

**OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD**

**9 MARCH 2010**

**HEALTH SCRUTINY UPDATE**

**PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1. To ensure that the Overview & Scrutiny Board is aware 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 recently considered the extent to which transport infrastructure and the built environment impacts, or can prevent, childhood obesity. It is intended that a report will be prepared outlining the information that the Panel has considered.
4. The Panel is next scheduled to meet on 23 March 2010, where it will discuss the Panel's work programme for the 2010/11 municipal year and the areas it would like to concentrate on. The Panel will also be hearing from senior management from Children, Families and Learning about the progress in addressing the Panel's recommendations pertaining to Children & Young People, following the review into Emotional Wellbeing & Mental Health.
5. The Children's Trust Ad Hoc Scrutiny Panel is scheduled to meet on 10 March 2010, where it will be considering evidence from the Chief Executive of Middlesbrough Council and the Youth Offending Service. The Ad Hoc Panel will hold its final evidence-gathering meeting at the end of March 2010, in advance of the production of a final report.
6. As the Overview & Scrutiny Board will recall the Ad Hoc Dementia Scrutiny Panel produced its final report in August 2009. The resulting action plan, which was produced collaboratively between NHS Middlesbrough &

Middlesbrough Council, outlines that most recommendations will be addressed by the end of March 2010. As such, the Ad Hoc Dementia Scrutiny Panel has scheduled a meeting for 1 April, which will provide an opportunity to hear about progress.

7. The Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Joint Committee's Final Report into Cancer Screening is due to be presented to PCT Boards at the end of March. The Joint Scrutiny Committee is also currently considering the topic of Quality Accounts, due to be published by the South Tees Hospitals NHS Trust, what it means for the local community and how Quality Accounts can best be used to improve services at James Cook University Hospital.
8. The Regional Health Scrutiny network also met on 26 February to discuss how to take forward the consideration of the veterans' health topic and wider issues concerning regional health scrutiny. Officers have been authorised to conduct research on behalf of Members and arrange an evidence collecting day in early June 2010. There was also an agreement that there should be a regional health scrutiny committee, which is capable of responding to issues very swiftly and meets around twice a year, to consider issues of regional issues.

**Councillor E. Dryden**  
**Chair, Health Scrutiny Panel**

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

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

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