

## OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

26 AUGUST 2008

### HEALTH SCRUTINY UPDATE

#### PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

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

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

2. That the Overview & Scrutiny Board notes the progress of the Health Scrutiny function.

#### CONSIDERATION OF REPORT

3. The Health Scrutiny Panel was scheduled to meet on 20 August 2008, to continue its evidence gathering into Emotional Wellbeing & Mental Health. The Panel has already met once with the local Director of Public Health and received an introductory briefing into the topic. The Panel is now moving onto hearing about the size of the budgets for Mental Health, how those monies are divided and what is the nature of the services commissioned. Following the receipt of such information, the Panel will move onto hearing the views of charities, NHS professionals and expert advisory groups on how current services could further develop to address the evolving needs of people in Middlesbrough.
4. The Panel was also scheduled to consider Middlesbrough PCT's proposals for developments to GP services. Whilst the Panel has taken part in a consultation period, the Panel felt it would like to see more detailed information pertaining to the proposals before it takes a view on the suitability of the proposals. As such, the Panel is scheduled to consider papers that will be going to the PCT Board on 21 August with reference to the PCT's preferred course of action. It was intended that the Panel would then provide

its perspective in writing, for it to be tabled and considered at the PCT Board meeting.

5. The Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Joint Committee has now submitted its referral into the Secretary of State for Health, in respect of the North East Ambulance Service Contact Centre proposals. It is unknown, as yet, when the Joint Scrutiny Committee will hear the outcome of its referral. The Joint Scrutiny Committee will now move onto considering Cancer Screening Services around the Tees Valley.
6. In so far as the South Tees Health Scrutiny Joint Committee is concerned, we are presently awaiting confirmation of membership from Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council. Following receipt of that, it will move on to considering Community Foundation Trusts and what they mean for local people.

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

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

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

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