HEALTH SCRUTINY IN MIDDLESBROUGH

Health Scrutiny Panel – 30 June 2015 Elise Pout – Scrutiny Support Officer – Tel 728302 Underlying principles – national guidance for Health Scrutiny

- * The primary aim is to strengthen the voice of local people in the commissioning and delivery of health services.
- Health scrutiny has a strategic role in taking an overview of how well integration of health, public health and social care is working.
- Health scrutiny proactively seeks and challenges information about the performance of local health services and institutions.
- Health scrutiny functions must be discharged in an open and transparent way.

Legislation and guidance

- **Duty on local authorities** to have arrangements in place to be consulted by NHS on matters of *substantial* variation or development
 - No national definition of 'substantial'
 - Local determination
 - Take into account equity, access, impact of change
- Duty to carry out 'local resolution' before a referral is made
- **Duty** to establish joint committee when a substantial variation/development crosses boundaries
- **Duty** to respond to referrals from local Healthwatch

Powers and Duties: Local Authorities

- **Power** to delegate role to a committee
- **Power** to scrutinise health services (NHS funded)
- **Power** to require information including financial information
- **Power** to require attendance at meetings (NHS and independent providers funded by NHS)
- Power to make recommendations to NHS and independent providers
- **Power** to establish joint committees
- **Power** to refer issues to the Secretary of State on the basis of:
 - ✓ insufficient consultation
 - \checkmark not in the interests of health services

Duties on NHS bodies and 'all relevant health service providers'

- **Duty** to consult all relevant local authorities on issues of substantial variation or development
- Provide information about the timetable including when decisions will be made
- This duty is placed on the organisation instigating or leading the proposals for change.
- Consultation is additional to discussions with local authority services, e.g. Adult Social Care
- **Duty** to respond to requests for information
- **Duty** to respond to requests for attendance at meetings
- **Duty** to respond to recommendations
- The NHS is also subject to other duties to involve users of services and/or their representative in the commissioning and provision of services

How the NHS is funded





How people can influence their health and social care services

