

## OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

19 OCTOBER 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 has recently completed its consideration of the NHS White Paper *Equity & Excellence: Liberating the NHS*, by holding a meeting on 4 October to consider its final response. The Panel agreed a response, which was duly submitted to the Department of Health's consultation process. A copy of that response has been circulated to all Councillors. In related matters, it is expected that a NHS Bill will be published before Christmas 2010, in addition to a public health White Paper, due to be published in December 2010. As such, there will be more known about future developments when those documents are published.
4. The Health Scrutiny Panel also met on 6 October 2010, to consider final evidence submissions pertaining to End of Life Care in Middlesbrough. Representatives of the Cleveland Local Medical Committee, as well as the Department of Social Care presented evidence. It is anticipated that this will be the final evidence-gathering meeting, ahead of the production of a final report.
5. The Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Joint Committee met on 11 October 2010, to consider information pertaining to its ongoing interest in the capacity of community mental health services. The Joint Scrutiny Committee also received an update on developments to Out of Hours services across the Tees area.

6. The Health Scrutiny function has also been advised that Middlesbrough and Redcar & Cleveland Community Services (MRCCS) will, in due course, become part of the South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. It will become necessary for the South Tees Joint Scrutiny Committee to meet and discuss the development and consider future involvement.
7. The Regional Health Scrutiny project on the health of the ex-service community has made substantial progress and is currently endeavouring to obtain a local government perspective on services for the ex-service community, before the preparation of a final report.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

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

**Councillor Eddie Dyden  
Chair, Health Scrutiny Panel**

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