

AGENDA ITEM: 7(e)

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

1 MAY 2007

HEALTH SCRUTINY UPDATE

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To update the OSB on 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 met on 19 April to reconsider the relevant themes of the Strategic Plan, following a request for it to be worked upon further at an earlier meeting of the Panel. The Panel made a number of comments which are recorded elsewhere on the OSB's agenda.
4. The consideration of the Strategic Plan and associated issues led the Panel to identify two areas, which it would be particularly interested in pursuing in a future work programme. The first is alcohol abuse in under 18s and the associated multiagency response. Secondly, the transport regime for inpatients leaving James Cook University Hospital.
5. The Middlesbrough & Eston Health Scrutiny Joint Committee's Final Report into Respite & Palliative Care was considered by the Executive on 10 April, where a supportive service response was accepted by Executive.
6. Looking ahead, given the recent structural changes within the regional NHS, it is likely that there will be more statutory consultations for health scrutiny to respond to in the coming year or two. When coupled with the current policy agenda facing the NHS, all evidence would indicate that there will be a challenging and expanding workload for health scrutiny.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

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Chair, Health Scrutiny Panel

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