

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

6 MAY 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 met on 3 April 2008, to complete the evidence gathering around audiology services in Middlesbrough. Additional documentary evidence has also been requested. A Final Report is presently in production, with the intention of it being presented to the Panel later this month.
4. The Panel is also due to meet on 8 May 2008, 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 now hopeful of completing the topic and producing a Final Report, to go to the Health Scrutiny Panel later this month.
5. The Panel is due to meet on 29 May, where it will consider final reports, receive an update on Healthcare Associated Infections at James Cook University Hospital and consider the emerging issue of Joint Strategic Needs Assessments. It will also consider topics for next year's programme.
6. The Panel is also holding a briefing seminar on 23 May 2008, which will serve the purpose of raising a number of emerging issues, which will be of

increasingly prevalence into the remainder of 2008 and into 2009. A letter regarding this has been sent to all Members.

7. Thought is also 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. Middlesbrough Council is due to be the Chair in 2008/9.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

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