

AGENDA ITEM: 5

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

19 OCTOBER 2010

IMPLICATIONS OF THE NHS WHITE PAPER: EQUITY & EXCELLENCE – LIBERATING THE NHS

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To introduce representation from NHS Middlesbrough, in attendance to discuss wider implications of NHS White Paper.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. That the Overview & Scrutiny Board notes the information presented today and make any enquiries felt appropriate.
3. That the Overview & Scrutiny Board considers how it would like to advance its consideration of this topic.

CONSIDERATION OF REPORT

4. At a meeting of the Overview & Scrutiny Board on 21 September 2010, an update was provided on the work being undertaken by the Health Scrutiny Panel to consider the implications of the White Paper, for the provision and operation of local health services.
5. It was considered that the abolition of Primary Care Trusts raised issues about the future of buildings that the PCT had a proprietary interest in, who inherited those proprietary interests and how those interest were acted upon. Specifically, the OSB felt this was a matter of interest for the local authority as a whole and to reflect that importance, OSB should consider it.
6. As such, representatives from NHS Middlesbrough will be in attendance at the meeting today to discuss this point and answer any questions from the OSB. To aid the discussion, NHS Middlesbrough has been advised that the following themes are of particular interest to Members.

- 6.1 What happens to PCT estate, or interest/liabilities in estate when PCTs are abolished?
- 6.2 What safeguards would be in place to ensure that property currently in public ownership remains in public ownership?
- 6.3 If those assets are realised, how will it be ensured that capital receipts benefit local health services?
7. It is anticipated that NHS Middlesbrough representatives will initially outline their views on the above themes, ahead of answering questions from Members.
8. Following today's conversation, the OSB is asked to consider whether it would like to pursue the topic further, or keep the matter under a watching brief, as the NHS reforms progress.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

9. Please see *Equity & Excellence – Liberating the NHS*.

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