

Health Scrutiny Sub-Committee

2 October 2006



County Durham and Darlington Acute Hospitals NHS Trust. Haematology and Chemotherapy Services Review (up-date) 2006

Report of the Head of Overview and Scrutiny

Purpose of Report

1. To consider a report on the review of Haematology and Chemotherapy services for County Durham and Darlington Hospitals NHS Trust.
2. To respond to the recommendations of the review.

Background

3. In January 2005, the directorate of medicine and elderly care for Durham Memorial Hospital and Bishop Auckland General Hospital produced a strategic review of haematology and chemotherapy services in south Durham.
4. The review concluded that a centralised in-patient service was urgent, and, furthermore, a single centralised trust-wide centralisation (to incorporate Durham) should be considered.
5. A consensus on the way forward was not agreed.
6. After preliminary discussions in late 2005/2006, an independent process, led by Dr. Steven Singleton, was established. The purpose of this was to up-date the review with terms of reference that included making clear recommendations to the Trust Board for the future development of:-
 - i.. A single trust wide haematology service;
 - ii. The future of inpatient haematology & chemotherapy services.

Information

7. This piece of work took into account all of the preceding work, including the Darzi review and two cancer networks' "improving outcomes guidance" for haematology, the views of patients and local public representatives, trust staff, local commissioners, 'visiting' staff (specifically consultant oncologists from South Tees Trust cancer services) and County Durham and Tees Valley SHA.

