

# Health Select Committee

A meeting of Health Select Committee was held on Monday, 19th April, 2010.

**Present:** Cllr Mrs Ann Cains (Chairman), Cllr Paul Baker, Cllr Dick Cains, Cllr Julia Cherrett, Cllr Aidan Cockerill, Cllr Kevin Faulks, Cllr Mohammed Javed, Cllr Mrs Sylvia Walmsley.

**Officers:** Peter Mennear, Fiona Shayler (LD);

**Also in attendance:** James Newton, Shirley Erskine (LINK); David Emerton, Sue Smith (North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust).

**Apologies:** were submitted on behalf of Cllr Andrew Sherris.

## **H       Declarations of Interest**

**1/10**

Cllr Mrs Ann Cains declared a personal/non prejudicial interest in relation to Agenda Item No. 5 - Feedback from site visit to Roseberry Park Hospital Development further to her nephew being a member of staff.

Cllr Mohammed Javed declared a personal/non prejudicial interest in relation to Agenda Item No. 4 - North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust Draft Quality Account 2010-11 further to working for the same trust.

## **H       Draft Minutes - 8th March, 2010**

**2/10**

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 8th March 2010 were agreed as a correct record.

## **H       North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust Draft Quality Account 3/10   2010-11**

The Committee were requested to receive the draft Quality Account of North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust, and consider whether to provide a statement for inclusion in the published version.

Quality Accounts had been introduced following the publication of 'High Quality Care for All: NHS Next Stage Review' by the Department of Health in 2008. They were intended to be annual reports to the public, about the quality of services NHS organisations provide. The Next Stage Review 'defined quality in the NHS in terms of patient safety, clinical effectiveness and patient experience'. Quality Accounts should set out:

- what an organisation is doing well;
- where improvements in service quality were required;
- what the priorities for improvement were for the coming year;
- how the organisation has involved service users, staff and others with an interest in the organisation in determining those priorities for improvement.

The requirement to produce Quality Accounts had been introduced from this year, and at this stage only applied to providers of acute care. The regulations stated that the Account should be prepared in draft form by April, and then published in full by June.

For each Account, the relevant commissioning PCT would need to provide a statement of assurance. In addition, health overview and scrutiny committees, and LINKs, were also to be given a voluntary opportunity to comment on the draft Accounts.

Members were provided with the draft Quality Account of North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust. Also attached was the Trust's draft Quality Strategy, which will be published with the quality account. The Trust's Director of Nursing and Patient Safety (Sue Smith), and the Medical Director (David Emerton), were in attendance to brief the Committee.

Members were informed that the document would require updating as the performance figures had only been available up until the end of February and the final document would include data until the end of the financial year.

The document concentrated on three key priorities:-

Priority 1 - patient safety; reduce deaths

Priority 2 - effectiveness of care; 70% of patients on the emergency assessment within 2 hours of arrival

Priority 3 - patient experience; care with compassion

Members discussed each priority in detail. Sue Smith detailed all of the work that was taking place in hospitals to reduce deaths, such as managing falls, infections, thrombosis. Cleanliness of the wards was to the highest standards and a deep cleaning programme had been introduced as well as a rapid response team. The Trust was also looking at copper door handles, which do not retain germs as much as other materials.

Members were informed that the role of nurses had been clarified to ensure that more time was spent with patients and staff were being encouraged to be constantly vigilant to prevent rapid deterioration. Patients nearing the end of their lives were automatically referred to the chaplaincy service. Feedback from the service was used as part of the patients care plan, and practical support was also provided to nurses.

Discussion was held on vulnerable patients and how nurses ensure that they get the appropriate level of care. It was stated that the nurses would speak with their families or carers. Nurses were being encouraged to continuously try to ensure that the patient was happy with the level of care being delivered.

Members also discussed patient meals, it was stated that a hostess service was provided and that less complaints were now received about the quality of food. Staff would also provide assistance to those who required it.

Members discussed the length, typeface, format of the document. It was suggested that a summary document be provided for the public who may not require all of the information that was contained within the main document. This was already being considered by the Trust. It was also suggested that the figures may be easier to understand if they were in bar chart form.

The staff from the Trust were thanked for their attendance and input.

CONCLUDED that:-

1. A joint statement be produced on behalf of both the Committee and Stockton-on-Tees LINK to be included within the published version.
2. A draft would be considered jointly by the Committee and the LINK.

**H**  
**4/10**      **Feedback from site visit to Roseberry Park Hospital Development**

Members were impressed with the format of the new development and felt that the team of staff who provided the tour were very enthusiastic.

CONCLUDED that the comments be noted.

**H**  
**5/10**      **Efficiency, Improvement and Transformation Review of Fair Access to Care Services**  
**- Consultation Update**

Members were aware that as part of the review of FACS, there would need to be a comprehensive consultation process. The consultation process would need to be of a minimum 3-month period.

In order to prepare for the consultation the officer project team had been meeting to develop a range of approaches to the process. The Scrutiny Officer would send the original versions of the consultation plan and documents to the new Members of the Committee. It was agreed that the final version of the consultation documents including information in Stockton News would be approved by the Chairman and Vice Chairman in order for them to be produced in time for the 1st June start date.

CONCLUDED that the final consultation documents be approved by the Chairman and Vice Chairman.

**H**  
**6/10**      **Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Joint Committee Update**

The Committee were requested to consider an update on the work of the Tees Valley Joint Committee.

The Joint Committee considered health scrutiny issues that were of relevance and importance to residents across the Tees Valley as a whole.

The Minutes from the meetings of 11 January and 9 February had been approved and were provided for Members information.

The Minutes from the meetings of 11 January and 9 February had been approved and were provided for Members information. The meeting on 9 February received an update on the Tees Oral Health Strategy. Members requested information on when the judicial review of South Central SHA's plans for consultation on the introduction of fluoridisation would be taking place.

The minutes for the meetings of 8 March and 8 April had not yet been approved. The meeting of 8 March discussed South Tees NHS Foundation Trust's Quality

Account and the Joint Committee's involvement with the process in particular. The meeting of 8 April formally discussed South Tees Trust's Quality Account, and also the Quality Account of the North East Ambulance Service.

CONCLUDED that the update be noted.

**H**  
**7/10**      **Work Programme**

The next meeting agenda would include an action plan and progress from the Audiology review and Cllr Cockerill would report back on the seminar on Personal Health Budgets.

It was suggested that the August meeting be removed from Members' diaries as many Members would be unable to attend this meeting.

CONCLUDED that the Work Programme be noted.

**H**  
**8/10**      **Chair's Update**

The Chairman had met with Ali Wilson and Celia Weldon as part of the regular briefing sessions that had been scheduled.

A draft communications protocol and working agreement between the Committee and NHS Stockton-on-Tees had been produced and would be placed on the next agenda for Members' consideration.

A Regional Health Overview and Scrutiny Select Committee had been established.

New Members of the Committee requested a flowchart of all the local health partners and how they fit together. The Scrutiny Officer would produce a briefing on health scrutiny issues.

CONCLUDED that the Chair's Update be noted.