

Health Select Committee

A meeting of Health Select Committee was held on Monday, 12th February, 2007.

Present: Cllr Mrs M B Womphrey (Chairman), Cllr Mrs J L Apedaile, Cllr P Baker, Cllr K Dixon, Cllr D Harrington, Cllr K Lupton, Cllr Mrs B Robinson, Cllr A B L Sherris.

Officers: G. Birtle, Miss F Shayler (LD).

Also in attendance: Ian Dalton - Chief Executive, Dave Allsopp - Director of Human Resources, Julie Henderson - Head of Strategy and Planning/Project Lead for Foundation Trust, Claire Young - Head of Communications (North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Trust).

Apologies: were submitted on behalf of Cllr Coombs, Miss Inman, Mrs Nesbitt, Roberts, Teasdale.

1081 Declarations of Interest

There were no interests declared.

1082 Minutes for Signature

The minutes of the meeting held on 16th October, 2006 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

1083 Minutes for Consideration

The minutes of the meeting held on 24th November, 2006 were agreed as a correct record and would be forwarded to the next Council Meeting for approval.

1084 North Tees and Hartlepool Health Trust - Foundation Trust Status Consultation

Members were provided with a presentation by Mr Ian Dalton, Chief Executive of North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Trust as part of their consultation to become an NHS Foundation Trust.

Information was provided on the benefits of becoming an NHS Foundation Trust, which was a new type of NHS organisation that would enable local people to be able to influence direction by new governance arrangements. It would provide the opportunity for more financial independence to invest in more services, and to train and reward staff.

The vision for the future was to provide:-

- High quality care
- Easy to use services
- Encourage good health
- Make the most of our people and resources

Details were provided on how the new NHS Foundation Trust would be run which included new governance arrangements. There would be a Council of Governors made up from stakeholders (Universities/PCTs/Borough Councils/Patients' Forum), the Public and Staff. Expressions of interest would

be invited from members of the public, staff would automatically be given membership with the ability to opt out if they wished.

The Consultation was due to be complete by 16th April, 2007 with a formal application being made to the Secretary of State by 27th April, 2007. If the application was successful it was anticipated that NHS Foundation Trust Status would come into effect October-December, 2007.

Members asked a number of scrutinising questions in relation to staffing and morale amongst employees, improving public perceptions following the Darzi report, PFI, surplus funding and key objectives.

Members requested that a response from the Committee to the Consultation be drafted by the Scrutiny Officer and then circulated to Members for comments prior to being submitted.

Concluded that the comments made be co-ordinated into a response from the Committee by the Scrutiny Officer and circulated to Members for comments and final approval prior to being submitted.

1085 Work Programme

Discussion was held on the work outstanding for the remainder of this municipal year. It was anticipated that two site visits would be held to the Hartlepool Hospital and the PCT Woodlands Site.

Concluded that the update be noted.