Health Select Committee

A meeting of Health Select Committee was held on Monday, 14th July, 2008.

Present: Cllr Mrs Ann Cains(Chairman), Cllr Jim Beall, Cllr Dick Cains (vice Cllr Paul Baker), Cllr Julia Cherrett, Cllr Aidan Cockerill, Cllr Kevin Faulks, Cllr Andrew Sherris, Cllr Mrs Sylvia Walmsley; Cllr John Blackie, Cllr David Heather (North Yorkshire County Council).

Officers: Ruth Hill (CESC); Graham Birtle, Fiona Shayler (LD).

Also in attendance: Neil Nicholson, Paul Frank, Victoria Cooling (PCT), Linda Watson, Ali Wilson (North Tees and Hartlepool Trust), Carl Parker (Chair - Professional Executive Committee), Cllr John Gardner (Northern Parishes Ward), Cllr Hilary Aggio (Billingham North Ward), Gareth Rees (Grindon Parish Council), Jane Bullock, Tony Maxwell (Wynyard Residents)

Apologies: were submitted on behalf of Cllr Baker, Cllr Mrs Nesbitt. Carole Langrick (North Tees and Hartlepool Health Trust). Cllr Gareth Dadd, Bryon Hunter (North Yorkshire County Council).

H Declarations of Interest 26/08

H Draft Minutes - 16th June and 23rd June, 2008 27/08

The minutes of the meetings held on 16th and 23rd June were agreed as a correct record subject to minor amendments as noted by the Democratic Services Officer.

H Momentum: Pathways to Healthcare - Consultation Review 28/08

Members were provided with an update on the consultation process. Approximately 1500 questionnaires had been received at present and other feedback was being received from the various consultation mechanisms being used. Analysis of the various different themes coming through was being undertaken.

Members of the Public from Wynyard were in attendance to state their concerns around the consultation process and the two sites. A special consultation meeting was to be held on 28th July at Wynyard Golf Club to address residents concerns.

Discussion was held on the size of the new hospital and site. Members also discussed the transportation links, however, this area would be discussed in more detail on 4th August when Members would be meeting with Neil Schneider, Corporate Director of Development and Neighbourhood Services and Mike Robinson, Head of Technical Services.

Carl Parker, Joint PEC Chair for Hartlepool PCT and North Tees PCT, provided detail on the changing healthcare system to provide more services nearer to people's homes making the services more patient centred and giving the patient more choice.

Linda Watson, Acting Director, Clinical Services - Lead Nurse, provided information on integration of services and the possible models that could be used. Community nursing staff had been involved in the consultation process and were positive about the changes.

Discussion was held on 'Polyclinics' and it was stated that this term was not being used in this area and was not part of Momentum.

Neil Nicholson, PCT Director of Finance, provided information on the commissioning of services and stated that it would be a unique funding package for the new hospital and community services as detailed as part of Momentum.

Members expressed concern with regard to signposting patients once the new changes were in place. It was stated that GP's would predominantly signpost patients, but this matter would be given full consideration during the stages of consultation.

Discussion was held on the number of beds, which would be around 600, the majority of rooms would be single bedded. The size of the new hospital building was approximately 68,000 sq metres. Both of the possible sites for the new hospital were large enough to anticipate any future development following the build.

CONCLUDED that the information received be noted.

H Work Programme 29/08

A report on the North Tees Health Centre Development would be provided on 28th July 2008.

Members were provided with an update on the tendering process for the LINK which was now complete. The tender had been won by Shaw Trust. Members requested a progress report during Autumn 2008.

CONCLUDED that the Work Programme be noted.

H Chairman's Update 30/08

The Chairman had received a letter from the North East NHS Trust nominating Stan Slater as a trustee and requesting that this Committee confirm the appointment. The Chairman would contact the North East NHS Trust as the Committee were not aware that it was in their remit to confirm such an appointment.

The Chairman had attended a Seminar on the Quality of Dementia Care held as part of a consultation on a draft document. An update would be provided to Members.

An update was provided on the North East Ambulance Service (NEAS)Contact Centre Proposals. A letter was being compiled by the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Tees Valley Joint Health Scrutiny Committee following their scrutiny review of the proposals referring the matter to the Secretary of State's Independent Reconfiguration Panel. This was on the grounds of concerns regarding public safety, inadequate consultation and lack of public confidence in the proposal.

An update was provided on the PCT Strategies Commissioning Event held last

week.

CONCLUDED that the Chairman's Update be noted.