

12 September 2017

**Review of NHS Commissioned Learning Disability, Complex Needs and/or
Autism Respite Services**

Summary

Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees, and South Tees CCGs are consulting on potential changes to NHS commissioned Respite Services.

The CCGs have launched a ten week public consultation, and this report provides the information associated with the consultation and invites views on how to respond.

Recommendations

The Committee is requested to:

1. note the information relating to the consultation;
2. confirm whether any changes to this service would be considered to be a 'substantial variation' to local health services;
3. agree to receive a further update in due course, following consideration of feedback from the other affected Local Authorities.

Detail

1. The Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees, and South Tees CCGs have launched a ten week public consultation in relation to NHS commissioned Learning Disability, Complex Needs and/or Autism Respite Services
2. The consultation ends on 10 November, and is proposing changes to the way in which bed-based services are provided, the assessment processes, and development of other community based services.
3. Briefings have previously been considered by the Tees Valley Joint Health Scrutiny Committee.
4. Copies of the following are attached for Committee:

Appendix 1 - Stakeholder Briefing

Appendix 2 – Public Consultation Document

Appendix 3 – Easy Read Consultation Document

Appendix 4 – Poster

5. Under the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013, the NHS is required to consult local authority health scrutiny committees in relation to 'substantial variations' to local services.
6. Under the Regulations and associated statutory guidance¹, 'substantial variation' is not defined and is subject to local discretion, and the Committee is requested to put forward its view.
7. When a proposal affects more than one local authority area, each affected Authority needs to consider whether or not it is a 'substantial variation' for their area. All those considering it to be a substantial variation are required to form a Joint Committee in order to develop their consultation response.
8. Feedback has been sought from each of the three other affected authorities as to their position in this case. Dependent on the feedback, a consultation response will be either developed by the Committee, or on a joint basis.
9. In either case, in line with standard practice at Stockton for responding to substantial variations, Stockton's element of the consultation response would be prepared and considered by Council for agreement, prior to submission to the CCGs.

Contact Officer: Peter Mennear
Post: Scrutiny Officer
Tel.: 01642 528957
Email: peter.mennear@stockton.gov.uk