

SOUTH TEES HEALTH SCRUTINY JOINT COMMITTEE

20 OCTOBER 2010

**TRANSFORMING COMMUNITY SERVICES – A BRIEFING ON
PROGRESS**

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To introduce representation from the local NHS, in attendance at the meeting today to provide an update on progress around the Transforming Community Services agenda.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. That the Joint Scrutiny Committee notes the content of the briefing at the meeting today and considers how it would like to remain involved in the development of Community Services.

CONSIDERATION OF REPORT

3. Members of the Joint Scrutiny Committee will be aware of recent moves by the NHS to separate the provider arms of PCTs, away from the Commissioning element, with the overall aim of PCTs becoming exclusively Commissioners.
4. As such, Middlesbrough and Redcar & Cleveland Community Services was developed and went through a period of autonomous operation as a provider of community services, as a precursor to moving towards creating a Community Foundation Trust, which would have been one of the first in the country.
5. Following a decision from the North East Strategic Health Authority, it was decided that a Community Foundation Trust may not be viable. As such, there was an option of MRCCS becoming a Social Enterprise or becoming 'hosted' by an existing Foundation Trust. A decision was taken that MRCCS should become 'hosted' by South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.

6. As such, the purpose of the meeting today is for the Joint Scrutiny Committee to hear the rationale for that decision and to hear early thoughts on how MRCCS' functions can be effectively synchronised with the existing areas of activity of the South Tees Hospitals Foundation Trust.
7. In addition, it also provides Elected Members with the opportunity to influence discussions about the future provision of Community Services and for the Joint Scrutiny Committee to consider the level of involvement it would like to have, as the topic develops.
8. It is anticipated that local NHS representatives will initially speak to the attached briefing paper (appendix 1), ahead of dealing with questions from Members.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

8. Please see the appended paper, supplied by the local NHS.

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