

28 November 2011

Update on Regional, and Tees Valley Joint Health Scrutiny

Summary

The Committee are requested to consider an update on the work of the Regional Health Scrutiny Committee, and the Tees Valley Joint Health Scrutiny Committee.

Detail

North East Regional Joint Health Scrutiny Committee

1. The Regional Committee met on 20 September. The Committee considered the results of the national review of children's heart surgery consultation and Members agreed to submit additional comments that re-iterated the Committee's original submission. It has subsequently been reported that the Royal Brompton Hospital Trust in London has won a judicial review in relation to the consultation process, and the Safe and Sustainable Review Team are currently considering the implications of this.
2. The Regional Committee will be meeting in the near future in order to consider proposals from the North East Ambulance Service (NEAS) that are being considered in order to ensure that it continues to meet the required call response time targets. Further information will be provided when available.
3. The Committee is also scheduled to consider the regional review of eligibility criteria for access to the Patient Transport Service. A 3-month consultation process will take place from December 2011.
4. At an appropriate meeting in the new year, the Committee will consider the future arrangements for specialised commissioning across England. A verbal update on this, and also plans to designate specialist centres for children and young people with cancer, will be provided at the meeting.

Tees Valley Joint Health Scrutiny Committee

5. The minutes of the meeting of 12 September are attached at **Appendix 1**.
6. At the meeting of 21 November the Committee further considered the issue of proposals to centralise sub-regional consultant-led orthodontic services at the James Cook, and Friarage Hospitals. The Committee also considered an update on the progress of the new out of hours GP service, provided by Northern Doctors Urgent Care Ltd. A verbal update will be provided at the meeting.

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