

**SOUTH TEES HEALTH SCRUTINY JOINT COMMITTEE**

**10 NOVEMBER 2011**

**THE FINANCIAL OUTLOOK FOR THE SOUTH TEES HEALTH  
ECONOMY – EVIDENCE FROM THE CLINICAL COMMISSIONING  
GROUPS**

**PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1. To introduce senior representation from the local NHS and the Clinical Commissioning Groups in South Tees, in attendance to provide their views on the financial outlook for the South of Tees health economy.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

2. That Members note the evidence submitted by the representatives of NHS Tees and the CCGs
3. That the Joint Scrutiny Committee considers how it would like to progress its consideration of the matter.

**CONSIDERATION OF REPORT**

4. The Joint Scrutiny Committee will recall that in previous meetings, it has heard from the Chief Executives of South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and NHS Tees on the financial outlook for the South of Tees health economy.
5. So far, the Joint Scrutiny Committee has heard that, as part of the national requirement for savings, the South of Tees health economy will be required to make significant savings against budgets, with will create a strain on local services.
6. At the last meeting, the Panel spoke in detail with the Chief Executive of NHS Tees, the Director of Finance of NHS Tees and the Chief Executive of South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. A detailed minute of that discussion,

the issues it brought up and the scale of the financial challenge faced, is attached elsewhere.

7. It was suggested to the Joint Scrutiny Committee that it may wish to seek the views of the emerging Clinical Commissioning Groups on how the financial issues facing the local health economy will be approached. To that end, senior representatives of the CCGs will be in attendance at the meeting today to provide their views. On the basis of previous debates the Joint Scrutiny Committee has had, the following questions have been drafted and put to the CCG representatives as a guide for the the discussion today.
  - How can the necessary savings be made?
  - How can commissioning decisions help make those savings?
  - What are the intentions/priorities of the CCGs in ensuring that quality of care remains the priority in a time of tightening budgets?
  - What is the outlook for the financial viability of the South of Tees Health Economy?
8. Following the discussion today, the Joint Scrutiny Committee is asked to consider how it would like to develop its consideration of this topic.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

9. Please see the minutes from the Joint Scrutiny Committee meeting on 3 October 2011, attached elsewhere on the agenda.

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