

## Press Release

**06.10.16**

### **NHS Better Health Programme Announces its October Event Dates**

In October the NHS Better Health Programme Engagement will continue to engage with staff, stakeholders, the public and patients through a series of public meetings across Durham Dales, Easington, Sedgefield, Darlington, Tees, Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby.

Here is a list of engagement event dates and venues:

<b>Location</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>
Stanhope	Durham Dales Centre, DL13 2FJ	Mon 10th October	10am-12pm
Guisborough	Sunnyfield House, TS14 6BA	Tues 11th October	4-6pm
Newton Aycliffe	Leisure Centre, DL5 4EH	Thurs 13th October	10am-12pm
Seaham	Town Hall, SR7 0HP	Mon 17th October	5-7pm
North Ormesby	South Tees CCG, TS3 6AL	Tues 18th October	4-6pm
Catterick	Leisure Centre, DL9 3EL	Wed 19th October	5.30-7.30pm
Hartlepool	College of Further Education, TS24 7NT	Mon 24th October	6-8pm
Hawes	The Fountain Hotel, DL8 3RD	Wed 26th October	5-7pm
Darlington	Morton Park Training Centre, DL1 4PJ	Thurs 27th October	6-8pm
Thornaby	South Thornaby Community Centre, TS17 9JG	Fri 28th October	10am-12pm

The programme is still in engagement phase and consultation is expected to begin in 2017.

No decisions have been made regarding any changes to hospital services.

During the October events, the programme will discuss:

- Feedback from our last events
- Progress on the programme
- Developments in care outside of hospital

Those who wish to register to attend an NHS Better Health Programme public engagement event, can do so [online](#) or by phone during office hours (01642 745401). Places are limited so people are asked to register in advance.

Unlike in previous engagement phases, the Better Health Programme's October engagement will not include events in the North Durham CCG area.

Over the last few months NHS leaders have considered the geographical footprint which will best enable the NHS to plan services, based on discussions with stakeholders and the public.

Dr Neil O'Brien, Chief Clinical Officer for North Durham Clinical Commissioning Group said:

"Where patients travel to access services has been considered by NHS leaders. In North Durham the majority of patients use hospital services in Durham, Gateshead and Sunderland rather than travelling down to South Tees.

"Rather than being part of the Better Health Programme, a separate programme will be developed looking at the sustainability of acute hospital services in North Durham and wider afield in Northumberland and Tyne & Wear."

Information and updates will be available for North Durham patients on the [CCG website](#).



*The NHS in Darlington,  
Durham and Tees*

## **Notes to Editor**

What does our local NHS do well?  
Where can we improve?

The Better Health programme is about providing care of a consistently high standard, and in the right place at the right time.

Experienced Clinical staff from the local NHS – including hospital consultants and GPs - have been looking at how we do this, in discussion with their colleagues, stakeholders and patient representatives.

They believe that people with serious or life threatening needs should be treated in specialist centres with the very best expertise and facilities. This will maximise their chances of survival and a good recovery – even if it means going past the nearest hospital.

For more information on the Better Health Programme please contact:

### **Communications Team**

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