

MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM 7(e)

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

5 JANUARY 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 15 December to receive the final evidence in their review of improving levels of breastfeeding in Middlesbrough. The panel had invited the key decision makers, including the Mayor, the Director of Public Health, Tees Valley Public Health Shared Service and the South Tees Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) to discuss potential ideas for recommendations. As a result a number of recommendations were developed which will be conveyed to the CCG in advance of the final report in order ensure they can be included in the development of their operational plans for 2016/17.
4. As the panel's next meeting on 12 January 2016 Members will be receiving further evidence in their review of cancer screening and reducing cancer related deaths.

South Tees Health Scrutiny Joint Committee

5. The committee met on 11 December to receive an update on the position with the temporary changes to the breast radiology department at James Cook University Hospital. Members were told that the temporary arrangements that begun on 1 October are still ongoing and that this was likely to be the case for some time. Health officials were therefore considering how they could develop a model that benefit the whole of the area and move towards a more sustainable service, it was proposed that this could be in the form of a hub and spoke approach. The committee will be keeping a watchful eye on developments and have made a number of recommendations in terms of bringing it the attention to the government and local MPs and writing to the Trusts in support of the interim measures and the new proposed model.
6. The committee will be meeting again on 18 December to receive further information in respect of Urgent Care, including details of the CCG's consultation timetable and also details of the updated position on the Life Store.

North East Health Scrutiny Joint Committee

7. The committee met on 17 December 2015 where it considered further information in respect of the review of Neonatal Services across the North East, the Committee had agreed that the changes to the services (which include neo-natal departments in Newcastle, Sunderland, North Tees and James Cook University Hospital) should be considered as a substantial development/variation.

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

BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

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