

MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM 8 (e)

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

3 February 2015

HEALTH SCRUTINY – UPDATE

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To provide members of the Overview & Scrutiny Board with an update on the Health Scrutiny function.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. That the Board notes the progress of the Health Scrutiny function.

CONSIDERATION

Health Scrutiny Panel

3. The panel met on 13 January to receive information on the Walk in Centre in North Ormesby. The element of the contract belonging to the South Tees CCG (ie the Walk in Centre) had been extended until March 2016 and the panel received further information on the current service provision, contracted activity, patient demographics and analysis of attendances.
4. The panel had also requested a written briefing from the South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (STHFT) which was discussed in some detail at the meeting. The panel had asked for the briefing in the light of the current concerns regarding winter pressures in A&E across the county and wanted to ascertain the current and short term outlook for James Cook Hospital.
5. The Trust had been under sustained and significant pressure since 2 January and in addition to the winter plan had instigated additional actions including the cancelling of some elective operations. It was reported that on January 9 STHFT was the only acute trust in the region to report NEEP 3, with others remaining at NEEP 4. (nb NEEP – North East Escalation Plan –

level of alert, Level 3 is Pressure, Level 4 being Severe Pressure)

6. As a result of details received as part of the discussions about delayed discharge and winter pressures, the panel will be writing to North Yorkshire Council to seek further information.
7. The next meeting is on 2 February where the panel will be discussing issues affecting GP practices in Middlesbrough with the Secretary of the Cleveland Medical Committee.

Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Joint Committee

8. The committee met on 22 January to discuss the following
 - i) **North East Ambulance Service** – Monitoring of Performance
 - ii) **Any Qualified Provider** – Commissioning and monitoring arrangements
 - iii) **Tees Suicide Prevention** – arising from the presentation of the plan at a recent Middlesbrough Health Scrutiny Panel meeting the report was taken to the joint committee to ask all Tees Valley authorities to receive and support the plan and to consider making similar recommendations, including asking their respective planning authorities to seek details of suicide prevention measures when considering planning applications.

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

BACKGROUND PAPERS

9. No background papers were used to prepare this briefing paper.

Contact Officer:

Elise Pout - Scrutiny Support Officer
Telephone: 01642 728302 (direct line)
Email: elise_pout@middlesbrough.gov.uk