

**NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL****SCRUTINY OF HEALTH COMMITTEE****8 April 2011****Ryedale and Whitby Enhanced Community Services Pilots****Purpose of Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to provide a framework for Members to receive an update on how the enhanced community services pilots in Ryedale and Whitby are progressing.

**Background**

2. The enhanced community team pilots (“hospital at home” model) in Whitby and Ryedale aim to give patients the best care in the most appropriate setting. This means ensuring that unnecessary hospital admissions are avoided, with quicker discharge and better coordinated follow up care for people who are admitted to hospital.
3. The changes were introduced on an incremental basis under which the number of beds open for admission at the Ryedale Ward in Malton Hospital and the Abbey Ward at Whitby Hospital were reduced whilst slowly transferring some staff into the community. The process led to the temporary closure of both wards from 1 November 2010 for a period of 6 months.
4. As part of the evaluation of the pilots NHS Yorkshire and Humber Strategic Health Authority asked the National Clinical Advisory Team (NCAT) to undertake a review to form part of the overall evaluation of the pilot.
5. The role of NCAT is to provide clinical advice to the process of reconfiguration. The team consists of senior clinicians from many specialities drawn from a national level who have often been involved with reconfiguration, or have held senior NHS leadership positions. The NCAT team will seek to ensure that the reconfiguration plans make sense; that is there is a clinical justification for the reconfiguration with an evidence base. They will wish to ensure that the reconfiguration scheme has the support of local senior clinicians and GPs, and that the public and patients have been appropriately involved.
6. The findings from the NCAT report (expected shortly), an agreed ‘levels of care’ model and opportunities arising from closer integration of community services with acute services in both areas will be discussed at the meeting of the Board of NHS NY&Y on 26 April.
7. Up until that date the pilots will continue.

8. Sue Metcalfe (Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Localities, NHS N&Y) will be attending the meeting to provide additional information and to respond to Members' questions.

**Recommendations**

9. That Members note the developments with regard to the Enhanced Community Service pilots in Whitby and Ryedale.
10. That NHS NY&Y be asked to give an assurance that, in the event of any significant and permanent change being proposed as a result of the pilots, the Scrutiny of Health Committee will be consulted.

**Bryon Hunter**  
**Scrutiny Team Leader**

County Hall  
Northallerton  
28 March 2011

**Background Documents: None**