
OVERVIEW OF HEALTH AND PARTNERSHIP SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

1. Since the last meeting of the Council, the following are the main areas of work the Health and Partnership Scrutiny Committee has undertaken:-
 - (a) **Public Health Transition** – We have recently received an update on the transition of public health functions migrating to new organisations i.e. Public Health England, NHS Commissioning Board as well as the Local Authority. The Director of Public Health introduced a presentation outlining the changes to the public health system, new organisations, public health in Local Government and local progress. Members are pleased that the transfer of public health leadership, responsibilities and functions from NHS County Durham and Darlington to the Local Authority is progressing. We look forward to future updates and positive progress continuing to be made.
 - (b) **Darlington Strategic Needs Assessment for Darlington** – Our Director of Public Health introduced Members to the Summary of the Single Needs Assessments (SNA) for Darlington 2011/12. We were reminded that SNA brings together relevant information available on the needs of Darlington’s population and combines quantitative data with softer intelligence and feedback from the community and service users. Members have used to SNA as a powerful tool for defining priorities and shaping future services for Darlington it also highlights areas where we need to do more to improve the health and wellbeing of our communities’ and specific health and social care issues that require targeted actions.
 - (c) **Overview of performance information** – Members have recently received an informative presentation in respect of the performance indicators within our remit. Members have agreed that the challenging performance is an important part of their role and that a special meeting should be arranged to thoroughly scrutinise the performance within this Committees remit.
 - (d) **Telehealthcare** – We have agreed to defer scrutiny at this time due to developments within digital media and health pilots being undertaken. It is our intention to revisit this piece of work in February 2013 to consider whether further scrutiny is required or events have overtaken this work.
 - (e) **County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust Clinical Strategy and Vision** – We are continuing our work with the Trust of scrutinising individual work streams within the Clinical Strategy. Four out of the five work streams are continuing to make good progress and the final work stream on Surgery will commence in September 2012. Members have been fully engaged with the process and this has only enhanced relationships with County Durham and Darlington Foundation Trust.

- (f) **Darlington Darzi Practice Service Review** – We have established a Task and Finish Review Group to respond to the consultation in respect of the Darlington Darzi Practice Service Review. Given the short notice of this consultation we have written to the Chief executive of NHS County Durham and Darlington expressing our concerns and potential impact on Darlington residents. We have worked closely with Darlington Link and will continue to do so in gathering our evidence to submit and fully informed response to the consultation.
- (g) **Cabinet Response to Task and Finish Review Groups** – We are delighted that Cabinet accepted our recommendations on the work we have carried out in respect of Darlington Health Profiles 2011/12 and Community contribution to the Local Strategic Partnership. We look forward to our recommendations being implemented and receiving updates on the progress in six months' time.
- (h) **Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Joint Committee** – Darlington is Chairing the Joint Committee for this municipal year and providing the secretariat. As part of my initial duties as Chair I visited the Foundation Trust across the Tees Valley to gain an understanding of the area and service provision. The first meeting of this year was held on 2nd July 2012 and we discussed the re-procurement of the dental anxiety management and sedation service for NHS Tees and NHS County Durham and Darlington. The meeting also confirmed its Work Programme from the remainder of the year taking account of the Work Programmes of individual Local Authorities health Scrutiny Committees.
- (i) **Work Programme 2011/2012** – We have given consideration to the Work Programme for this Committee for the Municipal Year 2011/12 and possible review topics and in doing so, we have taken into account the reduced resources available and ensured that, in recommending our work programme to Monitoring and Co-ordination Group, that any work we undertake will have demonstrable outcomes and contribute to the work of the Council and its strategic aims and objectives.

Councillor Wendy Newall
Chair of the Health and Partnership Scrutiny Committee