**Title:** Chief Executive’s Report

**Purpose:** The purpose of this report is to provide the Board of Directors with an executive summary of our key strategic objectives, national policy and organisational issues.

**Summary:**
- Future of children’s and maternity services at the Friarage
- Fourth catheter laboratory opened by patient
- Stop sepsis – save lives
- CQC report – Guisborough Primary Care Hospital
- Ofsted and CQC Inspection – Safeguarding and Looked after children services in Redcar and Cleveland
- South Tees rated highly by cancer patients
- HSJ Awards
- New family planning service at the Friarage
- Go-ahead given in next step of new hospital
- New role in critical care
- Memorial service
- Channel 4 documentary

**Recommendation:** The Board of Directors is asked to note the contents of the report.

**Implications**
- Legal
- Financial
- Clinical: X
- Strategic: X
- Risk & Assurance: X
1. FUTURE OF CHILDREN’S AND MATERNITY SERVICES AT THE FRIARAGE

The Board of NHS North Yorkshire and York (the primary care trust currently responsible for commissioning services) will meet today (25 September) to decide the final options for public consultation on the future of children’s and maternity services at the Friarage Hospital.

Earlier this month, following an in-depth review of clinical information and feedback received from patients and members of the public, NHS Hambleton Richmondshire and Whitby Clinical Commissioning Group announced its recommendations on this important patient safety issue.

The CCG’s clinically preferred option, which was discussed and approved at a meeting held in public in Hambleton Forum on 17 September, is to maintain children’s and maternity services at the Friarage by:

- **Running a midwifery-led maternity unit (for women with low risk births), including a community midwifery and outpatient service; and**

- **Running a short-stay paediatric children’s assessment unit (SSPAU) (where children can still be assessed by the appropriate clinician) including a community nursing and outpatient service**

This recommendation is the preferred choice from its two other options:

- Keep a consultant-led paediatric and maternity service, which would require significant investment and would still be fragile in terms of sustainability.

- Provide a paediatric outpatient service only (no assessment unit) with enhanced community services, while offering a midwifery-led maternity service. Although this recommendation would be in line with costs for the preferred recommendation, the CCG felt it was too restrictive in terms of patient access to services, which the trust would agree with.

If any of the final options are approved, a formal public consultation period will begin in the autumn over 14 weeks to give people the opportunity to have their say and give feedback on the proposals.

The full business case and appendices, is available on the CCG’s website at [http://www.hambletonrichmondshireandwhitbyccg.nhs.uk](http://www.hambletonrichmondshireandwhitbyccg.nhs.uk) and has also been made available on the trust’s website at [www.southtees.nhs.uk](http://www.southtees.nhs.uk)

2. FOURTH CATHETER LAB OPENED BY PATIENT

Heart patient Carole Harris from Guisborough, who had a coronary angiogram in May, was invited back to James Cook recently to open its fourth catheter laboratory

The fourth lab - an examination room fitted with diagnostic imaging equipment to support the catheterisation procedure – will help ensure patients are treated more quickly and their hospital stay is reduced.

It has been specifically designed for TAVI procedures – transcatheter aortic valve implantation – an advanced procedure in which a team of specially trained
consultants replace narrowed heart valves without the need for open-heart surgery.

More floor space has allowed greater flexibility during procedures for the surgical and cardiology teams involved and, to date, more than 300 patients have had procedures carried out.

Mrs Harris, who was the first patient to have an angiogram in the new lab, said: “My treatment at James Cook was excellent, I could not fault it. I was a bit nervous and wondering about what was going to happen and what the results would be, but everything was fine and went to plan. All the hospital staff were lovely, top class, and they looked after me very well.”

3. STOP SEPSIS – SAVE LIVES

Critical care staff have stepped up the fight against sepsis – the biggest cause of death from infection - by providing every ward with its own sepsis box to mark World Sepsis Day.

Early identification and treatment of sepsis is key and the boxes contain everything needed to deliver six crucial steps - ‘the sepsis six’ - which includes giving intravenous antibiotics and oxygen and taking blood tests, to patients within an hour of staff identifying the disease.

Sepsis causes more deaths each year than prostate cancer, breast cancer and HIV combined but rapid intervention can reduce the risk of death by as much as 50%, which is why it is so important that we, as a trust, raise awareness of this disease.

The boxes have been given to wards at the James Cook and Friarage hospitals, as well as urgent care centres in local community hospitals. A new pre-hospital and community hospital sepsis screening tool is also being launched as part of a regional initiative to increase survival rates.

4. CQC REPORT – GUISBOROUGH PRIMARY CARE HOSPITAL

The Care Quality Commission, which carried out an unannounced inspection of Guisborough Primary Care Hospital in July, has published the findings of their report which states the hospital is meeting all the essential standards of quality and safety.

The focus of the inspection was inpatient care and the team chatted to staff, patients and relatives on the Priory ward, which provides services for older people who may need longer term rehabilitative care or palliative care.

People were asked about the choices on offer; whether they felt respected; what the care was like; and what people thought about the staff.

