

CABINET ITEM COVERING SHEET PROFORMA

AGENDA ITEM 3

REPORT TO CABINET

14 AUGUST 2008

**REPORT OF HEALTH
SELECT COMMITTEE**

CABINET DECISION

Adult Services & Health – Lead Cabinet Member – Councillor Ann McCoy

HEALTH SELECT COMMITTEE – MOMENTUM: PATHWAYS TO HEALTHCARE – CONSULTATION RESPONSE

1. Summary

Under Section 244 of the NHS Act 2006, local NHS bodies have a duty to consult local Overview and Scrutiny Committees on proposals for any substantial development of the health service or substantial variation in the provision in their areas.

Stockton Council's Health Select Committee, joined by councillors from North Yorkshire County Council explored the proposals of Momentum: Pathways to Healthcare Programme and formulated a view in relation to:

- a. The service model proposed for the provision of health services in, or as near to, home as possible, with only things which need to be done in hospital taking place there;
- b. The proposed locations of additional community facilities in Stockton Borough and what should be provided;
- c. The preferred location of a new hospital for Stockton, Hartlepool and parts of Sedgefield and Easington; and
- d. How best to bring in all the changes needed to build this new healthcare system.

2. Recommendations

That Cabinet consider and provide comments on the report detailing the view of Stockton-on-Tees Borough and North Yorkshire County Councils' Health Scrutiny forums contained in this joint report.

3. Reasons for the Recommendations/Decision(s)

An agreed response can be included in a joint report to be considered by a Section 244 Committee formed by councillors from Stockton-on-Tees Borough, North Yorkshire County, Hartlepool Borough and Durham County Councils before submission to the NHS Joint Committee on 2nd September 2008.

4. Members Interests

Members (including co-opted Members with voting rights) should consider whether they have a personal interest in the item as defined in the Council's code of conduct (**paragraph 8**) and, if so, declare the existence and nature of that interest in accordance with paragraph 9 of the code.

Where a Member regards him/herself as having a personal interest in the item, he/she must then consider whether that interest is one which a member of the public, with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the Member's judgement of the public interest (**paragraphs 10 and 11 of the code of conduct**).

A Member with a prejudicial interest in any matter must withdraw from the room where the meeting considering the business is being held -

- in a case where the Member is attending a meeting (including a meeting of a select committee) but only for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence, provided the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose whether under statutory right or otherwise, immediately after making representations, answering questions or giving evidence as the case may be;
- in any other case, whenever it becomes apparent that the business is being considered at the meeting;

and must not exercise executive functions in relation to the matter and not seek improperly to influence the decision about the matter (**paragraph 12 of the Code**).

Further to the above, it should be noted that any Member attending a meeting of Cabinet, Select Committee etc; whether or not they are a Member of the Cabinet or Select Committee concerned, must declare any personal interest which they have in the business being considered at the meeting (unless the interest arises solely from the Member's membership of, or position of control or management on any other body to which the Member was appointed or nominated by the Council, or on any other body exercising functions of a public nature, when the interest only needs to be declared if and when the Member speaks on the matter), and if their interest is prejudicial, they must also leave the meeting room, subject to and in accordance with the provisions referred to above.

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**REPORT OF HEALTH SELECT
COMMITTEE**

CABINET DECISION

Adult Services & Health – Lead Cabinet Member – Councillor Ann McCoy

**HEALTH SELECT COMMITTEE – MOMENTUM: PATHWAYS TO HEALTHCARE –
CONSULTATION RESPONSE.**

SUMMARY

1. Under Section 244 of the NHS Act 2006, local NHS bodies have a duty to consult local Overview and Scrutiny Committees on proposals for any substantial development of the health service or substantial variation in the provision in their areas.
2. Stockton Council's Health Select Committee, joined by councillors from North Yorkshire County Council explored the proposals of Momentum: Pathways to Healthcare Programme and formulated a view in relation to:
 - a) The service model proposed for the provision of health services in, or a near to, home as possible, with only things which need to be done in hospital taking place there;
 - b) The proposed locations of additional community facilities in Stockton Borough and what should be provided;
 - c) The preferred location of a new hospital for Stockton, Hartlepool and parts of Sedgfield and Easington; and
 - d) How best to bring in all the changes needed to build this new healthcare system.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That Cabinet consider and provide comments on the report detailing the view of Stockton-on-Tees Borough and North Yorkshire County Councils' Health Scrutiny forums contained in this joint report.

