

Adult Social Care and Health Select Committee Chair's Update – January 2024

Scrutiny Review – Access to GPs and Primary Medical Care	
Achieved since last meeting	<p>The second evidence-gathering session took place in November 2023 which focused on a submission from the Cleveland Local Medical Committee (LMC).</p> <p>The third evidence session was held in December 2023 involving a contribution from Hartlepool & Stockton Health (GP Federation).</p>
Problems or concerns	None
Planned next month	The Committee will be looking to involve Primary Care Network (PCN) Clinical Directors as part of the next evidence-gathering which will look to seek the views of the Borough's practices around the issue of access.
On track – yes / no	Yes

Overview / Performance and Quality Assurance	
Key Issues / Problems or Concerns	<p>North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust (NTHFT): The NTHFT Chief Nurse addressed the Committee in November 2023 to update Members on the Trust's maternity services. Progress on the actions which emerged following concerns raised during the Care Quality Commission (CQC) inspection in 2022 was relayed, as were developments in relation to the review of community midwifery services which was triggered, to a large degree, by Committee concerns around inconsistencies with home-visit provision.</p> <p>CQC / PAMMS Report Updates: The Committee considered the latest CQC quarterly report (Q2 2023-2024), including PAMMS assessment feedback published during this period, at its meeting in November 2023. The close monitoring of Willow View Care Home was noted by the SBC Director of Adults, Health and Wellbeing following concerns raised by the CQC.</p> <p>Public Health: The SBC Director of Public Health Annual Report 2022 was due to be considered by the Committee in December 2023 but was deferred to the January 2024 meeting as a result of officer unavailability.</p> <p>Winter Planning: Following recent consideration by Cabinet in November 2023, an updated report detailing winter planning across the Council, working with partners, was due to be provided to the Committee in December 2023. However, due to staff sickness / unavailability, and because the contents of the report reflected work taking place (and impacting) across the whole Council, the Committee referred this to the Executive Scrutiny Committee for consideration at its next meeting in January 2024.</p>
Requests for more information	None

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NHS Updates / Consultations	
Key Issues / Problems or Concerns	<p>New Health Scrutiny Arrangements: The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has recently confirmed that the anticipated new health scrutiny arrangements will come into force in January 2024 – this involves the introduction of the Secretary of State's powers to intervene on NHS reconfigurations, including the abolition of the existing scrutiny 'referral' power. Further details can be found at https://www.cfqs.org.uk/blog-dhsc-confirms-new-health-scrutiny-arrangements-to-start-in-january/.</p> <p>North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust (NTHFT): NTHFT is leading a regional campaign to promote careers in health and social care and will be profiling various little-known-about roles over the coming weeks. Further details can be found at https://www.nth.nhs.uk/news/the-healthcare-roles-you-may-not-have-known-about-regional-nhs-campaign-launches/.</p>
Requests for more information	None

Regional Health Committees	
Key Issues / Problems or Concerns	<p>Tees Valley Joint Health Scrutiny Committee: As part of the agreed rotational arrangements, the chair and support function for the Committee is being undertaken by SBC during 2023-2024.</p> <p>The last meeting took place on 15 December 2023 – items included a winter plan update, future plans for non-surgical oncology, an update on the state of dentistry, and community water fluoridation proposals. The next meeting is scheduled for 15 March 2024, with anticipated items to include both the Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust (TEWV) and North East Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust (NEAS) Quality Accounts, and an update on developments around palliative and end-of-life care.</p> <p>In addition, the Committee has requested an informal briefing on TEWVs use of restraint, a source of previous Member concern – this is likely to be arranged for late-February / early-March 2024.</p> <p>In other matters of interest, the emergence of details of a proposed 'Partnership Agreement' as part of the ongoing development of the 'Group' model between NTHFT and South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (STHFT) led to an informal TVJHSC (remote) meeting being hastily arranged. This took place on 2 November 2023 to allow Members to consider and comment on these developments / proposals – a statement on behalf of the Committee was then submitted back to the 'Group' for consideration by the Joint Partnership Board as part of its final ratification of the 'Partnership Agreement' (which was due to be agreed on 15 November 2023).</p>

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	<p>Southern Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) / Integrated Care System (ICS) Joint Health Scrutiny Committee: No meetings are currently scheduled.</p> <p>North East Regional Health Committee: No meetings are currently scheduled.</p>
Requests for more information	None

Monitoring	
Key Issues / Problems or Concerns	<p>No updates have been received by the Committee since the last Executive Scrutiny Committee meeting.</p> <p>Future progress updates regarding previously completed reviews will be received by the Committee as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Day Opportunities for Adults (TBC) • Care at Home (TBC – early-2024)
Requests for more information	None

Remaining 2023-2024 Scrutiny Reviews
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult Safeguarding

Remaining 2023-2024 Meetings (all 4.00pm unless stated)
<p>Tuesday 23 January 2024</p> <p>Tuesday 20 February 2024</p> <p>Tuesday 19 March 2024</p>