

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

20 SEPTEMBER 2011

HEALTH SCRUTINY UPDATE

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To ensure that the Overview & Scrutiny Board is appraised of the progress made by the Health Scrutiny function.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. That the Overview & Scrutiny Board notes the progress made by the Health Scrutiny function.

CONSIDERATION OF REPORT

3. The Health Scrutiny Panel is scheduled to meet on 21 September 2011, where it will receive the latest update on Healthcare Associated Infections at James Cook University Hospital. This is a regular update that the Panel receives every six months or so, which considers the current incidences of Healthcare Associated Infections and any pertinent issues that the Panel should be aware of. The Panel will also be advancing its consideration of Neurological services, with detailed evidence from the South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust due to be considered. As a provider of neurology services and a tertiary hospital, it is important that the Panel engages with specialist staff from James Cook University Hospital and considers their views closely. It is anticipated that the Panel will be hearing from senior management as well as senior clinical personnel. Following this evidence, the Panel will be seeking the views of NHS Commissioners and independent sector providers of neurological services.
4. The OSB will recall that the Health Scrutiny Panel is also involved in a joint piece of work with the Social Care & Adult Services Scrutiny Panel, which is to consider the experience of vulnerable older people in care settings. The Panel's hosted a very useful seminar on 5 September 2011, which heard from a number of key representatives from the local health and social care economy about some key issues for the Panels to consider. The Panels and support officers are currently considering the evidence submitted and the best

way of progressing an investigation into the topic. It is anticipated that progress will be made in the coming weeks, which will be presented to a future Overview & Scrutiny Board.

5. The Tees Valley Health Scrutiny was scheduled to meet on 12 September 2011, to nominate a Chair and consider its work programme for the 2011/12 municipal year. It is expected that more information will be provided at the Overview & Scrutiny Board meeting about the contents of that work programme.
6. The South Tees Health Scrutiny Joint Committee is scheduled to meet in late September to begin its consideration of the local health economy's budgetary position for 2012/13 and how the required savings should be made. It is expected that this piece of work will develop throughout 2011/12.

Councillor Eddie Dryden
Chair, Health Scrutiny Panel

BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

Contact Officer:

Jon Ord - Scrutiny Support Officer
Telephone: 01642 729706 (direct line)
Email: jon_ord@middlesbrough.gov.uk