

AGENDA ITEM: 13(e)

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

28 FEBRUARY 2006

HEALTH SCRUTINY UPDATE

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To update the OSB on the activities of the Health Scrutiny function at Middlesbrough Council.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. That the OSB notes the progress of the Health Scrutiny function.

CONSIDERATION OF REPORT

3. As the OSB is aware, the Joint Section 7 Consultation Committee has recently published its Final Report into the Acute Services proposals. At the time of writing, the Joint Committee was waiting to receive the local NHS formal response. The Joint Committee's next course of action will very much depend on the content of that response.
4. The Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Joint Committee met on 13 February 2006 to consider evidence in relation to the present consultation on Primary Care Trust configuration. It intends to meet again on 15 March 2006 to consider further evidence in relation to the topic, before it submits a response to the Strategic Health Authority.
5. The Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Committee will also act as a consultee to local health trusts, when they are preparing their declarations for the new Healthcare Commission self assessment process.
6. The Health Scrutiny Panel was programmed to meet on 21 February 2006. The purpose of that meeting was to take evidence in relation to the PCT consultation and possible impacts on Middlesbrough and the discussion and acceptance of the Tobacco Control Final Report.

7. At its next meeting on 6 March 2006, the Health Scrutiny Panel will commence its review into Out of Hours services for primary care.
8. The Middlesbrough & Eston Health Scrutiny Joint Committee is also scheduled to meet on 2 March 2006 to take evidence in relation to respite and palliative services with life limiting illnesses.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

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