

AGENDA ITEM: 9 (e)

**OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD  
3 JANUARY 2006**

**HEALTH SCRUTINY UPDATE**

**PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1. To appraise Members of the Board of the progress of the Health Scrutiny function.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

2. That Members of the Board note the progress of Health Scrutiny.

**CONSIDERATION OF REPORT**

3. As the Board will be aware, Members from Middlesbrough are currently heavily involved with the Scrutiny Review into the Acute Services Proposals, put forward following Professor Darzi's study.
4. The Joint Committee considering the matter, has taken evidence from a wide range of local stakeholders and is almost at the end of it's evidence gathering process.
5. The Joint Committee's next meeting is programmed to take place on 5 January 2005. The purpose of this meeting is to hear from the local NHS in relation to the outcomes of the consultation period and receive information on what have been the substantial points coming from the consultation.
6. Following a period of thorough consideration of the evidence gathered and the information which will be received on 5 January, the Joint Committee will prepare a final report, outlining its views on the proposals. It is anticipated at this stage that the final report will be prepared around mid January.
7. The Health Scrutiny Panel is currently in the process of preparing a final report on Tobacco Control, which is temporarily on hold to allow full consideration and completion of the Acute Services Review.

8. Looking ahead to early 2006, the Health Scrutiny function will also have an opportunity to contribute to two major consultations, which have just recently commenced. The first one is concerned with future Primary Care Trust reorganisation within the Tees Valley, which may impact upon how the local NHS works with Middlesbrough Council and the way local services are delivered.
9. In addition, there will also be a consultation on the proposed Ambulance Trust reorganisation. It is considered that for both of these consultations, the health scrutiny will be an active participant in considering the issues and feeding its views in to the consultations, which both finish in late March 2006.

**COUNCILLOR EDDIE DRYDEN  
CHAIR, HEALTH SCRUTINY PANEL**

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

10. No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

**Contact Officer:**

Jon Ord - Scrutiny Support Officer

Telephone: 01642 729706 (direct line)  
Email: [jon\\_ord@middlesbrough.gov.uk](mailto:jon_ord@middlesbrough.gov.uk)