

HEALTH SCRUTINY PANEL

25 NOVEMBER 2010

SAFEGUARDING VULNERABLE ADULTS – AN INITIAL BRIEFING

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To introduce the topic of Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults to the Health Scrutiny Panel, which is a part of the Panel's work programme for 2010/11.
2. To introduce representation from the Department of Social Care, in attendance to provide an initial briefing on the topic and speak about a recently published *Care Quality Commission (CQC)* inspection into the topic in Middlesbrough.

RECOMMENDATIONS

3. That the Panel notes the content of the briefing today.
4. That the Panel agrees to invite representatives of the local NHS to a future meeting to discuss their arrangements for the safeguarding of vulnerable adults.

CONSIDERATION OF REPORT

5. The Panel will recall that at the start of the 2010/11 municipal year, the topic of Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults was included in the Panel's work programme.
6. The Panel was advised that a CQC Inspection had taken place earlier in 2010, into the Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults in Middlesbrough and the Panel was keen to hear its outcome. Of specific interest to the Panel is the fact that the CQC report also considers the role of the local NHS in the safeguarding of vulnerable adults, in addition to the role of the Department of Social Care. Given the inspection's focus on the role of the local NHS, the Panel identified this as a topic for consideration.

7. As a starting point, senior officer representation from the Department of Social Care will be in attendance at the Panel meeting today to provide an initial briefing about the inspection and the outcomes as far as the Department of Social Care is concerned.
8. It is suggested that after the briefing from the Department of Social Care, the Health Scrutiny Panel identifies local NHS representatives to be invited to a meeting in the near future to discuss their role in the safeguarding of vulnerable adults.
9. It is anticipated that the representatives from the Department of Social Care will initially brief the Panel on the CQC report, ahead of addressing questions from the Panel.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

10. Please see Appendix 1 – Care Quality Commission Inspection Report.

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