

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

8 APRIL 2008

HEALTH SCRUTINY UPDATE

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To update the Overview & Scrutiny Board 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 was scheduled to meet on 3 April 2008, to complete the evidence gathering around audiology services in Middlesbrough. A Final Report is presently in production.
4. The Panel is also due to meet soon with a number of representatives from Middlesbrough Council and the local NHS to complete the evidence gathering for the Patient Transport review. Securing a suitable date for four organisations to attend has proved difficult, although the Panel is hopeful of completing the topic and producing a Final Report within the next month or so.
5. The Panel is also starting to consider topics for next year's programme and intends to hold a number of briefing sessions on emerging or continuing issues of importance, in addition to detailed scrutiny investigations.
6. The Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Joint Committee has also been busy in the last month, meeting on two occasions to consider a number of issues including service direction in mental health services, neurological services, rapid response vehicles and Blood Donation.

7. Thought is currently being given to probable topics for Tees Valley Health Scrutiny in 2008/9, which looks like being another active year with possible statutory consultations and consideration of emerging topics.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

8. No background papers were used in the production of report.

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