HEALTH SCRUTINY PANEL

A meeting of the Health Scrutiny Panel was held on 26 April 2004.

PRESENT: Councillor Dryden (Chair), Councillors Biswas, Elder, Lancaster, McIntyre and Mrs H Pearson.

OFFICIALS: J Bennington and T Gilling.

**** DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were made at this point of the meeting.

** MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Health Scrutiny Panel held on 16 April 2004 were submitted and approved.

DENTAL HEALTH REVIEW - FINAL REPORT OF PANEL

Members considered the initial draft final report on the Panel's findings on the review of Dental Health, which was to be considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Board at its meeting to be held on 4 May 2004.

The deliberations focussed on the conclusions contained in the report, which would form the basis of the Panel's recommendations in the final report.

The Panel made the following suggestions: -

(a) that the recommendations be placed into two categories namely; Access and Prevention as follows:-

Access covering conclusions 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 9 and 10 in the report submitted

Prevention covering conclusions 4, 6, 7 and 11 in the report submitted,

- (b) that the recommendations arising from the conclusions reflect the following;-
 - (i) that in relation to 1, the Panel's wish for the high level of dental registration in Middlesbrough to be sustained be acknowledged and a request for a further report on the detailed proposals and action plan arising from the discussions between the PCT and local dentists be included,
 - (ii) that in respect of 2, reference be made to the links to LIFT funding
 - (iii) that 6 and 7 be more explicit and state that the development of a 'brush bus' scheme and a reward scheme for healthy eating at lunchtime should be considered by the respective school Governing Body,
 - (iv) that the diverse opinion of the Panel be reflected in respect of 11 relating to fluoridation of water
- (c) that the Panel's concern relating to the lack of a response from the invitation to each of the independent care providers in Middlesbrough to take part in the review be reflected in the final report,
- (d) that the Panel's disappointment relating to the lack of a response from Northumbrian Water to take part in the review be reflected in the final report and brought to the attention of Ofwat (The Office of Water Services).

AGREED that the recommendations of the final report be based on the conclusions in the report submitted and comments outlined above.

PANEL - THANKS

The Chair thanked Panel Members and Officers for their hard work in developing communication channels with the health organisations and leading the way in health scrutiny culminating in a number of final reports during the Municipal Year.

In response, the Vice Chair on behalf of the Panel thanked the Chair for the able and enjoyable way in which he had conducted the meetings of the Panel.

NOTED