

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

8 MAY 2012

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 continues to make progress on its consideration of the Experience of Vulnerable Older People in Care Settings. The Panel has already heard evidence from NHS Tees and the South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. The Panel held a roundtable debate on 19 April 2012, which is intended to be the final evidence gathering on the topic. The Panel identified a number of key questions to pursue, which were used as the central points for the debate. The Panel heard the perspectives of NHS Tees, South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Tees Esk & Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust, the emerging Clinical Commissioning Group and the Department of Social Care.
4. It is anticipated that a final report will now be drafted, outlining the evidence that the Panel has considered relating to vulnerable older people in healthcare settings. The Panel is also keeping a close watch on how the national health reforms are being implemented locally.
5. The Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Joint Committee met on 23 April 2012. It considered the evidence on how the local NHS dealt with winter pressures during the 2011/12 winter period, as well as a report on the local implications of the NHS Operating Framework. The Joint Scrutiny

Committee also considered a report centring on the accessibility of short term breaks for children with mental health and learning disability needs.

6. The Regional Health Scrutiny Committee also recently met to consider how the regional health and social care economy is responding to the recommendations of the regional scrutiny project around the ex-service community. It would appear that strong progress has been made, with a number of positive steps having been taken. A detailed report of progress can be supplied upon request.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

7. No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

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