MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM: 6

ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND SERVICES SCRUTINY PANEL

**Setting the Scrutiny Panel's Work Programme
2018/2019**

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25 JUNE 2018

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To invite the Adult Social Care and Services Scrutiny Panel to consider its work programme for the 2018/2019 Municipal Year.

REVIEW OF 2017/2018

2. The topics considered by the Adult Social Care and Services Scrutiny Panel (formerly the Social Care and Adult Services Scrutiny Panel) in 2017/2018 are listed below for Members' information:

    - Aster Care Home (formerly Belle Vue Care Home) – Updates and Final Report.
    - Audit and Assurance Report – Safeguarding Adults Team – Update.
    - Care Home Safeguarding Alerts – Panel Member Discussion.
    - Integration of Health and Social Care – Update.
    - Middlesbrough Live at Home Scheme – Presentation.
    - Middlesbrough Voluntary Development Agency (MVDA) – Community Connect Service – Update.
    - Reducing Loneliness and/or Social Isolation in Later Life – Full Review with Final Report.
    - Review of Learning Disability Respite Services – Update.
    - Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults – Update.
    - The Live Well Centre – Update and Tour.

    Topics Agreed in 2017/2018 – Not Investigated

    - The LGBT Community and Elderly Care.
    - Review of Learning Disability Respite Services – Working Party Activity.

BACKGROUND

3. At the start of every Municipal Year, Scrutiny Panels discuss the topics that they would like to review during the coming year.

4. Work programmes are useful as they provide some structure to a Scrutiny Panel's activity and allow for the effective planning and preparation of work.

5. As part of the process for establishing the work programme, support officers gather information/views from a number of sources. Below is a list of topics which are anticipated to be of particular interest to the Scrutiny Panel. Members are advised that the list of possible topics is not exhaustive and that additional topics can be added and considered at the Scrutiny Panel meeting.

Topical Issues

Topic	Details
Care Homes and Personalisation	In 2016, NHS England published an updated guidance document entitled 'Personalised Care and Support Planning Handbook: The Journey to Person-centred Care'. The document provides practical guidance, case studies and theory on how care and support planning can be introduced. In 2017, the Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) published a resource to summarise information, advice and guidance to support care home owners and managers as they developed a person-centred (or personalised) approach to care in their homes. Training videos are available on the SCIE's website, together with case studies and other downloadable support materials. In February 2018, it was reported that researchers had found that training staff to deliver personalised care in care home environments reduced peoples' distress and improved their quality of life. The research highlighted that spending one hour per week talking to dementia patients about their lives and interests, and tailoring activities to the things that they enjoyed, had a positive effect upon their lives (NHS Choices, 2018).
Social Care Support for Older Carers N.B. This topic could also be considered as a potential subset of the 'Supporting Informal/hidden Carers' topic – discussed below.	In 2016, Carers Trust published a research document entitled 'Retirement on Hold: Supporting Older Carers' (www.carersuk.org). The key findings of the report were: • Care coordination – carers said they were spending too much time, and becoming stressed and anxious, when trying to organise care and support for the person with care needs. • Carers were caring for someone else when they had their own age-related health condition. • The pressures around carers feeling they had a 'duty to care' – the Care Act recognises that caring should be a choice. • Lack of appropriate replacement care to enable carers to take a break. In 2016, NHS England, in collaboration with Public Health England, Age UK, Carers Trust and older people themselves, published a guidance document entitled 'A Practical Guide to Healthy Caring'. In March 2018, Age UK reported that: • "Of the two million older carers, more than 400,000 are over 80 years old, a third of whom are spending more than 35 hours a week providing care. • There are nearly 500,000 more older carers than there were five years ago, and the number of Advice Line enquiries about care almost doubled in the last two years. • 45.4% of carers are 65 and over. • 90.1 per cent of carers aged 85 and over have caring responsibilities for someone aged 75 or over. • For all carers aged over 45, the highest percentage of the people they care for are aged 75 or over.

