

MEETING:	HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
DATE:	30 NOVEMBER 2009
TITLE OF REPORT:	EFFICIENCY REVIEW OF WEST MIDLANDS AMBULANCE SERVICE NHS TRUST

CLASSIFICATION: Open

Wards Affected

County-wide

Purpose

To consider the outcome of the efficiency review of the West Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Trust.

Recommendation(s)

THAT

- a) the report be noted, subject to any comments the Committee wishes to make; and**
- b) the Committee considers whether it requires any further report on this matter.**

Introduction and Background

1. In March 2009 this Committee approved the findings of its Scrutiny Review of the West Midlands Ambulance Service (WMAS) in Herefordshire.
2. The Committee was informed that two further reviews of ambulance provision were underway. It was reported that WMAS was undertaking its own review of provision in the County. In addition the Regional Specialised Commissioning Team, responsible for commissioning the ambulance service on behalf of the 17 Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) in the West Midlands Strategic Health Authority area, had commissioned an independent review looking at the operational and financial effectiveness of the ambulance service across the region.
3. The Committee agreed that the written responses to the findings of the review of the West Midlands Ambulance Service in Herefordshire be noted, on the basis that the further explanation provided in response to the concerns expressed by Members at the meeting provided reassurance that the scrutiny review findings and recommendations were being given serious consideration; and that on conclusion of

the two separate reviews of the ambulance service led by WMAS and the PCT respectively their findings should both be reported to the Committee, together with a report on progress in response to the recommendations in the scrutiny review, at which time consideration would then be given to the need for any further reports to be made.

4. The findings of the efficiency review undertaken by Lightfoot Solutions (the Lightfoot Review) were published on 30 September 2009. A summary and analysis by NHS Herefordshire is appended.
5. The Lightfoot Review has been circulated separately to Members of the Committee and is available to the public on request.
6. Representatives of WMAS will present the efficiency review's findings at the meeting.

Appendices

- Summary and analysis of Lightfoot Review by NHS Herefordshire.

Background Papers

- None identified.