
OVERVIEW OF HEALTH AND WELL BEING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

1. Since the last meeting of the Council, the following are the main areas of work the Health and Well Being Scrutiny Committee has undertaken: -
 - (a) **County Durham & Darlington NHS Foundation Trust – Seizing the Future –**
A special meeting of this Scrutiny Committee was held at the request of the Trust and all Members of Council were invited to attend. The Chief Executive, Stephen Eames attended the meeting and briefed Members about the Seizing the Future Review. It was explained that Seizing the Future is a programme of change aimed at developing the Trust's strategic direction for the next five years. It will be supported by a major clinical service review which will include; an examination of current services, an assessment of how these services adhere to best practice in clinical outcomes, a review of achievement of national standards across all services and the development of future service options. Mr Eames also highlighted that the review would deliver; a five-year strategic plan, a compelling clinical vision, an agreed high quality clinical standards and outcomes for the future and a decision on the way forward for the Trusts hospitals over the next five years. The Committee will continue to be involved in the process and have an input into the consultation.
 - (b) **Durham County Council joint work around Seizing the Future –** Representatives of the Committee have recently attended a meeting with Officers from Durham County Council and the Foundation Trust to discuss how Scrutiny can be involved in the consultation resulting from Seizing the Future review of services. There has been a suggestion that a Joint Health Scrutiny Committee be established to scrutinise this work, although a lot more further discussion needs to take place.
 - (c) **Getting ready for Local Involvement Networks (LINKs) –** The Committee has recently received a further update from the Voluntary and Community Sector Liaison Manager, following the appointment of the Host organisation to support the LINK and feedback from the second workshop held on 20th March 2008. Members discussed the level of local knowledge demonstrated by the Host organisation, whether the Host organisation will be based at premises within the town, the timescale for the Host organisation moving into the local premises, and contact and accessibility issues. Representatives from the Host organisation will be invited to the next meeting of the Committee.
 - (d) **Primary Care Trusts Patient, Carer and Public Involvement (PCPI) Strategy 2008-2011 –** The Committee received a presentation from the Partnerships, Patients and Public Engagement Manager, Darlington Primary Care Trust, on the Primary Care Trusts Patient, Carer and Public Involvement (PCPI) Strategy 2008-2011 to gauge the views of Members at the early stages of consultation on the development and content

of the document. A special meeting of the Committee was recently held to scrutinise the document further.

- (e) **Intermediate Care** – Members received a joint report from the Director of Community Services and the Chief Executive of Darlington Primary Care Trust (PCT) which updated Members on current service development and delivery and evidence of partnership working which informs future plans for integration and modernisation. The services are provided by Darlington PCT Intermediate Care, and the intermediate care services provided Darlington Borough Council's Adult Social Services. The National Indicator Set November 2007, which commenced on 1st April 2008, has brought performance reporting for health and social care together, and that intermediate care had been identified as an indicator in its own right. It was reported that this would be taken forward through the Leading Edge Project at a strategic level, which would result in a single integrated intermediate care plan that would form the future delivery of intermediate care services in Darlington.
- (f) **The Development of the Home Care Strategy** – At the last ordinary meeting of the Committee, Members received a report in respect of the in-house Home Care Strategy that proposes to change the delivery of social and health care in Darlington. Members received an overview of the home care services provided through Darlington Borough Council's 'In-House Home Care Service' and commissioned from the Independent Sector Home Care Providers. The report also outlined the audit work conducted to ensure that the in-house Home Care Service provided was of a good standard, and the review undertaken, in light of the White Paper, Our Health, Our Care, Our Say, to ensure that the service remained fit for purpose.
- (g) **Older Peoples Strategy** – Members received an overview from the Locality Director of Public Health detailing the launch of the Older People Strategy at 3pm on Tuesday, 22nd April 2008, and an event entitled 'All Our Futures' at the Dolphin Centre in Darlington. Following discussion at the meeting, Members decided they wanted to be involved in the event and it was agreed that a questionnaire be produced. The questionnaire listed the six priorities contained within the Older People Strategy and asked members of the public to rank the priorities in order of what they thought was the most important, number 1 being their top priority and number 6 being their lowest. Members of the Scrutiny Committee manned a stall and assisted members of the public to complete the questionnaire. The feedback from the questionnaire will be considered at a Special meeting of the Committee.
- (h) **Annual Health Checks** – Work has been completed on this year's Annual Health Check. At the April meeting of the Committee, Members agreed each Task and Finish Groups contribution to be submitted to each of the National Health Service (NHS) Trusts relevant to Darlington. The initial feedback has been extremely positive from each Trust who deeply values the Committee comments and look forward to working with Members during the 2008/09 process.
- (i) **Work Programme 200/2009** – We have given consideration to the Work Programme of this Committee for the Municipal Year 2008/09 and possible review topics. We have examined Cabinet's Forward Plan, in order to identify areas of particular interest or

concern and I have extended an open invitation for the inclusion of additional items on the Committee's Work Programme.

2. Since the last meeting, the following meetings have been attended in respect of the Health and Well Being Scrutiny Committee of Council:-
 - (a) Lead Members meeting with NHS Direct – Thursday 3rd April 2008.
 - (b) Visit to Eastbourne Sports Complex and Stressholme Golf Club – Wednesday 9th April 2008.
 - (c) Visit to Civic Theatre – Thursday 10th April 2008.
 - (d) Launch of Older People's Strategy – Tuesday 22nd April 2008.
 - (e) Meeting with Durham Health Scrutiny Officer and Officers from County Durham & Darlington NHS Foundation Trust – Monday 28th April 2008.
 - (f) NHS Briefing with Darlington PCT and County Durham & Darlington NHS Foundation Trust – Wednesday 14th May 2008.

Chair of the Health and Well Being Scrutiny Committee