

## OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

18 NOVEMBER 2008

### HEALTH SCRUTINY UPDATE

#### PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To update 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 is due to hold a meeting on 19 November 2008, where it will receive further evidence in relation to its review into Emotional Wellbeing & Mental Health. The purpose of the meeting is to hear the views of Middlesbrough's Director of Public Health and senior commissioning staff from the PCT, about their views on how mental health services and the commissioning thereof, should develop in the next 3 to 5 years. It is anticipated that following this discussion, the Panel will begin to consolidate and consider the evidence collected, ahead of the production of a final report.
4. The Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Joint Committee is presently conducting a review into Cancer Screening across the Tees Valley and was due to hear from the manager of cancer screening across the Tees Valley, at its meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> November. The Joint Scrutiny Committee has also recently heard from the Department of Health in respect of the referral in relation to the North East Ambulance Service's contact centre proposals. It is anticipated that the Joint Scrutiny Committee will now be involved in regional dialogue to address the concerns it raised during the consultation period.
5. As the OSB will recall, Elected Members have expressed a strong interest in conducting a piece of work investigating local dementia services. Initial research into the topic has now been done, contact has being made with

senior North East NHS personnel regarding their attendance at any meetings Elected Members may wish to call. As such, an initial briefing regarding the national dementia strategy can take place when Members would like to progress the matter.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

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

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**Chair, Health Scrutiny Panel**

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