

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

3 APRIL 2007

HEALTH SCRUTINY UPDATE

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To update 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. The Health Scrutiny Panel, having recently completed two final reports, met on 16 March 2007. At that meeting it considered the Healthier Communities and Effective Social Care for Adults theme of the Strategic Plan. The Panel noted that there were a number of aspects of the document which were still being worked upon and as such, did not feel able to comment on the document. The Panel has asked that the Strategic Plan be brought back to the Panel ahead of the elections, which is currently being arranged. The Panel also considered Middlesbrough PCT's performance against the Healthcare Commission's 24 core standards. The Panel has submitted a response to the PCT, which is obliged to be quoted verbatim in the final document supplied to the Healthcare Commission.
4. The Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Joint Committee met on 21 March 2007. At that meeting, the Joint Scrutiny Committee considered a presentation from the Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys (Mental Health & Learning Disabilities) NHS Trust which outlined its plans to apply for Foundation Trust Status. It is anticipated that this discussion will be the first of many on the topic and its implications, as we move further into 2007. The Joint Scrutiny Committee also heard evidence from the South Tees Hospitals NHS Trust and the Tees, Esk & Wear Valleys NHS Trust concerning their performance against the Healthcare Commission's 24 core standards. The Joint Scrutiny Committee is

presently drafting a response to those matters to be included in the Trusts' submissions to the Healthcare Commission.

**Councillor E. Dryden
Chair, Health Scrutiny Panel**

BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

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