

Health Select Committee

A meeting of Health Select Committee was held on Monday, 4th August, 2008.

Present: Cllr Mrs Ann Cains (Chairman), Cllr Paul Baker, Cllr Jim Beall, Cllr Julia Cherrett, Cllr Aidan Cockerill, Cllr Mrs Liz Nesbitt, Cllr Andrew Sherris, Cllr Mrs Sylvia Walmsley; Cllr John Blackie, Cllr Gareth Dadd, Cllr David Heather (North Yorkshire County Council).

Officers: Mike Robinson, Neil Schneider, Peter Whaley (DNS); Graham Birtle, Fiona Shayler (LD).

Also in attendance: Cllr Richard Cains; Stuart Green (Assistant Director – Planning and Economic Development, Hartlepool Borough Council); Carole Langrick, Paul Frank, Ali Wilson, Dr Carl Parker, Kevin Oxley, Dr Nick Roper (Momentum Team); Richard Shield (DTZ)

Apologies: were submitted on behalf of Cllr Kevin Faulks.

1 **Declarations of Interest**

None

2 **Draft Minutes - 28th July 2008**

The minutes of the meeting held on 28th July were agreed as a correct record.

3 **Momentum: Pathways to Healthcare - Consultation Review**

Members were provided with a presentation by the Momentum Team providing an update on the consultation process.

Detail was provided on the emerging themes following the various consultation events that had taken place. The common themes were:-

- Transport arrangements
- Workforce implications
- Patient safety
- Finance
- Timescales

The various methods of consultation were provided which included:- Stakeholder letters and consultation leaflets, leaflet and poster distribution via free papers and Solus distribution in areas of low penetration, TFM and Magic FM, Road Show events, local press and council magazines, targeted engagement.

The presentation then detailed the community and primary care services prior to considering further detail on the site location.

Members were provided with a breakdown of the reasons why only two suitable sites had been chosen as options for the public to be consulted upon. Members also received information on the weightings for the sites. Officers were in attendance to advise on planning implications.

Discussion was held on transportation to the hospital. A Transportation Group were looking at range of solutions that would be established. Possible ideas included park and ride, shuttle buses for staff, car sharing schemes etc. Work

would be taking place with various partners and agencies to develop a transport plan. Funding had been committed as a contribution to further infrastructure works on the A689 and consideration was being given to a possible emergency vehicle lane as one of many other measures that would need further consideration.

Members discussed funding for the hospital, estimated costs were currently being derived and would be submitted to the Department of Health. It was anticipated that the model used for funding would include a Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) for the contractor to adhere to, however there would be a contingency fund for highway costs etc.

Residents of the borough were in attendance to ask questions and express concerns.

Members were informed that the Hartlepool Health Scrutiny Committee had met today and had agreed their recommendations and would be recommending Site A as their preferred option.

Members of the Committee discussed all of the information received during their evidence gathering during this scrutiny review and also arrived at a unanimous decision of Site A being the recommended option of both Stockton and North Yorkshire Committee Members.

CONCLUDED that the Scrutiny Officer complete the report for this review and circulate to Members for comments prior to being submitted to Executive Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet for endorsement.

4 Work Programme

Members discussed their forthcoming work programme which would include a review of audiology.

CONCLUDED that the Work Programme be noted.

5 Chairman's Update

The Tees Valley Joint Health Scrutiny Committee had met and were formally referring the decision of the North East Ambulance Service to the Secretary of State. Members requested a copy of the referral.

CONCLUDED that the Chair's update be noted.