

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

1 JULY 2008

HEALTH SCRUTINY UPDATE

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To appraise the Overview & Scrutiny Board of the progress made by the Health Scrutiny function.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. That the Overview & Scrutiny Board notes the progress made by the Health Scrutiny Panel.

CONSIDERATION OF REPORT

3. The Health Scrutiny function has considered a number of topics since the new Municipal Year started. At its meeting on 29 May 2008, the Health Scrutiny Panel identified its work programme for 2008/9. Its first review will be Emotional Wellbeing & Mental Health, with Practice Based Commissioning and Stroke Services also identified as subjects the Panel would like to consider in detail. The Panel is also intending to hold a Seminar on Suicide Prevention and would be interested in doing some joint work around Dementia Services, with the Social Care Panel.
4. In other matters, the Health Scrutiny Panel has recently agreed its Final Report into Audiology Services, which is elsewhere on today's agenda. At its next meeting, it will also be considering its Final Report into Patient Transport. The Panel has also received briefings on the upcoming Joint Strategic Needs Assessments consultation and is an active participant in the PCT's ongoing consultation around GP Services. The Panel will be commencing the review of Emotional Wellbeing as soon as possible.
5. The Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Joint Committee has also met recently to consider the North East Ambulance Service Contact Centre issue, which has carried over from the last municipal year. It is scheduled to meet with the Trust

Chief Executive and Chair on 11 July 2008 to consider the issues further, ahead of deciding how it would wish to progress the matter.

6. The Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Joint Committee has also agreed to proactively consider screening services and developments in mental health service provision proactively, in addition to responding to a number of issues that will be brought forward by the local NHS.
7. It is also intended that the South Tees Health Scrutiny Joint Committee will meet in the near future to begin its detailed consideration of the Community Foundation Trust consultation and its impact on local services.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

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Chair, Health Scrutiny Panel

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