

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

6 MARCH 2007

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 of the Health Scrutiny function.

CONSIDERATION OF REPORT

3. Since the last update to OSB, the Health Scrutiny function has considered a variety of information. The Health Scrutiny Panel has considered the evidence gathered in the reviews of Healthcare Associated Infections and Choose & Book and finalised its conclusions and recommendations on both investigations. Final Reports on both topics are elsewhere on the agenda for today's OSB.
4. The Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Joint Committee was scheduled to meet on 5 March 2007. At that meeting the Joint Scrutiny Committee was due to consider the outcome of its research into the origins and implications of the White Paper "Our Health, Our Care, Our Say". The Joint Scrutiny Committee has identified eight key principles, which it considers as key to any future proposed reconfiguration of services. Those principles are Safe, Accessible, Efficient, Equitable, Effective, Reliable, Timely and Patient Centred.
4. The Joint Scrutiny Committee has requested that any future statutory consultation process specifically demonstrates how the proposed reconfiguration would meet those standards. At its meeting on 5 March, the Joint Scrutiny Committee is due to debate this with the local NHS, as well as enquiring as to which (if any) service areas may produce a statutory consultation in the next 18 months or so.

5. The Middlesbrough & Eston Health Scrutiny Joint Committee met on 19 February 2007 to consider the evidence gathered in a review into Respite & Palliative Care Services for Children with Life Limiting Illnesses. The Joint Scrutiny Committee agreed upon a set of conclusions and recommendations which are outlined in a Final Report elsewhere on this agenda.

Councillor E. Dryden
Chair, Health Scrutiny Panel

BACKGROUND PAPERS

6. No background papers were used in the production of this report.

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