

SOUTH TEES HEALTH SCRUTINY JOINT COMMITTEE

A meeting of the South Tees Health Scrutiny Joint Committee was held on 20 October 2010.

PRESENT: Middlesbrough Council:
Councillors Dryden, Elder and P Rogers.

Redcar and Cleveland Council:
Councillors Halton (as substitute for Councillor Cooney), Hensby, Mrs Wall
and J Hannon (as substitute for Councillor Wilson).

OFFICERS: J Bennington and J Ord (Middlesbrough Council).

****PRESENT BY INVITATION:** Jill Moulton, Director of Planning, South Tees Hospitals NHS
Foundation Trust
Celia Weldon, Director of Corporate Development,
Transforming Community Services Project Director, NHS
Tees.

APPOINTMENTS – CHAIR – VICE CHAIR – SOUTH TEES HEALTH SCRUTINY JOINT COMMITTEE

In a report of the Scrutiny Support Officer details were given of the proposed protocol for the operation of the South Tees Health Scrutiny Joint Committee which suggested that the Chair and Vice Chair of the Joint Committee rotates between Middlesbrough Council, and Redcar and Cleveland Council on a yearly basis.

The suggested procedure for the appointment of Chair and Vice Chair was agreed and nominations were sought accordingly.

AGREED as follows: -

1. That following nominations Councillor Mrs Wall, (Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council) be appointed as Chair of the South Tees Health Scrutiny Joint Committee for the Municipal Year 2010/2011.
2. That following nominations Councillor Dryden, (Middlesbrough Council) be appointed as Vice-Chair of the South Tees Health Scrutiny Joint Committee for the Municipal Year 2010/2011.

N.B. Councillor Mrs Wall took the Chair at this point of the meeting.

****APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were submitted on behalf of Councillors Cole and Lancaster (Middlesbrough Council) and Councillors Cooney and Wilson (Redcar and Cleveland Council).

**** DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Name of Member	Type of Interest	Item / Nature of Interest
Councillor Mrs Wall	Personal/Non Prejudicial	Any matters arising relating to North East Ambulance Service NHS Trust - related to a number of employees.
Councillor Elder	Personal/Non Prejudicial	Agenda Item 5 – Transforming Community Services – Member of the South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

SOUTH TEES HEALTH SCRUTINY JOINT COMMITTEE - PROTOCOL

The Scrutiny Support Officer submitted a report the purpose of which was to introduce a draft protocol to govern the operation of the South Tees Health Scrutiny Joint Committee.

Reference was made to a number of local health services, such as District General Hospital Services and Community Services, that were provided on a 'south of Tees' basis. It was considered prudent therefore to establish a joint health scrutiny committee between Middlesbrough and, Redcar and Cleveland Council to scrutinise health service provision and deal with any statutory consultations affecting only the two local authorities' populations.

Members considered a draft protocol, which had been prepared to govern the operation of the Joint Committee. It was suggested that such a protocol could be reviewed on a yearly basis.

AGREED that the protocol for the operation of the South Tees Health Scrutiny Joint Committee as submitted be approved.

TRANSFORMING OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Scrutiny Support Officer submitted a report the purpose of which was to introduce representation from the local NHS to give an update on progress around the Transforming Community Services agenda.

The Joint Committee was reminded of the direction by the NHS to separate the provider arm of PCTs away from the Commissioning element with the overall aim of PCTs becoming exclusively Commissioners. As such, Middlesbrough and Redcar & Cleveland Community Services had been developed and went through a period of autonomous operation as a provider of community services as a precursor to moving towards creating a Foundation Trust. Following a decision from the North East Strategic Health Authority it had been decided that a community foundation trust might not be viable in this case. As such, there had been an option of MRCCS becoming a Social Enterprise or becoming 'hosted' by an existing Foundation Trust. It was confirmed that South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust had been approved as the preferred management partner to host MRCCS.

The Chair welcomed representatives from the local NHS who amplified the information previously circulated on the rationale of the decision and future operation. The Joint Committee was advised that the PCTs were working with South Tees on a Heads of Agreement, Business Transfer Agreement and Community Services Contract for services to commence 1 April 2011.

A project framework had been developed to separate MRCCS from the commissioning PCT the key aim of which was to set the arrangements for South Tees to host MRCCS and to ensure:

- that the separation takes place effectively with no disruption to services, patients and the public;
- that disruption to staff is minimised;
- that appropriate consultation, communication and process is followed;
- that the services for hosting are appropriately identified;
- that supporting corporate functions are appropriately identified for hosting or that alternative arrangements are agreed and formalised;
- that funding and associated revenues, estate and assets are identified and where appropriate hosted to the FT;
- that associated IM & T structures are identified and robust arrangements are made to host to the FT, information governance processes being followed;
- that arrangements ensure that clinical governance, risk management and other governance matters remain in place and effective prior to, during and after the hosting.

The Project structure was set out diagrammatically in Appendix 1 of the report. It was intended to have an overarching TCS Steering Group and a Project Oversight Group to oversee the project.

An assurance was given that both the PCTs and South Tees would assist one another to the best of their ability during the process and were committed to ensuring that their staff and people

using the services concerned would continue to be treated with dignity and respect throughout the process.

The project work would lead to a 'Due Diligence' document with evidence and supporting documentation. The Board of the South Tees and the PCTs aimed to approve the transaction in principle in December 2010 prior to a hosting date of 1 April 2011. Alongside and based on the due diligence evidence, the Business Transfer Agreement and the Community Services Contract would be developed.

In seeking assurances regarding staffing arrangements Members were advised of the commencement of the TUPE consultation and confirmation given that such considerations formed part of the 'due diligence' documentation.

In response to concerns expressed regarding vacant premises within the Eston Grange NHS Health Care Centre the Joint Committee was advised of an overall rationalisation of estates across the Tees with the aim of seeking full utilisation of new premises. It was also confirmed that it would be part of the overall discussions relating to the development of services in the community.

Members sought further clarification regarding the overall governance arrangements. It was acknowledged that the transformation of community services was a relatively small percentage of the Trust's activities. Transformation of Community Services was a new venture for the Trust and it was recognised that it would initially be a challenge but an assurance was given that every endeavour would be made to ensure that a high standard of organisation and delivery of service would be achieved. Following the initial set up, those responsible for the delivery of service would attend the respective Service Management Group. In terms of the overall management Members referred to the potential for individual representation on the proposed Board or Panel. It was confirmed that the composition of the Board would be the subject of discussion with PCT representatives. Members emphasised the importance that such arrangements provided for appropriate patient and public involvement.

AGREED as follows:-

1. That the representatives be thanked for the information provided which was noted.
2. That the proposed timetable as outlined in the report submitted be supported.
3. That a progress report be submitted in due course.