	16.2% of carers overall reported they have little social contact and feel socially isolated. - Of carers who have had a lot of financial difficulties caused by their caring responsibilities, 38.7 per cent report having little social contact with people and feeling socially isolated. - Nearly two-thirds (65%) of carers have health problems or a disability. - More than two thirds (69%) of carers say being a carer has damaged their psychological wellbeing." (www.ageuk.org.uk)
Social Care Support for Refugees and Asylum Seekers	In 2015 the Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) published a guidance document entitled 'Good Practice in Social Care for Refugees and Asylum Seekers'. In 2016, the Home Office reported that Middlesbrough continued to home the highest proportion of asylum seekers in the UK, with a ratio of one asylum seeker to 152 residents. This was subsequently reported by various local and national media sources (e.g. Evening Gazette, 2016). The Local Government Association (LGA) (2018) provides an online one-stop resource for Councillors and Council Officers, entitled 'Council Support: Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Unaccompanied Children'. There are support programmes and services presently operating, such as the North of England Refugee Service's Health Access for Refugees Programme (HARP) (2018), which is funded by the Department of Health. The programme currently operates in six areas: Middlesbrough, Doncaster, Hull, Leeds, Sheffield and Wakefield, and aims to train volunteers to undertake a variety of work, including supporting newly arriving refugees and asylum seekers in accessing health and social care services.
Supporting Informal/hidden Carers	In 2017, national media looked at informal carers in the context of the 'sandwich generation', i.e. individuals caring for ageing parents whilst supporting their children and grandchildren. It is anticipated that, with demographic changes, both the number of carers and the associated responsibilities will soon increase (Hill, 2017). In March 2018, Age UK reported that: "There are over 2 million older people in the UK today who are providing unpaid care, and more than half of these older carers have a health condition or disability themselves. 58.5 per cent of carers spend more than 35 hours per week providing care. Over a third of carers (35.7 per cent) provide care for over 100 hours per week. - Over a third of carers aged 65+ provide 50 or more hours of in-formal care each week. Nearly 12% provide 100 hours or more. - Older people provide informal care estimated to be worth about £11.4 billion per year. - The value of informal care provided by people aged 80+ in England has been estimated by Age UK as £5.9bn." (www.ageuk.org.uk)

The Role of Digital Technology in Transforming Social Care	In 2016, the LGA published a report entitled 'Transforming Social Care Through the Use of Information and Technology'. The paper provided examples of transformation in practice, drawing out case studies where digital technology and the use of information is actively enabling change. In 2017, national media looked at the potential role of information technology in the integration of Health and Social Care (e.g. Maruthappu, 2017). In May 2018, NHS Digital invited bids from Local Authorities for a share of £1 million in funding, to be utilised for forward-thinking digital innovation projects in the design and delivery of Adult Social Care. The initiative was managed by the LGA, with support from the Association of Directors of Adult Social Care (ADASS). Twelve Local Authorities would receive £20,000 to design a digital solution to address a specific issue within their service, with six receiving up to a further £80,000 to support its implementation (Digital Health, 2018).

Suggestions

Suggestion	Details
Care Home Development in Middlesbrough	Suggestion from a Councillor. To review the current policies and practice associated with the development of care homes in Middlesbrough, in order to ensure their viability.
Carers Assessments	Suggestion from an officer. The Care Act gives Local Authorities a responsibility to assess a carer's needs for support, where the carer appears to have such needs (Department of Health and Social Care, 2016). According to Carers UK, the assessment is an opportunity for carers to discuss the support or services they need with the Local Authority. The assessment considers a variety of factors in terms of how caring affects the carers life, including physical, mental and emotional needs, and whether the individual is able and/or willing to continue caring. Carers UK has published a factsheet entitled 'Assessments: Your Guide to Getting Care and Support' (which contains information about the system of care and support that has been in place in England since 1 April 2015), and offers detailed information and other downloadable resources on its website (www.carersuk.org).
Intergenerational Housing	Suggestion from an officer. There is a growing interest in intergenerational living, both in the UK and overseas. Various programmes, such as Homeshare UK, have been developed to establish and promote the mutual benefits associated with intergenerational housing, including affordable accommodation being made available to younger housesharers, and support, such as assistance with cleaning, shopping and gardening, and overnight security and companionship, being offered to older householders (Homeshare UK, 2018).

