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## Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee

7<sup>th</sup> July 2010

Report of the Head of Civic, Legal & Democratic Services

### Update Report – Proposed Scrutiny Topic on Post Maternity Services

#### Summary

1. This report asks Members to receive a presentation updating them on the 'Universal Services Review' being undertaken by NHS North Yorkshire & York. It also asks them to make a decision on whether to undertake a review on a proposed scrutiny topic regarding post-maternity services.

#### Background

2. In October 2009 Councillor Wiseman submitted a scrutiny topic regarding whether the way health visitors are currently working in the York, allows them to offer a full and effective service to mothers and their babies from birth to six months.
3. At a meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2010 the Committee considered a feasibility report (Appendix 1 and Annexes A and B refer). This report advised that because NHS North Yorkshire & York were currently undertaking a piece of work that would culminate in a revised universal services model for 0 to 19 year olds, it would be better to receive further information from them prior to making a decision on whether to proceed with this topic.
4. The review being undertaken by NHS North Yorkshire & York is being undertaken in order to develop a service specification for 0 - 19 universal health services (historically known as health visiting and school nursing services) based around the National Healthy Child Programmes. It will be a countywide specification outlining what services need to be delivered and what outcomes are expected. There will however be flexibility built in to enable providers to work with users and stakeholders to agree on the model of local delivery. The aim is to define a detailed service specification for these elements of health services by the end of October 2010. This will then enable the PCT to be clear how current services may differ from the Healthy Child Programme and what is required to move forward.
5. At a meeting on 20th January 2010 the Committee received a presentation from the Health Visiting Team Leader for Children's Services, NHS North Yorkshire and York on the current expected input from midwives and health

visitors for the first 6 months of a child's development and the links between them. (A copy of this presentation is available on request). It was confirmed that a new health strategy had been introduced in 2009, which required examination of the commissioning pathways.

6. On consideration of the information received in the original report and the presentation Members confirmed that they generally supported progressing this topic to review as they wished to ensure that any new pathways/models would provide the correct level of services for all. However, Members agreed to wait for a further update from NHS North Yorkshire & York before committing to undertake a review on this topic; this update is available at today's meeting.
7. The Head of Children's & Young People's Commissioning will be in attendance at today's meeting to present Members with an update on the work they are currently undertaking.

### **Consultation**

8. The following persons were consulted when the topic was originally put forward by Councillor Wiseman and their views are in the attached feasibility report:
  - Executive Member for Children's Services
  - Director of Learning, Culture & Children's Services
  - Representatives of NHS North Yorkshire & York
  - Representatives of York Hospitals Foundation Trust
  - York LINK (Local Involvement Network)

### **Options**

9. Members are asked to consider the following options:

**Option A**      Progress this topic to review

**Option B**      Do not progress this topic to review

### **Analysis**

10. At an earlier meeting of the Committee Members indicated that they were minded to progress this topic to review. However, they are advised to carefully consider both the information received today and that within the feasibility study and its associated annexes (Appendix 1 and Annexes A & B refer), in particular the analysis section at paragraphs 6 to 11 of the feasibility report before they make a decision on whether to progress this topic to review.
11. Should Members choose to proceed with the review then it is suggested that the work be undertaken by a small cross-party task group who would report back on a regular basis to the Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee. It is also suggested that the first meeting of the task group be dedicated to approving a workable remit and scope for the review in conjunction with the Scrutiny Officer and NHS North Yorkshire & York.

## **Corporate Strategy 2009/2010**

12. The contents of this report and the focus of any review that might be undertaken are directly linked to the 'Healthy City' theme of the Corporate Strategy.

### **Implications**

13. **Financial** – There are no known financial implications associated with the recommendations within this report however; should Members of the Committee choose to progress this topic to review implications may arise. There is a small amount of funding in the scrutiny budget to enable reviews to take place.
14. **Legal** – There are no known legal implications associated with the recommendations within this report however; should this topic be progressed to review implications may arise.
15. **Human Resources** – There are no known Human Resources implications associated with the recommendations within this report.
16. There are no known equalities, crime & disorder, information technology or property implications associated with the recommendations within this report.

### **Risk Management**

17. In compliance with the Council's risk management strategy there are no risks associated with the recommendations within this report.

### **Recommendations**

18. Members of the Committee are advised to receive the update on the Universal Services Review from NHS North Yorkshire and decide, in light of this, whether they still wish to progress this topic to review.

Reason: To address the concerns raised within the topic registration form.

## Contact Details

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Report Approved

Date 28.06.2010

**Specialist Implications Officer(s)** None**Wards Affected:**

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

**Background Papers:**

Attached as Annexes

**Annexes****Appendix 1** Feasibility Study dated 14<sup>th</sup> December 2010**Annex A** Topic Registration Form**Annex B** Comments from consultees