

## **Health Select Committee**

### **Update to Executive Scrutiny Committee**

**19 October 2010**

#### **EIT Programme - Fair Access to Care Services (FACS)**

##### **Update on Progress (including issues/ problems/ successes)**

As part of the review, the Committee have overseen the FACS consultation process. The consultation results were considered by the Committee at the meeting of 21 September. The Committee will consider draft recommendations at the meeting of 18 October.

The wide-ranging consultation canvassed views on a proposal to stop providing social care services for those who have needs that are classed as Moderate, in order to prioritise care and available resources on those most in need, and to re-invest some of the savings into community services that are available to all. Approximately 1300 survey responses were received from clients, carers and the public, and a number of meetings and events were held as part of the consultation in order to gather views.

Possible options for community investment will depend on the consultation results and the changing context of public sector funding. Options will be based around universal services such as help getting to appointments, cleaning, respite services, social interaction, and advice and information. There may also be the opportunity for investment in more targeted services such as Care Call, and advice for using equipment, for example.

The overall aim in developing services would be to take a preventative approach, aimed at keeping residents healthy and independent for as long as possible and reducing demand for more resource intensive social care as provided by the Council and partners.

#### **Timescales**

The review is on track to report to Cabinet in November.

#### **Monitoring**

The Committee are scheduled to receive quarterly progress reports on the reviews of NHS Dentistry, Alcohol and Audiology at the meeting on 18 October.

#### **Other Work**

At the meeting of 21 September, the Committee were consulted on the proposed new building for the Yarm Medical Practice, and received an update on the Momentum programme.

The protocol for the operation of a Regional Health Scrutiny Committee has been considered by the region's councils. The first meeting of the Committee took place on 16<sup>th</sup> September. The Committee considered an update on the regional veteran's health project, a response to the Health White Paper, and updates on national specialised commissioning reviews and regional service changes including Child Heart Surgery, Radiotherapy and In-patient Eating Disorders.

## Regional review of the health needs of the ex-service community

Following the successful overview day that took place on 28 June, four members of the Health Select Committee are taking part in the Socio-Economic Wellbeing Workstream. A session of the group was held on 11 August with a session examining the transition process between the armed forces and civilian life, and involved face to face discussion with members of the ex-service community. A session was held on 17 September to discuss housing issues as they affect veterans living in the region. A further session will examine skills and employment.