



meeting	OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	
date	16 February 2009	agenda item number

Report of the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny

Progress Report - Review of the East Midlands Ambulance Service

Purpose of report

1. To provide the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) with an opportunity to consider the progress of recommendations made by the East Midlands Ambulance Service Select Committee.

Background

2. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is responsible for receiving responses to Scrutiny recommendations and is responsible for monitoring progress made in implementing those recommendations that are accepted by the Executive.
3. In January 2008 the final report of a scrutiny review of the emergency ambulance service in Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire was published. A summary of the report and the recommendations are attached as an appendix to this report.
4. At the meeting on 12 May 2008 the Overview and Scrutiny Committee received the following response from the East Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Trust to the review of the emergency ambulance service:

“Thank you for the opportunity to comment upon the Final Report of the Select Committee. The report has been considered by our Trust Board and also by our Executive Team.

EMAS welcomes the content of the report. It is balanced and reflects the information provided by EMAS and others, as well as the experience gained in visiting EMAS locations and meeting our staff.

The analysis is fair and the recommendations are helpful and will contribute to greater patient care. We are keen to progress the recommendations and with this aim in mind we have produced our own draft action plan for their implementation. I would like to suggest that our two organisations work together on the action plan (seeing what we have as very much a first draft), perhaps

through the vehicle of quarterly meetings involving our Nottinghamshire Divisional General Manager, Ahmed Belim, and yourself or another appropriate colleague. We would like to offer a similar opportunity to Lincolnshire County Council where our Divisional General Manager is Peter Jones.

Maintaining contact in this way, with a definite purpose to the meetings, is something that we are keen to do because we have all invested in the process of the Select Committee's review, and we feel enthusiastic about maximising the benefits arising from this new relationship. This could generate further opportunities for partnership working."

5. At that meeting the General Manager Nottinghamshire A&E, EMAS gave a presentation on the Divisional Action Plan and how the recommendations were being incorporated into this. A copy of the presentation is attached as an Appendix to the report.
6. The positive response to scrutiny by a partner agency was noted by the Audit Commission in the recent Comprehensive Performance Assessment of the County Council.
7. Members may wish to note the Joint Health Scrutiny Committee is currently undertaking a review of patient transport services in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire.

Issues

8. Representatives of the East Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Trust have been invited to attend the meeting to provide an update on the progress made against the action plan.

Recommendations

9. It is recommended that

the Overview and Scrutiny Committee considers the progress made and identifies any further action or monitoring required.

Councillor E D W Llewellyn-Jones
Chair of Overview and Scrutiny

Background papers: nil