North Yorkshire. The publicity has centred on a debate about whether or not those services, in their current configuration, can continue to be provided in Northallerton, or whether their configuration should change, which would lead to more people potentially using James Cook University Hospital in Middlesbrough.
4. Whilst the future of the services is at first an issue for the communities of North Yorkshire, it is a topic of debate that Middlesbrough Council's Health Scrutiny function should be mindful of. Should a reconfiguration of services in North Yorkshire be implemented around Maternity & Paediatrics, it is logical to expect more people from North Yorkshire to travel to James Cook to access those type of services. As Maternity and Paediatric Services based at James Cook University Hospital are configured to serve the populations of Middlesbrough and Redcar & Cleveland, the Health Scrutiny Panel is duty bound to make enquiries as to whether those populations will still receive the same access to

services, should there be a greater number of patients presenting from North Yorkshire.

5. As such, senior representatives of the South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust will be in attendance at the meeting today to discuss the above issues and what it may mean for the Middlesbrough population. The South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust has supplied a briefing, which is duly attached. It is anticipated that Trust representatives will speak to the briefing paper, ahead of addressing questions from the Panel.
6. Following the discussion today, the Panel is asked to consider how it would like to progress its consideration of the matter. It may be that the Panel would like to keep a watching brief on the topic and invite further briefings, at appropriate junctures.

### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

7. Please see attached briefing paper from South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

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