

## Scrutiny Board (Adults and Health)

Extract from the draft minutes of the meeting held on 18 July 2017

### 22 Closure of the Blood Donor Centre in Seacroft - responses to Scrutiny Board statement

The Head of Governance and Scrutiny Support submitted a report which introduced responses to the Board's statement following NHS Blood and Transplant's decision to close the blood donor centre in Seacroft, Leeds.

The following information was appended to the report:

- Scrutiny Board (Adult Social Services, Public Health, NHS) Statement – Closure of Blood Donor Centre in Seacroft, Leeds (May 2017)
- NHS Blood and Transplant response (dated 6 June 2017)
- The Independent Reconfiguration Panel (IRP) response (dated 21 June 2017)

The Principal Scrutiny Adviser introduced the item and outlined the background to the statement produced by the former Scrutiny Board in May 2017. As part of the introduction, the Principal Scrutiny Adviser confirmed no response from the Department of Health had been received.

In discussing the item and the information presented, the Board made a number of comments and observations, including:

- Disappointment that the Department of Health had not provided a response.
- Acknowledgement that 'Special Health Authorities' were exempt from the requirements of health scrutiny by local authorities that apply to other NHS bodies.
- Recognition that the 'four tests' – announced by the Secretary of State for Health in May 2010 – were designed to build confidence within the service, with patients and communities.
- Disappointment that the response from NHS Blood and Transplant failed to address or acknowledge the issues highlighted in the Scrutiny Board statement as being relevant to the 'four tests'.
- Acknowledgment that there was a lack of clarity in relation to the applicability of the 'four tests'.
- Disappointment that the general response from NHS Blood and Transplant (a publically funded body) was not in the spirit of an open, transparent and learning organisation.

### **RESOLVED –**

- (a) That the responses to the Board's statement following NHS Blood and Transplant's decision to close the blood donor centre in Seacroft, Leeds, be noted.
- (b) That the Board writes a letter to the Secretary of State for Health to:
  - i. Express disappointment at the lack of response from the Department of Health.
  - ii. Express disappointment that the general response from NHS Blood and Transplant (a publically funded body) was not in the spirit of an open, transparent and learning organisation
  - iii. Seek clarification about the responsibilities of Special Health Authorities around proposed service changes and/or developments and specifically the applicability of the 'four tests' announced in May 2010.