

Adult Services and Health Select Committee

Update to Executive Scrutiny Committee

27 March 2012

EIT Programme - Review of Mental Health and Learning Disability Services

Update on Progress (including issues/ problems/ successes)

At the meeting of 26 March, Members discussed the options for potential changes to Learning Disability Services that will be subject to public consultation. These will be confirmed together with a consultation plan at the meeting of 23 April. Cabinet endorsement of the principles of change will then be sought at its meeting in May, prior to a 12 week public consultation. The review aims to secure value for money for in-house and commissioned services, develop options for future service delivery, and further improve commissioning arrangements.

Timescales

The review is currently concentrating on the Council's learning disability services and the final report is due to be considered by Cabinet in October 2012, following consideration of the consultation results.

The review of Mental Health adult social care services is due to start in May.

Other Work

On 6 March the Committee met to consider the consultation into the proposed permanent closure of the Lustrum Vale Older People Mental Health in-patient unit, and related investment in community services. Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust, and NHS Tees (PCT) are consulting on the proposals between 8 February and 9 May.

The Committee discussed the issues and also received evidence from North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust, in relation to related improvements to dementia care for people who also require treatment in the acute Trust. The Committee considered that the proposals constituted a significant variation to local services therefore once all views have been considered and a consultation response has been confirmed this will need to be submitted to Council for endorsement (scheduled for 2 May).

The Committee is also shortly due to consider the draft Quality Account from NT and H'pool NHS FT and submit a joint statement for inclusion with Stockton LINK. An update from the North Tees CCG is planned for 23 April.

Sub-regional and Regional Committees

The Tees Valley Joint Health Scrutiny Committee met on 30 January and 27 February. The Committee has received briefings from all the local Trusts on their priorities for 2012-13 and their response to this year's NHS Operating Framework. The Committee also agreed to investigate the issue of prosthetics following the referral from Stockton Council.

The NE Regional Committee met on 15 February in order to consider proposed North East Ambulance Service changes, and the separate regional review of eligibility criteria for the Patient Transport Service. Further consideration to these issues will be given at future meetings, as will the next progress update on the regional review of the health needs of ex-service personnel.