

**HEALTH SCRUTINY PANEL**

**7 NOVEMBER 2013**

**INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW OF  
NEW SCRUTINY TOPIC  
MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES CAPACITY**

**PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1. To provide the scrutiny panel with background information in relation to the new scrutiny topic of Mental Health Services Capacity.

**BACKGROUND**

2. The Health Scrutiny Panel's work programme, agreed on 12 June 2013, includes an examination of Mental Health Services Capacity. The work programme states that the Health Scrutiny Panel wants to look at the service reconfiguration in Mental Health Services. There has been an historical move away from institutionalised care, reducing the stay of patients and preventing people from becoming patients in the first place and a move towards keeping people well in their community. The panel would like to establish if the policy has delivered better patient outcomes and efficiency savings, and whether this policy remains the best way forward for the challenges faced by Mental Health services today.
3. David Brown, the Director of Operations from the Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust (TEWV) will be attending the meeting to give the panel an overview of current Mental Health services.
4. A briefing paper from TEWV, which covers the following areas, is attached at Appendix 1.
  - What Mental Health services are provided now, compared with 10 years ago – for Adult and Elderly Care
  - The current view of bed situation in Middlesbrough and bed use characteristics
  - Details of how money has been invested into community services.

- Whether TEWV purchased beds and whether or not there is a reduced capacity and has it led to more pressures in the community?
  - Contribution by the local authority and what will happen in the future
  - Details of capacity in Middlesbrough, the effect of out of area placements on Middlesbrough's facilities.
  - Details of the support people receive when they are discharged.
5. In accordance with the usual procedure, the scrutiny panel is requested to consider the submitted information, or any other matters relevant to this topic, which have not yet been identified, and determine issues for examination during the course of the review.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

6. It is recommended that the scrutiny panel consider the issues highlighted in the presentation and determine how it wishes to proceed with its investigation into this topic including developing the terms of reference, agreeing appropriate witnesses and areas of investigation.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Report to Health Scrutiny Panel - 12 June 2013: 'Work Programme 2013/14.'

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