

AGENDA ITEM: 9(e)

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

26 JULY 2011

HEALTH SCRUTINY UPDATE

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To appraise the Overview & Scrutiny Board 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 has already considered the designation of James Cook University Hospital as a Major Trauma Centre and the implications of that for the local health economy. A report containing more detail on that topic is elsewhere on the agenda.
4. The Panel was also scheduled to meet on 25 July, where it was due to consider cardiovascular disease in the South Asian population. When considering the Panel's work programme for 2011/12, the Panel discussed evidence highlighting the South Asian population's greater exposure to cardiovascular disease, when compared to other ethnic groups. The Panel was keen to explore the matter further, so has sought initial evidence from the Director of Public Health. It is that evidence that was due to be discussed at the meeting on 25 July. Following the Panel's consideration of that evidence, it may be that further information will be sought from other parts of the local health economy. At that same meeting, the Panel is also scheduled to consider a briefing paper, outlining recent developments relating to national health policy.
5. The Panel is also scheduled to commence its investigating into local neurological services in August 2011.

6. The South Tees Health Scrutiny Joint Committee was scheduled to meet on 22 July 2011, to meet with the Chief Executive of the South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. Specifically, the intention of the meeting was to cover the financial challenges facing the organisation, which are substantial. It is anticipated that this will be a topic that the Joint Scrutiny Committee will cover in some detail over the coming year.
7. The Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Joint Committee will be looking to hold its first meeting, and consider its work programme, during August 2011. More information will be reported to OSB when it is available.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

8. No background papers were used in the preparation of this document.

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