

MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM 7 (e)

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

21 APRIL 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's last meeting was on 15 March, where Members received an update on the current position at the Hemlington GP Practice.
4. The practice currently has a time-limited Alternative Provider Medical Services (APMS) contract which was due to end on 31 March 2016. NHS England was therefore in the process of tendering for a new contractor to operate the GP practice. NHS England had advertised the practice to other providers to deliver the service as a 'branch' of one of their existing contracts in Middlesbrough. The panel were advised that there would be no changes to the services the new Provider would need to deliver. The panel were updated throughout the procurement process and have since been informed that unfortunately no applications were received from providers in the South Tees locality.
5. NHS England has subsequently agreed a short term extension until 31 May 2016 to allow for further options to be assessed. They have advised that patients do not need to register with another practice. The panel will continue to monitor the situation.

6. The meeting scheduled for 27 April is currently in the process of being rearranged to accommodate the health professionals who are due to attend the panel on the topic of Cancer Screening and Reducing Cancer Related Deaths in Middlesbrough. This will also coincide with a visit to see the cancer facilities at the James Cook University Hospital.

South Tees Health Scrutiny Joint Committee

7. The South Tees Clinical Commissioning Group's (CCG) consultation on their plans for Urgent Care in the South Tees area has now closed. The committee are scheduled to meet on 10 June to receive the feedback from that consultation. The committee will then submit a formal response to the consultation based on all the evidence they have received. The Chair of the committee will transfer to Redcar following the AGM in May.

Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Joint Committee

8. The meeting in April was cancelled as the substantive item on the agenda was an update on the North East ambulance Service (NEAS); however as NEAS is currently undergoing a CQC inspection it was agreed that there would be more value in detailed discussions taking place after the inspection. Middlesbrough will take over the Chair of the Committee following the AGM in May.

Better Health Programme Joint Committee

9. Progress is being made cross Durham and the Tees Valley in setting up the Joint Committee. Membership, terms of reference and protocols for the committee will be submitted to the respective Council meetings in April and May. Stakeholder events are being held by the NHS across the areas involved and in Middlesbrough an event is being held on 18 May at 1700 at the Acklam Green Centre. Further details can be found at <http://www.nhsbetterhealth.org.uk/>.

Councillor Eddie Dryden
Chair, Health Scrutiny Panel

BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

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