

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

28 AUGUST 2007

HEALTH SCRUTINY UPDATE

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To advise the Overview & Scrutiny Board of the progress of the Health Scrutiny function.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. That the Overview & Scrutiny Board notes the progress of the Health Scrutiny function.

CONSIDERATION OF REPORT

3. The Health Scrutiny function is progressing with its work programme for 2007/8. On the 20 August 2007, the Panel commenced its review of Life Expectancy in Middlesbrough, with a specific reference to Coronary Heart Disease. At that meeting, the Panel was due to take evidence from the Middlesbrough Locality Director of Public Health, on initial topics such as what is meant by CHD, what the Middlesbrough rates are and how they differ to national rates. That meeting also established the terms of reference for the review.
4. At the Panel's next meeting on 11 September 2007, the panel is scheduled to take evidence from the South Tees Hospitals NHS Trust, about Coronary Heart Disease activity at James Cook, the nature of that activity and the origins of the patients. The Panel will also be speaking to a public policy specialist about the way national policy is positioned and how it deals with the topic of Life Expectancy & Coronary Heart Disease.
5. The Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Joint Committee continues to consider the Foundation Trust status consultations of the South Tees Hospitals NHS Trust and the Tees, Esk & Wear Valleys Mental Health Trust. At its meeting on 3 September 2007, the Joint Scrutiny Committee is scheduled to speak with both Trusts about feedback from the consultation so far. It also intends to take

forward some themes that Joint Scrutiny Committee has gathered from discussions with the Trust's respective Patient & Public Involvement Forums, at its meeting on 13 August 2007.

6. It is also anticipated that Middlesbrough and Redcar & Cleveland PCTs intend to consult on the establishment of Community Foundation Trusts in the near future, which will require joint scrutiny with Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council. Steps are presently being taken to update the Middlesbrough & Eston Health Scrutiny Joint Committee to reflect the changes to local PCT structures, so this work can be undertaken.

**Councillor Eddie Dryden
Chair, Health Scrutiny Panel**

BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

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