

MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM 13 (E)

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

13 NOVEMBER 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

3. The Health Scrutiny Panel last met on 23 October 2012, where it considered a developing piece of work on Integrated Care, being led by the South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. It centred on such matters as reducing bed usage at JCUH by increasing Community Services capacity and ensuring that people only stayed in JCUH for as long as was clinically necessary. This is a piece of work that the Panel will keep under review and will be revisiting in the coming months.
4. At that same meeting, the Panel also commenced a new piece of work, on Children with Complex Needs. The Panel held an initial discussion with senior representatives from the local health and social care economy, to consider initial information on the topic and to seek views as to how the Panel should progress its investigation into the topic. Work is currently underway to draft terms of reference and establish lines of enquiry. It is anticipated that the Panel will focus upon a wide range of issues facing Children with Complex Needs and their families, including maternal health, child health programmes, educational provision and children's social and health care. The Overview & Scrutiny Board will be updated on this project as it develops.
5. The Health Scrutiny Panel is next scheduled to meet on 5 December 2012, where it will consider an update report on the local health system's preparedness for winter and develop its work in Children with Complex Needs. The Panel will also receive a briefing on proposed

changes to maternity and paediatric services at the Friarage Hospital, Northallerton and the possible implications for Middlesbrough.

6. The North East Regional Health Scrutiny Committee is due to meet on November 20th, where it will consider progress in the implementation of the recommendations around the ex-service community review. It will also be considering developments in the National Children's Congenital Heart Disease Review, which has ramifications for where Middlesbrough residents would receive specialist surgery.

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

BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

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