	An evaluation report of a two-year Homeshare Pilot Programme, published in May 2018, found that the model reduced loneliness and improved well-being by offering companionship and facilitating inter-generational relationships; and provided affordable housing for younger people who were often priced out.

Updates

In respect of previous reviews, the Scrutiny Panel can request updates on the progress made with the implementation of Scrutiny recommendations. The Panel is yet to receive an initial update on the 2017/2018 review of 'Reducing Loneliness and/or Social Isolation in Later Life'.

6. It should be noted that the topics outlined above are suggestions only. The content of the Scrutiny Panel's work programme is entirely a decision for the Panel to make. When considering the work programme, the Panel is advised to select topics that are of interest to it, as well as topics that the Panel feels by considering, it could add value to the Local Authority's work.

7. In addition to undertaking the agreed work programme, Scrutiny Panels have also previously responded on an ad hoc basis to emerging issues - such as considering relevant new legislation, guidance or Government consultation documents. This approach occasionally results in further topics being identified for investigation or review throughout the year.

8. On occasion, Ad Hoc Scrutiny Panels may also be established throughout the year to undertake additional investigations, for example: to examine areas of work which overlap more than one Scrutiny Panel.

9. The Scrutiny Panel is also advised that, under the terms of the Local Government Act 2000, Local Authorities have a responsibility of community leadership and a power to secure the effective promotion of community well-being. Therefore, in addition to the Scrutiny Panel's generally recognised powers (of holding the Executive to account, reviewing service provision, developing policy, considering budget plans and performance and financial monitoring), Panels also have the power to consider any matters which are not the responsibility of the Council, but which affect the Local Authority or the inhabitants of its area. For example: nationally, Local Authorities have undertaken Scrutiny work on issues such as: Post Office closures; Rural bus services; Policing matters; and Flood defence schemes.

Scrutiny Work Plan Prioritisation Aid

10. Members may wish to use the aid attached at Appendix 1 to prioritise issues where Scrutiny can make an impact, add value or contribute to policy development.

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

11. The Scrutiny Panel is asked to consider and agree its work programme for the 2018/2019 Municipal Year. To assist in this task, Erik Scollay, Director of Adult Social Care and Health Integration, will be in attendance to provide an overview of the main services within the Scrutiny Panel's remit and an outline of priorities, key issues and challenges for the year ahead.

12. When considering its work programme, the Scrutiny Panel is asked to ensure that topics agreed for inclusion:

- Affect a group of people living within the Middlesbrough area;

- Relate to a service, event or issue in which the Council has a significant stake or over which the Council has an influence;
- Are not issues which the Overview and Scrutiny Board or the Scrutiny Panels have considered during the last 12 months;
- Do not relate to an individual service complaint; and
- Do not relate to matters dealt with by another Council Committee, unless the issue deals with procedure.

13. It is suggested that the Scrutiny Panel has a mixture of working styles in its programme. This can include detailed and in-depth reviews, shorter topics, or one-off investigations.

14. Once the Scrutiny Panel has identified the areas of priority, support staff will draw those topics into a programme for approval by the Overview and Scrutiny Board.

RECOMMENDATION

15. That the Scrutiny Panel identifies topics it would like to include in its work programme for 2018/2019, for consideration/approval by the Overview and Scrutiny Board.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

16. The following resources were consulted during the preparation of this report:

Age UK (2017), *'Older Carers Left to Fill the Gap as Our Social Care System Crumbles'*, https://www.ageuk.org.uk/latest-news/articles/2017/december/older-carers-fill-the-gap/ – accessed May 2018.

Age UK (2018), *'Later Life in the United Kingdom'*, https://www.ageuk.org.uk/globalassets/age-uk/documents/reports-and-publications/later_life_uk_factsheet.pdf – accessed May 2018.

