

AGENDA ITEM
REPORT TO COUNCIL
17TH JULY 2013
REPORT OF
CORPORATE
MANAGEMENT TEAM

OFFICER DECISION TAKEN IN CONSULTATION WITH CABINET MEMBERS

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to inform Members of the following Officer decision, taken under urgency powers, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Adult Services & Health and the Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Finance.

DECISION

The Director of Law and Democracy took the decision, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Adult Services & Health and the Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Finance to appoint Cllrs Javed, Mrs Wilburn and Mrs Womphrey to serve on a Joint Committee comprising elected representatives from Durham, Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees regarding proposals put forward by the NHS Clinical Commissioning Group on changes to critical care and acute medicine at North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust.

REASON

Under the Local Authority (Public Health, Health and Wellbeing Boards, and Health Scrutiny) Regulations 2013, there is a requirement to form a Health Scrutiny Joint Committee in order to receive evidence and respond to the consultation. The Joint Committee should consist of those Councils that are consulted on the proposals due to the effect on their local populations, and therefore in this case it will be made up of three representatives from each of the following Councils: Durham, Hartlepool, and Stockton-on-Tees.

The public consultation ends on 11 August.

Under Stockton Council's Constitution, responses to consultations on substantial variations to local NHS services require Council approval prior to submission. Therefore the Joint Committee had to meet ahead of 17 July (this being the last Council meeting prior to the end of the consultation period) in order to consider the matter and for Stockton's representatives on the Joint Committee to form a view, ahead of endorsement by Council. Stockton's view will then be incorporated into the Joint Committee's final submission to the consultation, which will reflect all of the Councils' views.

As a result, it was not practicable to refer the decision to appoint the Council's representatives to full Council for determination. Immediate action was essential in that respect in both the Council's and the public's interest.

RECOMMENDED that the Director of Law and Democracy's decision be noted.