

Agenda Item

Adult Social Care and Health Select Committee

13th September 2022

REGIONAL HEALTH SCRUTINY UPDATE

Summary

The Committee is requested to consider an update on the work of the regional health committees.

Detail

Tees Valley Joint Health Scrutiny Committee

1. Darlington Borough Council are chairing and supporting this Committee during 2022-2023.
2. The last Committee meeting (and first of the current municipal year) was held on the 8th June 2022 at Roseberry Park Hospital, Middlesbrough. Following a tour of the Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust (TEWV) Secure Inpatient Service and the Adult Mental Health Urgent Care Service, the Committee considered the following agenda items:
 - Minutes of the meeting held on the 18th March 2022 (see **Appendix 1**)
 - Protocol for the Tees Valley Joint Health Scrutiny Committee
 - Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust – Quality Account 2021/2022
 - Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust – CQC Inspection Update (see **Appendix 2** for supplementary presentation)

Regarding the TEWV Quality Account presentation, Members were alarmed by the stated number of incidents of physical intervention / restraint per 1,000 occupied beds. The Committee also requested future benchmarking data in relation to this, as well as the Trust's other quality metrics.

A proposal on the Committee's work programme for the remainder of 2022-2023 was considered – this included a request from Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council (as endorsed by the SBC Executive Scrutiny Committee) for a Tees Valley-wide review of children's mental health. As the Committee Chair and Vice-Chair could not be appointed at this meeting, a decision on the 2022-2023 work programme was therefore deferred until the next Committee meeting.

3. The next Committee meeting is scheduled for the 23rd September 2022. The agenda is still to be confirmed but is anticipated to include a briefing paper in relation to changes to County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust (CDDFT) Paediatric Ophthalmology Services.

Sustainability and Transformation Plan Joint Health Scrutiny Committee

4. Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council (SBC) is represented on this Joint Committee that was originally set-up to consider the Better Health Programme proposals. This statutory Joint Committee was formed by all seven affected Authorities (including North Yorkshire) in order to consider and respond to the planned consultation. These plans were subsequently incorporated into the regional Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP).
5. Regional NHS planning was being taken forward within the context of the Integrated Care System (ICS). A response to the NHS England / Improvement Consultation on ICS Development (signed off by the Chair on behalf of the Joint Committee) was received on the 29th January 2021 – this was shared with the Council's Joint Committee representatives and the relevant Cabinet Members and Directors.
6. Further to the publication of the Government's Health and Care Bill White Paper, a meeting of the Joint Committee was intended – however, this could not be arranged prior to the purdah period ahead of the 2021 elections.
7. In March 2022, Durham County Council issued correspondence regarding this Joint Committee. Noting challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic and changes in leadership at Durham, it was intended to arrange a meeting soon after the current 2022 elections purdah period where Joint Committee representatives could meet with the North East & North Cumbria (NENC) Integrated Care Board (ICB) Chief Executive (designate), Samantha Allen, to receive information on progress ahead of ICSs assuming a statutory footing as of the 1st July 2022. However, no further details followed.
8. Friday 1st July 2022 marked the launch of ICSs as statutory bodies around the UK. As a result, Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) no longer exist. In related matters, the [Health and Care Act](#), which introduces significant reforms to the organisation and delivery of health and care services in England, received Royal Assent in April 2022.

The Centre for Governance and Scrutiny (CfGS) has provided a number of commentary pieces on these significant developments and their potential impact on health scrutiny, as well as contributing to key guidance – see below:

- CfGS: Health and Care Act: implementation update (Jun 22)
<https://www.cfgs.org.uk/health-and-care-act-implementation-update/>
- NHS England: Working in partnership with people and communities: statutory guidance
<https://www.england.nhs.uk/get-involved/involvementguidance/>
- DHSC: Health overview and scrutiny committee principles (Jul 22)
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-overview-and-scrutiny-committee-principles/health-overview-and-scrutiny-committee-principles>

North East Regional Health Scrutiny Committee

9. No meetings are currently scheduled.

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