

## **WEST MIDLANDS REGIONAL OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY SURVEY**

**Report By: Director of Social Care and Strategic Housing**

### **Wards Affected**

County-wide

### **Purpose**

1. To provide the Committee with an update on the results of a survey undertaken by the West Midlands Local Government Association (WMLGA) on the regional health scrutiny development priorities.

### **Financial Implications**

2. No resource implications have been identified in relation to this item.

### **Background**

3. During 2003 the WMLGA undertook a survey to establish the regional development priorities for health scrutiny committees within the West Midlands.
4. The priorities identified for the development of the scrutiny function included workshops and seminars to consider:
  - best practice in addressing health inequalities
  - guidance on joint committees
  - delegation to District Councils
  - the criteria for consultation by NHS
  - the interpretation of 'substantial variation'
  - the role for scrutiny in 'foundation hospitals'
  - 'jargon busting'.
  - the implications of the new GP contracts
  - communication with PALS and Patients' Fora

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT the Committee note the regional health scrutiny development priorities identified as a result of the survey undertaken by the West Midlands Local Government Association.**

### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- None identified

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Further information on the subject of this report is available from Sue Fiennes, Director of Social Care and Strategic Housing on (01432) 260048

