



Member Report

Update on Neonatal Services

Report to: Tees Valley Joint Health Scrutiny Committee

Report from: Democratic Services

Decision Type: Committee

HEADLINE POSITION

1. Summary of report

- 1.1 The Tees Valley Joint Health Scrutiny Committee is receiving a presentation from NHS England and the Northern Neonatal Network providing an update on neonatal services across the North East and North Cumbria, at the request of Members during the March 2026 meeting of the TVJHS.
- 1.2 The presentation outlines the implementation of the national Neonatal Critical Care Review, the proposed pathway changes, and the anticipated impact on patients and families, including those within the Tees Valley area.

2.0 Recommendation

- 2.1 It is recommended that Members note the information presented and consider the implications of the proposed pathway changes for local services and families.

3.0 Background

- 3.1 The Neonatal Critical Care Review was published in 2019 and aims to standardise neonatal services nationally, ensuring care is delivered in line with agreed service specifications. NHS England has instructed regional neonatal networks to implement changes to bring services into compliance with these standards.
- 3.2 The Northern Neonatal Network has undertaken a review of neonatal services across the region and is progressing implementation of pathway changes during summer 2026. Ongoing engagement with families and stakeholders is taking place as part of this process. Representatives from NHS England and the Northern Neonatal Network will be in attendance to present the update and respond to Members' questions

4.0 Background Papers

- 4.1 There are no background papers to this report.

5.0 Contact Officers

Sue Lightwing – Democratic Services Manager
Legal and Governance Services
Middlesbrough Council
Tel: 01642 729712
Email: Sue_lightwing@middlesbrough.gov.uk

Claire Jones – Democratic Services Officer
Legal and Governance Services
Middlesbrough Council
Tel: 01642 729112
Email: Claire_jones@middlesbrough.gov.uk