

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

29 JULY 2008

HEALTH SCRUTINY UPDATE

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To update the OSB on the progress of the Health Scrutiny Panel.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. That the OSB notes the progress of the Health Scrutiny function.

CONSIDERATION OF REPORT

3. The Health Scrutiny Panel has recently finalised its report into Patient Transport to and from James Cook University Hospital. That report is elsewhere on the agenda today for discussion and has already had an impact on the way patient transport to and from James Cook is planned and provided.
4. The Health Scrutiny Panel is due to meet again on 30 July 2008, where it will commence its review into Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health, with a briefing from the local Director of Public Health about the prevailing national and regional approach to issues of Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health.
5. The Panel has also agreed that Members will go and do their own research into various themes around Emotional Wellbeing, ahead of feeding that information back into the review. The Panel is also due to hear again from Middlesbrough PCT with reference to the consultation and GP Practice and GP led Health Centre Development Proposals. Following this further update, it is anticipated that the Panel will take a view on the proposals, to be submitted into the consultation.

6. The Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Joint Committee met on 11 July to consider the North East Ambulance Service Contact Centre issue. The Joint Scrutiny Committee heard from a number of different organisations including the Cleveland Police Authority and Cleveland Emergency Planning. The Joint Scrutiny Committee also heard from local Members of Parliament. Following its consideration of all the issues involved and perspectives put forward, the Joint Scrutiny Committee decided to refer the matter to the Secretary of State for Health for consideration. The referral documentation is currently being prepared and will be endorsed by the Joint Scrutiny Committee ahead of being submitted to the Secretary of State for Health.
7. The Joint Scrutiny Committee is also intending to consider Cancer Screening Services across Tees, following the necessary work around the referral to the Secretary of State for Health. A plan for doing this work around Cancer Screening is currently being worked on.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

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

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