

**OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD
29 MARCH 2006**

HEALTH SCRUTINY UPDATE

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To appraise the OSB of the progress of the Health Scrutiny function.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. That the OSB notes the progress made by the Health Scrutiny function.

CONSIDERATION OF REPORT

3. Middlesbrough continues to be actively involved in the Scrutiny of the Acute Services proposals, which were put forward following Prof. Sir Ara Darzi's recommendations. The Joint Scrutiny Committee has received the formal response from the Strategic Health Authority to its Final Report.
4. The Joint Scrutiny Committee is due to meet in early April 2006 to formally receive the response and consider the approach it wishes to take.
5. The Health Scrutiny Panel has completed its Final Report into Tobacco Control, which is being considered at another item on today's agenda. The Panel has recently considered the health elements of the draft Strategic Plan and continues to investigate the Out of Hours service provided for the people of Middlesbrough.
6. The Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Joint Committee has submitted a response to the consultation on the future arrangements for Primary Care Trusts. The response document was essentially a collation of the perspectives of the five Tees Valley health scrutiny forums.
7. The Middlesbrough & Eston Health Scrutiny Joint Committee continues to investigate Palliative & Respite services to infants with a life limiting illness

and is due to meet in mid April to take further evidence on the matter before a final report is produced.

Councillor E. Dryden
Chair of Health Scrutiny Panel

BACKGROUND PAPERS

8. No background papers were used in the preparation of this Final Report.

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