

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

10 FEBRUARY 2009

HEALTH SCRUTINY UPDATE

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To appraise Elected Members of the progress of the Health Scrutiny function.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. That Members note the progress of the Health Scrutiny function.

CONSIDERATION OF REPORT

3. As the OSB is aware, the Health Scrutiny Panel has recently completed its final report into Emotional Wellbeing & Mental Health, which is presently awaiting a formal response from Middlesbrough PCT.
4. The Panel recently received an update on Cardiovascular Disease, following the Panel's review into Cardiovascular Disease published in January 2008. The Panel's final report particularly focussed upon preventative measures that the local NHS could employ in addressing very high rates of cardiovascular disease in Middlesbrough. The Panel was pleased to read that a great deal of work has been done by the PCT to invest in preventative services, including a GP based screening service for people between 40 and 74 in Middlesbrough. The Panel has undertaken to revisit the matter at an appropriate juncture in the near future.
4. The Panel met on 5 February 2009 to receive an update briefing on Audiology services, following the publication of the Panel's review of the matter in June 2008. Further information on that update will be given at today's meeting. The Panel also received an initial briefing on Practice Based Commissioning, which will be followed up at its meeting at the end of February 2009. The Panel is also due to receive an update on work to develop the Patient Transport Service at the end of February meeting, following its review into the service.

5. The Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Joint Committee continues its review into Cancer Screening Services across Tees, as well as considering the NEAS Trust's application for Foundation Trust status and an emerging community based service for the treatment of arrhythmia, which is a heart condition.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

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