

## Directorate of Planning & Performance

### Briefing Paper Annual Health Check

#### Core Standards

With effect from 1<sup>st</sup> November 2008 Stockton Teaching PCT externalised its provider services in line with DoH Guidance. The provided services are now hosted by the North Tees and Hartlepool Foundation Trust and will be included in their declaration.

The new core standards for PCTs as commissioners were published in December 2008 and a tremendous amount of work has been undertaken to facilitate the necessary changes/modifications required to the performance framework used to co-ordinate the assessment process.

For 2008/09 the PCT will submit a declaration from the following three perspectives:

- **Corporate Body** – How the organisation functions
- **Commissioner** – carrying out their commissioning functions
- **In relation to the quality and safety of its commissioned services** – has 'taken reasonable steps' with regard to its independent contractors and commissioned services.

As in previous years we have an internal assessment process which requires nominated leads to review compliance levels and evidence on a quarterly basis. As the guidance for PCTs as commissioners was not available until December 2008 and to ensure continued compliance, evidence collated prior to this has been checked for relevance and mapped against the revised standards.

The areas of concern from the 2007/2008 annual health check are detailed below and actions to address these issues have been included in our business planning process for 2008/2009:

<b>Standard of Care:</b>	Older People's mental health needs and services
<b>Waiting to be seen:</b>	Access to GPs Access to primary care professional
<b>Dignity and respect:</b>	Facilities in place to support choice Choose and Book
<b>Good Management:</b>	National child measurement programme data quality

Compliance with guidelines concerning obesity

Staff attending mandatory training

**Commissioning  
Services:**

Thrombolysis – 60 minute call to needle

Referral to treatment milestones

**Planning for Local  
Improvement**

Cancer mortality rate

Smoking status of the population

Teenage conception rates

Access to reproductive health services

Very high intensity users

**Position 2008/2009**

Following detailed monitoring of the internal assessment process for core standards and the business plan it is anticipated that we will be declaring compliance against all 24 core standards.

The compliance levels will be transferred into the annual submission document prior to submission to the Audit Committee and Board in March.