

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**SCRUTINY OF HEALTH COMMITTEE****22 January 2010****Developments in the Pain Clinic and the Midwife-led Unit at Scarborough Hospital****Purpose of Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to brief Members on developments with regard to the Pain Clinic and Midwifery Services at Scarborough Hospital following concerns that have been brought to the attention of the Scrutiny of Health Committee.

Background**Pain Clinic**

2. The Scrutiny of Health Committee over the years has taken a keen interest in the Scarborough Pain Clinic (SPC) and indeed its clinicians and patients have addressed Committee meetings when there were issues of concern about its future provision.
3. Concerns have again reached the Committee from both clinicians and patients about the Trust's commitment to the SPC against a background of the retirement of the lead Consultant.

New Midwife Led Unit

4. The Trust has invested £1.5m in a new midwife-led unit which is situated at Scarborough Hospital adjacent to the consultant-led unit.
5. It was planned that the unit would open last October and that existing experienced midwives would transfer from the consultant-led unit to the new midwife-led unit. The existing posts would then be 'backfilled' by 12 newly appointed midwives.
6. A recruitment process was successful but the candidates, at the eleventh hour, decided not to take up their appointments.
7. Since that time the Trust, NHS Yorkshire and the Humber and NHS North Yorkshire and York have increased their efforts to fill the new posts. Recruitment campaigns have taken place and neighbouring Trusts have been referring their candidates to the SNEY Trust.
8. In accordance with the original review of Maternity Services in the Trust and the Independent Reconfiguration Panel's recommendations the midwife-led units at Bridlington, Whitby and Malton are still operating.

Current Situation

9. Richard Sunley, Chief Executive of the Trust will summarise the current situation.

Recommendations

10. That Members offer advice on the Trust's plans with regard the Pain Clinic and the midwife-led unit at Scarborough Hospital.

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Background Documents: None