

PLEASE NOTE VENUE

ADULT AND COMMUNITY SERVICES AND HEALTH SCRUTINY FORUM AGENDA



Wednesday 12 December 2007

at 6.00 pm

**in the Belle Vue Community, Sports and Youth Centre,
Kendal Road, Hartlepool**

**MEMBERS: ADULT AND COMMUNITY SERVICES AND HEALTH SCRUTINY
FORUM:**

Councillors Atkinson, Barker, Brash, Cranney, Fleet, Griffin, G Lilley, Plant, Sutheran,
Worthy and Young.

Resident Representatives:

Mary Green, Jean Kennedy and Mary Power

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
- 2. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**
- 3. MINUTES**
No items.
- 4. RESPONSES FROM THE COUNCIL, THE EXECUTIVE OR COMMITTEES OF THE
COUNCIL TO FINAL REPORTS OF THIS FORUM**
No items.
- 5. CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST FOR SCRUTINY REVIEWS REFERRED VIA
SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE**
No items.

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6. CONSIDERATION OF PROGRESS REPORTS / BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK DOCUMENTS

No items.

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

7.1 North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Trust - Changes to the Provision of Hospital Services

- (a) Covering Report – *Scrutiny Manager*
- (b) Verbal Evidence / Presentation by the Chief Executive, North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Trust

8. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS ARE URGENT

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Date of Next Meeting Tuesday 18 December commencing at 3.00 pm at Owton Rossmere Resource Centre, Wynyard Road, Hartlepool

ADULT AND COMMUNITY SERVICES AND HEALTH SCRUTINY FORUM

12 December 2007



Report of: Scrutiny Manager

Subject: NORTH TEES AND HARTLEPOOL NHS TRUST -
CHANGES TO THE PROVISION OF HOSPITAL
SERVICES FROM 17 DECEMBER 2007: EVIDENCE
FROM NORTH TEES AND HARTLEPOOL NHS
TRUST – COVERING REPORT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Members that the Chief Executive of North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Trust will be in attendance at today's meeting to discuss the proposed changes to hospital services, mainly maternity and children's services with effect from 17 December 2007, as a result of the Independent Reconfiguration Panel's recommendations.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 With effect from 17 December 2007, changes to hospital services are proposed by the North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Trust for maternity and children's services. In practice these changes will:-
- (a) centralise consultant led maternity services at the University Hospital of North Tees;
 - (b) following the temporary closure of maternity services in Hartlepool to allow building work to take place as quickly as possible, open a midwife led unit at the University Hospital of Hartlepool in March 2008;
 - (c) centralise inpatient paediatrics at the University Hospital of North Tees; and
 - (d) maintain paediatrics and maternity assessment units, antenatal services and children's outpatient services on both hospital sites.

- 2.2 Such changes have been brought about following the recommendations of the Independent Reconfiguration Panel. Consequently, the Chief Executive of the North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Trust has been invited to attend today's meeting to discuss the proposed changes in greater detail.
- 2.3 During such discussion, it is suggested that responses should be sought to the following key questions:-
- (a) It is felt by this Forum that the Trust was statutorily obligated to consult this Committee on the lead-in time on the proposed substantial changes to hospital services. Why did this not occur?
 - (b) How confident are you that the residents of Hartlepool, come the 17 December 2007, will be adequately informed of such changes?
 - (c) Could you outline the steps you have taken to publicise these changes to maximise public understanding?
 - (d) How does the Trust intend to deal with those residents of Hartlepool who have not been informed of such changes from 17 December 2007 and thereafter, particularly those requiring emergency medical treatment for their child?
 - (e) What consideration has been given to the residents of Hartlepool with regard to the transport links to the University Hospital of North Tees?
 - (f) What additional community based services, if any, have been put in place prior to 17 December 2007?
 - (g) Could you outline what you understand to be your statutory obligations with regard to consultation with this Committee?

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That Members note the content of the report and question the Chief Executive of North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Trust appropriately.

Contact Officer:- Charlotte Burnham – Scrutiny Manager
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BACKGROUND PAPERS

The following background paper was used in the preparation of this report:-

- (a) Letter dated 12 November 2007 / received 14 November 2007 addressed to the Chief Executive of Hartlepool Borough Council from the Chief Executive of North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Trust entitled 'Changes in Hospital Services from 17 December 2007'.
- (b) Press Release issued by North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Trust on 15 November 2007.