

MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL

Agenda Item 5

HEALTH SCRUTINY PANEL

16 DECEMBER 2014

HEALTH EDUCATION NORTH EAST

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To introduce the item on Health Education North East.

BACKGROUND

2. Panel members will recall that in August 2014 representatives from the South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust were invited to a meeting to provide an update on their current financial position.
3. In discussing the financial pressures it was highlighted by the Trust that one of their main areas of concern was the problem of recruitment of doctors and consultants. It was the Trust's experience that a higher number of senior staff and trainees went to Newcastle rather than Middlesbrough. It was agreed by the panel that Members would explore this area further and that representatives of both Health Education North East and the Trust should be invited to attend a meeting of the panel to discuss the issue and provide further information.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Health Education England

4. Health Education England is the national leadership organisation responsible for ensuring that education, training, and workforce development drives the highest quality public health and patient outcomes. Health Education North East aims to support Health Education England in delivering its objectives by ensuring local workforce requirements are met and that they ensure the supply of a competent, compassionate and caring workforce to provide excellent quality health and patient care.

In attendance

5. Namita Kuma, Regional Postgraduate Dean, Health Education North East has been invited to the meeting to outline the process that is used for the distribution of trainee doctors around the region. Including the details of which specialties are easy to fill and which aren't.

6. Health Education England has also undertaken surveys which describe why people prefer to be located in different areas. The results of these surveys will also be discussed at the meeting.
7. Dr Richard Bellamy, Chief of Service for Academic Directorate/Consultant in Infectious Diseases will be in attendance on behalf of the Trust.
8. Although not an exhaustive list of questions, Members may be interested in the following areas:
 - i. How does the number of trainees coming in to health professions in the North East compare nationally?
 - ii. What is the long term picture of supply and demand of senior medical staff?
 - iii. What is being done to recruit to the specialty posts that aren't easy to fill?
 - iv. How can the Trust ensure that it attracts the right calibre professional?

RECOMMENDATIONS

9. It is recommended that the panel note the information at today's meeting and agree if any further work be carried out in this area.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers were used in this report.

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