

AGENDA ITEM:

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

7 APRIL 2009

HEALTH SCRUTINY UPDATE

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To appraise the OSB of the progress of the Health Scrutiny function.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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

CONSIDERATION OF REPORT

3. The Health Scrutiny Panel has recently completed its evidence gathering in respect of Practice Based Commissioning, with a final report presently being prepared. Following this, the Panel will be moving onto Stroke Services.
4. The Panel's Final Report into Emotional Wellbeing & Mental Health was recently presented to a Board meeting of Middlesbrough PCT, with a formal response to the Panel report expected soon. The matter will be presented to a meeting of the Council's Executive later this month.
5. The Panel has also received positive feedback around Audiology Services, following its review into the topic. Further details of that topic are elsewhere on today's agenda.
6. The Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Joint Committee is moving towards the conclusion of its investigation into Cancer Screening Services. The Joint Scrutiny Committee is hoping to get the views of a specialist women's health charity, particularly in the fields of uptake of cervical and breast screening, ahead of producing a final report. The Joint Scrutiny Committee has recently reviewed the progress of the Cardiovascular Disease Screening programme, which appears to be progressing very well. The Joint Scrutiny Committee is also monitoring likely calls on its time in the near future around the North East Ambulance Service applying for Foundation Trust status and probable

developments in Sexual Health services across Tees. It is anticipated that both topics will be subject to statutory consultation periods. The Joint Scrutiny Committee next meets on 20 April 2009, where it will meet with the Chief Executive of the North East Strategic Health Authority (SHA), who will be speaking about the work of the SHA in the Tees Valley.

7. The Ad Hoc Scrutiny Panel on Dementia continues to make good progress and has received a great deal of information and opinion on local Dementia Services. The Panel was due to hold a consultative event for patients and carers on 6th April 2009, which is anticipated to provide Members with information about people's experiences, ahead of collecting final evidence and preparing a final report.

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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