

Adult Social Care and Health Select Committee

22 October 2024

REGIONAL HEALTH SCRUTINY UPDATE

Summary

The Committee is requested to consider an update on the work of the regional health scrutiny committees. Some recent health-related developments impacting on the Tees Valley and / or wider North East and North Cumbria footprint are also highlighted.

Detail

Tees Valley Joint Health Scrutiny Committee

1. Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council (SBC) hosted (providing the Chair and support function) this Committee during 2023-2024. As part of previously agreed rotational arrangements, Hartlepool Borough Council is now hosting the Committee in 2024-2025.
2. The last meeting (the first of this municipal year) was held on 19 September 2024 and included the following agenda items:
 - Appointment of Chair (Cllr Moss Boddy (Hartlepool Borough Council)) and Vice-Chair (Cllr Ceri Cawley (Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council))
 - Minutes of the meeting held on 15 March 2024 (see **Appendix 1**)
 - Minutes of the Tees Valley Integrated Care Partnership (ICP) meeting held on 2 February 2024
 - Tees Valley Joint Health Scrutiny Committee – Protocol and Terms of Reference
 - North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (NENC ICB) / Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust (TEWV): Respite Care / Adult Learning Disability Service Update (see **Appendix 2**)
 - Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust (TEWV): Community Mental Health Transformation Update
 - North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust (NTHFT): Tees Valley Community Diagnostic Centre Update (see **Appendix 3**)
3. The next meeting is scheduled for 7 November 2024 – anticipated items (still to be confirmed) include TEWV presentations on health inequalities and male suicide, as well as a NENC ICB winter planning update.

Sustainability and Transformation Plan / Integrated Care System Joint Health Scrutiny Committee

4. Following a lengthy hiatus, Durham County Council (who support this Joint Committee) contacted scrutiny teams across the region in November 2022 with the intention of arranging a meeting for late-November / early-December 2022. However, following liaison with senior

NENC ICB representatives, it was deemed that in light of the ongoing ICS briefings to the Tees Valley Joint Health Scrutiny Committee, a meeting of this Joint Committee (which involved similar Councillors) was likely to be a duplication and would not add value.

5. In wider regional health matters, the NENC ICB is promoting the NHS '*Be wise, immunise*' campaign to vaccinate high-risk people against COVID-19 and flu. Details on the following can be found at <https://northeastnorthcumbria.nhs.uk/here-to-help-winter/covid-19-and-flu-vaccinations/>:
 - How to book a vaccination
 - Eligible cohorts
 - Key messages
 - Local COVID-19 and flu vaccination contacts
 - Walk-in clinics
6. The public is being reminded that, from Thursday 1 August, some GP services across England began 'collective action'. Collective action means that those GPs taking action may stop or reduce certain work, but staff will still be working, and practices will still be open to see patients. Further information can be found at <https://northeastnorthcumbria.nhs.uk/gp-collective-action/> - this includes responses to the following frequently asked questions:
 - What should I do if I need to see a GP?
 - If I can't see my GP are there alternative NHS services I can choose?
 - Will other NHS services be affected?
 - I thought GPs were the NHS?
 - How long will the collective action last?
7. The first national plan for women's health, published in 2022, sets out a 10-year ambition to boost the health and wellbeing of all women and girls. Turning ambition into action, further details of the North East and North Cumbria women's health programme can be found at <https://northeastnorthcumbria.nhs.uk/women-s-health-programme/>.
8. A new NHS plan to transform health in North East and North Cumbria was highlighted at the start of October 2024. The Clinical Conditions Strategic Plan targets 12 health conditions making the biggest impact on people, and challenges the NHS to do more to prevent ill health – further details can be found at <https://northeastnorthcumbria.nhs.uk/news/posts/12-steps-to-a-healthier-region/>.
9. The NENC ICB annual report and accounts 1 April 2023 – 31st March 2024 showcases its activity over the past year – a summary of this can be found at the following link: <https://northeastnorthcumbria.nhs.uk/media/xwanaga0/annual-report-summary-2023-24-final-web.pdf>.

North East Regional Health Scrutiny Committee

10. No meetings are currently scheduled.

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