

Health Select Committee

A meeting of Health Select Committee was held on Monday, 21st July, 2008.

Present: Cllr Jim Beall (in the Chair), Cllr Julia Cherrett, Cllr Aidan Cockerill, Cllr Maurice Frankland (vice Cllr Mrs Cains), Cllr Andrew Sherris, Cllr Mrs Sylvia Walmsley, Cllr Barry Woodhouse (vice Cllr Baker); Cllr G Dadd, Cllr David Heather (North Yorkshire County Council).

Officers: Graham Birtle, Fiona Shayler (LD).

Also in attendance: Dr John Canning (Cleveland Local Medical Committee); John Kerr, Ann Pearce, Cllr John Gardner, Tony Maxwell (Residents).

Apologies: were submitted on behalf of Cllr Baker, Cllr Mrs Ann Cains, Cllr Kevin Faulks, Cllr Mrs Liz Nesbitt; Cllr John Blackie (North Yorkshire County Council).

H 31/08 **Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Woodhouse declared a personal/non prejudicial interest in relation to Agenda Item No. 3 further to his son being a Dentist.

H 32/08 **Momentum: Pathways to Healthcare - Consultation Review**

Dr John Canning, Secretary of Cleveland Local Medical Committee (LMC), was in attendance at the meeting to provide Members with information on how GP's felt about Momentum.

The Local Medical Committee had met last week and Dr Canning had requested views from GP's on Momentum. He felt that overall GP's were positive about a new modern hospital and the concept of moving services closer to people's homes. Concerns were expressed over the following:-

- Gap in services when services were moving.
- 'Future Proofing', ensuring that the buildings were adaptable to future change
- Transport
- The effects of patient choice of which hospital they attend

The LMC had not made a formal response to the consultation but would do so by 1st September, 2008.

Discussion was held on the capacity for GP's to take on further services and ensuring that this had little effect on general appointment waiting times. Dr Canning felt that there was the capacity for GPs to be more flexible in the services provided and hours worked.

Dr Canning felt that GP's had been consulted more than during previous consultation exercises and felt that there was more emphasis on joint working especially with regard to the commissioning of services. The Chairman of the LMC was a Member of the Momentum Partnership Panel which fed into the Joint Committee.

Discussion was held on vertical integration of services as there would be a shift for the commissioning of community services from the PCT to the North Tees and Hartlepool Health Trust.

CONCLUDED that the information provided be noted.

H **Work Programme**

33/08

The next meeting would be held on 28th July. The Scrutiny Officer had made contact with the Unions on a number of occasions to attend the meeting as witnesses but had received no response. Members requested that a brief be received about the workforce issues if it was available.

A meeting would be held on 4th August with Neil Schneider, Corporate Director of Development and Neighbourhood Services and Mike Robinson, Head of Technical Services. It was also requested that a member of the Momentum team be in attendance to clarify the detailed process of the hospital site shortlisting.

CONCLUDED that the Work Programme be noted.

H **Chairman's Update**

34/08

Members were informed that a meeting regarding the North East Ambulance Service Proposals was to be held on 1st August. Councillor Mrs Walmsley had received the invitation but was unable to attend, it was agreed that Councillor Beall attend in her place.

CONCLUDED that the Chairman's update be noted.