DETAIL

1. The Health Select Committee formed by Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council and North Yorkshire County Council have formulated a response to questions contained in the Momentum consultation questionnaire as its response under Section 244 of the NHS Act 2006. A similar process has been undertaken by Hartlepool Borough Council with representatives from Durham County Council.
2. The Committee does agree that health services should, whenever possible, be located in local community settings. Due to a lack of detailed information regarding the future arrangements of health and social care including mental health services and voluntary

sector delivery of services the Committee does however have reservations regarding the successful reorganisation of services to improve their integration.

3. The Committee could not come to any specific opinion regarding the importance of services as it deems all aspects being consulted upon as important and requires more definitive plans to be developed as to how services would be delivered. As a result the Committee takes a holding position whereby it wishes to be involved in future consultation regarding local health provision.
4. The Committee agrees, in principle, to the development of new health facilities throughout Stockton Borough (Stockton town centre, Billingham town centre and Yarm) each reflecting the local needs of the community in which they are placed subject to further consultation to determine what services will be located at the different facilities. It does however have reservations regarding the provision of healthcare at the Yarm health facility as recognition needs to be given to the fact that residents could continue to opt to use the James Cook Hospital due to its close proximity. This might be especially so if the NHS expect residents to use the new hospital north of the River Tees or do not provide the appropriate services in the planned Yarm health facility.
5. Throughout this consultation process two specific issues have been raised regarding the development of a new hospital to replace University Hospitals North Tees and Hartlepool, that of site proximity to Wynyard and transportation whether this has been the road or public transport infrastructure.
6. The Committee believes that the weighting that has been applied when assessing the possible sites can be seen as being technically subjective. Whilst the Committee accepts that there was likely to be a number of sites that would score more highly than others it believes that each of the sites scoring over 100 should have been consulted upon especially as they all have ease of accessibility for Stockton and Hartlepool residents. No further information was forthcoming making it difficult for the Committee to provide unequivocal support for the options preferred by the NHS as any opinion must be determined on the available evidence.
7. The Committee is pleased that the NHS recognised that both proposed sites currently have poor public transport services and that as a result further work is obviously needed to ensure whichever site is selected is appropriate for use.
8. The Committee is critical of the way in which the question choosing which of the two possible sites for the hospital location was framed as no opposing view can be expressed. Stating no preference between the two shortlisted sites does not provide any way for the NHS to collect accurate responses of the residents it is consulting. The Committee would like to see the NHS, in future consultations, provide all respondents with the opportunity to oppose any plans the organisation has in a way that it is easily collated and shown alongside support for its future plans.
9. The Committee, with caveats, would select Option A (land at Wynyard Business Park) as this appears to have fewer site restrictions, and provides the solution that has least impact on the residents at Wynyard who are the most vociferous regarding site selection as well as what is hoped will be pleasant surroundings for all staff, patients and visitors.
10. The Committee however, still has reservations about this and the future consultation that will determine actual service provision at the new hospital and associated community infrastructure. The Momentum Project Team could not specify the timing of the next phase of the consultation. The Committee therefore places on record its concerns that this is not in place although the NHS will continue to develop its capital planning and procurement programme ahead of building and commissioning the new hospital.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial

No direct financial implicatons

Legal

None.

RISK ASSESSMENT

The proposed changes to the delivery of healthcare in the borough is categorised as low to medium risk for the Authority. Existing management systems and daily routine activities are sufficient to control and reduce risk.

COMMUNITY STRATEGY IMPLICATIONS

Environment – No significant impact

Community Safety and Well-Being - No significant impact

Health – The proposals have the possibility of improving the quality of life for residents as well as improving the commissioning and delivery of health and social care pathways.

Economic Regeneration - No significant impact

Education and Lifelong Learning - No significant impact

Arts and Culture - No significant impact

CONSULTATION INCLUDING WARD/COUNCILLORS

The NHS proposals will affect all wards with the introduction of a new hospital and integrated health and care facilities in Billingham, Stockton Town Centre and Yarm. The new hospital to be built close to Wynyard has most affected the ward councillor for Northern Parishes who has been involved in the NHS consultation and the scrutiny process throughout the consultation period.

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Background Papers

None

Ward(s) and Ward Councillors:

Not ward specific

Property

None