

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

8 MARCH 2011

**NORTH EAST JOINT HEALTH OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE
REGIONAL REVIEW OF THE HEALTH OF THE EX-SERVICE
COMMUNITY**

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To introduce the Final Report of the North East Joint Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee, considering the Health of the Ex-Service Community.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. That the Overview & Scrutiny Board notes and endorses the final report
3. That the Overview & Scrutiny Board agrees that the report be referred to Executive.

CONSIDERATION OF REPORT

4. The Overview & Scrutiny Board will be aware that the Health Scrutiny function in Middlesbrough, has taken an active part in the Regional review into the Health of the Ex-service community. The Overview & Scrutiny Board has received updates on the project as it has developed.
5. The Regional Review was assisted by a £5k grant by the Centre for Public Scrutiny, aimed at assisting innovative approaches to Health Scrutiny. It is expected that this work will be appearing in a Good Scrutiny Guide, published by the Centre for Public Scrutiny. It is believed that this piece of work is the first time that Scrutiny in an entire region has come together to scrutinise a topic of mutual interest and concern.
6. The process used to manage and deliver the piece of work is detailed in the attached report, although it should be noted that Middlesbrough's Health Scrutiny function had a high profile role in the work, leading the Physical

Health workstream. In practice, this means that Cllr Eddie Dryden was the Chair of the Physical Health workstream and Middlesbrough Officers were the lead support officers to the Physical Health Workstream.

7. The Regional Report is currently being considered in the 12 North East local authorities, but has already received positive coverage in local news. It has also already been mentioned, in a positive light, in both Houses of Parliament.
8. The Final Report will be formally launched at an event on 30 March, where senior military figures will also be present to discuss their views on the report.
9. It is anticipated that the North East Health Scrutiny Chairs, will meet at appropriate junctures in the coming months to track the impact of the final report.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

10. Please see attached final report.

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