

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

1 JUNE 2010

HEALTH SCRUTINY UPDATE

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To update the Overview & Scrutiny Board on 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 hold a meeting on 25 May 2010, to consider and discuss the future of community services. Recent policy has moved away from the idea of community services being delivered by Community Foundation Trusts and has moved towards community services being 'hosted' by existing Foundation Trusts. It was anticipated that the Panel would hear the options available and influence the debate about the best next steps for community services.
4. The Health Scrutiny Panel has also made a start on considering a new work programme topic, which will be *End of Life Care*. As a first step in this piece of work, the Panel is holding a meeting on 3 June 2010 where it will hear from the regional clinical lead for the End of Life Care Strategy, who is also a practising consultant. It is expected that this event will provide a good opportunity to hear some initial information about End of Life Care and provide the Panel with some areas of potential exploration.
5. The Ad Hoc Scrutiny Panel considering the Childrens Trust has recently completed its work and a final report is elsewhere on this agenda. The Tees Valley Health Scrutiny will commence a new programme of meetings soon, with a number of important issues to be addressed in the coming months.

6. The OSB has been advised previously about a regional health scrutiny project to look at the topic of the health of the ex-service community. There will be a regional event on 28 June 2010, where Councillors involved in Health Scrutiny can receive initial information on the health of the ex-service community and some of the issues faced. Middlesbrough's Health Scrutiny function has also been asked to lead a Physical Health workstream, to feed into that overall regional work and the eventual final report from regional health scrutiny. This work will commence following the event on 28 June 2010.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

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