Carers UK (2018), https://www.carersuk.org/ – accessed May 2018.

Department of Health & Social Care (2016), *'Guidance: Care Act Factsheets'*, https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/care-act-2014-part-1-factsheets/care-act-factsheets#factsheet-8-the-law-for-carers – accessed May 2018.

Digital Health (2018), *'NHS Digital Puts £1m up for Grabs for Adult Social Care Tech Pilots'*, https://www.digitalhealth.net/2018/05/adult-social-care-digital-innovations-funding/ – accessed May 2018.

Evening Gazette (2016), *'Middlesbrough Continues to Home Highest Proportion of Asylum Seekers in UK'*, https://www.gazettelive.co.uk/news/teesside-news/middlesbrough-continues-home-highest-proportion-11391415 – accessed May 2018.

Hill, A. (2017), *'The New Retirement: Hidden Carers: The Sixty-somethings Looking After Parents and Grandchildren'*, https://www.theguardian.com/membership/2017/feb/13/new-retirement-ageing-responsibility-carers-parents-children-care-crisis – accessed May 2018.

Homeshare UK (2018), https://homeshareuk.org/about-homeshare/about-us/ – accessed May 2018.

Local Government Association (2016), '*Transforming Social Care Through the Use of Information and Technology*', https://www.local.gov.uk/transforming-social-care-through-use-information-and-technology – accessed May 2018.

Local Government Association (2018), *'Council Support: Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Unaccompanied Children',* https://www.local.gov.uk/topics/communities/refugees-and-asylum-seekers/refugees-and-unaccompanied-children – accessed May 2018.

Maruthappu, M. (2017), '*What Does 2017 Hold for Social Care?*', https://www.theguardian.com/social-care-network/2017/jan/03/what-does-2017-hold-for-social-care – accessed May 2018.

NHS Choices (2018), *''It's Good to Talk,' Dementia Study Finds'*, https://www.nhs.uk/news/mental-health/its-good-talk-dementia-study-finds/ – accessed May 2018.

NHS England (2016), '*A Practical Guide to Healthy Caring*', https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/a-practical-guide-to-healthy-caring/ – accessed May 2018.

NHS England (2016), '*Personalised Care and Support Planning Handbook: The Journey to Person-centred Care',* https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/personalised-care-and-support-planning-handbook-the-journey-to-person-centred-care/ – accessed May 2018.

North of England Refugee Service (2018), *'HARP – Health Access for Refugees Programme'*, https://www.refugeecouncil.org.uk/assets/0004/0492/HARP_Leaflet_27-07-2017.pdf – accessed May 2018.

North of England Refugee Service (2018), *'HARP – Health Access for Refugees Programme'*, http://www.refugee.org.uk/harp – accessed May 2018.

Social Care Institute for Excellence (2015), '*Good Practice in Social Care for Refugees and Asylum Seekers',* https://www.scie.org.uk/publications/guides/guide37-good-practice-in-social-care-with-refugees-and-asylum-seekers/ – accessed May 2018.

Social Care Institute for Excellence (2017), '*Person-centred Care for Older People in Care Homes'*, https://www.scie.org.uk/person-centred-care/older-people-care-homes/introduction – accessed May 2018.

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Does this issue affect a majority of the population of Middlesbrough or a specific area?		NO
↓ YES		
Is the issue strategic and significant?		NO
↓ YES		
Will the scrutiny activity add value to the Council's overall performance?		NO
↓ YES		
Is it likely to lead to effective outcomes?		NO
↓ YES		
Will it be duplicating some other work?	YES	
↓ NO		
Is it an issue of concern to partners and others?	NO	
↓ YES		
Is it an issue of community concern?	NO	
↓ YES		
Are there adequate resources to do the activity well?	NO	
↓ YES		
Is the Scrutiny activity timely?	NO	
↓ YES		

Include - high priority   **Consider - Low Priority**   **Leave Out**