Feedback was very good and patients felt the care they received was very good and that staff kept them fully informed about their care and any discharge plans. Comments included:

‘I have been very well looked after’
‘They are very good to me in all ways’
‘The staff are very good day and night’
'I'm delighted; it is like a private hospital'
'I'm so much better and it's all credit to the NHS'

People also told inspectors the ward was run well and that staff were committed to making sure everything operated smoothly. This is a good outcome for our organisation and reflects the commitment and high quality of care all our staff continue to give to our patients’ day in and day out.

5. OFSTED AND CQC INSPECTION - SAFEGUARDING AND LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN SERVICES IN REDCAR AND CLEVELAND

Between 21 May and 1 June 2012, Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission carried out an integrated inspection of safeguarding and looked after children services in Redcar and Cleveland.

The purpose of the inspection was to evaluate the contribution made by relevant services in the local area towards ensuring that children and young people are properly safeguarded and to determine the quality of service provision for looked after children and care leavers.

In summary, the inspectors found the contribution of health agencies to keeping children and young people safe was graded two (good), which means services were found to exceed minimum requirements.

Six recommendations were made of relevance to the trust, which are detailed in a paper on today’s board agenda, and an action plan will be drawn up with NHS Tees to meet these requirements.

6. SOUTH TEES RATED HIGHLY BY CANCER PATIENTS

The trust was, once again, rated highly in the National Cancer Patient Experience Survey with 90% of patients treated rating their care as excellent or very good.

A total of 823 South Tees’ patients took part in the survey – a response rate of 71% - and rated their whole experience - from seeing their GP and having diagnostic tests, through to the care and treatment they received in hospital, access to staff, the quality of information given and the discussion and inclusion into clinical research trials.

Some of the key local findings and comments included:

- 83% of patients felt that they were given enough written information
- 94% said they listened to carefully by their specialist nurse
- 90% commented that their admission date was not changed
- 84% said they had confidence and trust in the doctor that was treating them
- 84% of nurses did not talk in front of the patient as if they were not there
- 92% said they always had enough privacy when being examined.

Importantly, the survey also revealed some key areas for development and improvement which included:

- Patients felt that they were not given a choice of different treatments to consider
- That cancer research trials were not discussed with patients
• Patients would have liked more time with their treating physician
• Patients could not always contact their specialist nurse when they needed to
• Families not given enough information to help care at home

Providing effective cancer care isn’t just about clinical evidence. We must also listen and learn from people affected by cancer as this will help us to shape local services and, hopefully, improve outcomes. The cancer services team is now going through the report in detail and will work with the clinical teams to improve for next year.

7. HSJ AWARDS

I am pleased to share with colleagues that the trust has been shortlisted for two national HSJ awards in the secondary care service redesign category and for quality and productivity.

The awards attracted more than 1,000 entries across 19 categories and the winners will be announced on 20 November at London’s Grosvenor House Hotel.

8. NEW FAMILY PLANNING SERVICE AT THE FRIARAGE

A new service for couples looking for a permanent method of birth control as their families are complete - and for women where childbirth presents a risk – will soon be provided at the Friarage Hospital.

The ESSURE permanent birth control system is a minimally invasive technique designed to provide a non-surgical alternative for women seeking sterilisation which involves no anaesthesia, no cutting and just a simple 10-minute process (average time).

The trust is planning to run two consultant-led outpatient clinics a month and currently has over 25 women waiting for the new procedure.

We are delighted to offer this service at the Friarage for local women and we finally have a technique comparable in simplicity, accessibility, and safety to vasectomy in men. The procedure is undertaken as an outpatient procedure, meaning women can resume their normal activities quickly.

9. GO-AHEAD GIVEN FOR NEXT STEP OF NEW HOSPITAL

The board of North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust last week announced they will start the procurement for the new hospital to serve the people of Hartlepool, Stockton and parts of Easington and Sedgefield.

The board took its decision after considering feedback from the independent review of the outline business case for the new hospital.

Another review is expected to be carried out at the end of the procurement period to give the board the final assurance it needs to take the final step to borrow the money (which is being pursued through a pension fund-holder solution), award contracts and begin the build.
This will depend on the situation the trust finds itself in at the end of the 12 to 18 month procurement period but the board is optimistic of just over three-year build, meaning the doors to the new hospital could be open in late 2016 or early 2017.

10. NEW ROLE IN CRITICAL CARE

Congratulations to Dr Stephen Bonner, the trust’s clinical director of critical care services, who has been awarded a chair at Durham Medical School and is now a professor of critical care medicine. This is not just a great achievement for Steve but also for the directorate and the organisation.

11. MEMORIAL SERVICE

A memorial service will be held at the Friarage Hospital on Saturday 6 October for anyone who has been affected by the loss of a baby. The special service to remember babies who have died at or around the time of birth will take place in St Luke’s Chapel at 2pm. Anyone wanting further information should contact Anne Wall, the hospital’s clinical matron for women and children, on 01609 763078.

12. CHANNEL 4 DOCUMENTARY

The James Cook University Hospital’s maternity unit was featured in the television documentary ‘One Born – Plus-sized Mums’ last week (20 September) on Channel 4, which looked at the growing issue of obesity and pregnancy.

I’d just like to thank the staff and patients who were involved in the filming earlier this year with the One Born Every Minute team from Dragonfly film and television.

ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE – PROFESSOR TRICIA HART