

Health Select Committee

Update to Executive Scrutiny Committee – 28 July 2009

EIT Programme - Fair Access to Care Services (FACS)

Update on Progress (including issues/ problems/ successes)

On 18 May, the Committee received the initial baseline description of the FACS policy in Stockton, and at the meeting on 22 June, the Committee considered more detailed financial and user information. Due to issues with the data collection, it was recognised that further work was needed to improve this and the results of this will be presented at a future meeting.

The Committee is surveying other authorities in order to gain from their experiences of applying the FACS bandings. At the meeting of 3 August and 14 September, representatives of other authorities will in attendance and also on the 3 August, the Committee will receive legal advice in order to inform the review.

Timescales

The FACS review is scheduled to report in February 2010. The Audiology review will be reported to the Board of NHS Stockton (Stockton-on-Tees PCT) on 23 July.

Monitoring

There are no upcoming monitoring reports.

Other Work

North East Ambulance Services (NEAS) – Foundation Trust Application

The Joint Committee continue to consider the NEAS application from a scrutiny perspective on behalf of the Tees Valley Councils and will feed into a regional scrutiny body in due course. The provisional date for the regional body to meet is currently scheduled for 29th July.

On 20 July, Tees Valley Joint Health Scrutiny Committee is hosting an event for all Tees Valley Councillors as part of the NEAS's consultation on its Foundation Trust application.