

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

23 OCTOBER 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 is continuing with its review into Life Expectancy in Middlesbrough, with a particular focus on cardiovascular disease.
4. The Panel held an event on 1 October 2007, as part of the ongoing review, where the Panel heard the views of the Cleveland Local Medical Committee and the National Director at the British Heart Foundation on cardiovascular disease.
5. The meeting covered the role of the GP in preventing, identifying and tackling cardiovascular disease and the sorts of activity that General Practice is involved in. The British Heart Foundation covered such themes as trends in cardiovascular disease and what local healthcare systems (and wider society) could do to tackle cardiovascular disease.
6. The meeting was attended by a number of Members and feedback would indicate that it was a useful and informative session, which gave publicity to a topic which has a significant impact on Middlesbrough and its population.
7. The Health Scrutiny Panel is due to hold its next meeting on 25 October 2007, where it will discuss the current range of preventative measures with the PCT and discuss leisure facilities and access to them, with officers from the local authority. Following that meeting, it is anticipated that the Panel will move towards final evidence gathering, ahead of producing a Final Report.

8. The Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Joint Committee has submitted a response to the consultations of the Tees, Esk & Wear Valleys NHS Trust and the South Tees Hospitals NHS Trust pertaining to Foundation Trust status.
9. The Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Joint Committee will soon be considering screening programmes across Tees, and the rates of take up associated with them. This is in addition to considering emerging issues being brought forward by the North East Ambulance Service.

Councillor E. Dryden
Chair, Health Scrutiny Panel

BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

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