

# MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM 8

## HEALTH SCRUTINY PANEL

5 DECEMBER 2012

### OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD UPDATE

#### PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To ensure that Scrutiny Panel Members are aware of what took place at the last meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Board.

#### PROCEEDINGS OF THE LAST MEETING OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

2. The following matters were discussed at the 13 November 2012 meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Board (OSB):

AGENDA ITEM	ACTION/COMMENTARY
<b>Attendance of Executive Members at the Overview and Scrutiny Board</b>	The purpose of the report was to provide information in respect of the scheduled attendance of Members of the Executive at the Overview and Scrutiny Board. The Board noted the content of the report.
<b>Executive Member for Children, Families and Learning</b>	<p>Councillor M Carr attended the meeting to provide the Board with information on his aims, aspirations, objectives and priorities as Executive Member for Children, Families and Learning.</p> <p>The following issues were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The updated position concerning the conversion of Middlesbrough primary and secondary schools to academies - including work being undertaken to promote and continue a 'family of schools' approach locally.</li><li>• Issues around the safeguarding of children and young people - such as early intervention, budget pressures, placements and foster carers.</li><li>• Levels of attainment across all Key Stages in Middlesbrough.</li></ul>
<b>Executive Feedback</b>	The Board was provided with formal notification of the Executive's

	<p>decision in respect of the following scrutiny reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transport Element of the Local Development Framework.</li> <li>• Experience of Vulnerable Older People in Health Care Settings.</li> </ul> <p>It was noted that both reports, and associated recommendations, had been approved by The Executive.</p>
<p><b>Coroner's Service - Final Report of the Community Safety and Leisure Scrutiny Panel</b></p>	<p>The Board considered the Community Safety and Leisure Scrutiny Panel's final report on this topic.</p> <p>The report was approved for submission to the Executive, subject to the addition of a recommendation relating to democratic accountability.</p>
<p><b>Erimus Housing - Enforcement on Condition of Gardens and General Environmental Conditions of the Social Housing Area</b></p>	<p>Representatives of Erimus Housing attended the meeting to discuss this topic. These issues had been raised at the OSB's October 2012 meeting, when it had been agreed to invite Erimus Housing to attend the Board.</p> <p>Two representatives of Erimus were present at the OSB meeting, with Members being advised on how the organisation deals with unsightly/untidy gardens. Reference was also made to work undertaken in respect of open spaces and other areas and liaison with the Council concerning maintenance of areas of Erimus land adjacent to Council-owned land.</p> <p>The OSB noted the submitted information and agreed that no further action was necessary on this issue at this stage.</p>
<p><b>Orchard Day Service</b></p>	<p>The issue of fixed-term closures of The Orchard Centre had been raised at the OSB's October 2012 meeting, when it had been agreed to examine the subject further at the November 2012 meeting.</p> <p>Having considered the submitted information, it was agreed to refer the matter to the Social Care and Adult Services Scrutiny Panel for examination.</p>
<p><b>Winter Maintenance</b></p>	<p>Following concerns expressed at the October 2012 OSB meeting, the purpose of the report was to update the position concerning non-implementation of earlier scrutiny panel recommendations regarding winter maintenance.</p> <p>The Board was advised by the relevant service area that the reason for non-implementation related to staffing changes, although (as confirmed by the District Auditor at the meeting) all of the recommendations have now been actioned and are included in the current Winter Maintenance Plan.</p> <p>OSB agreed to report to The Executive on this issue and highlight the need to monitor implementation of agreed scrutiny recommendations as, once agreed by The Executive, these are Council policy.</p>

<p><b>Gresham Regeneration - Final Report of the Economic Regeneration and Transport Scrutiny Panel</b></p>	<p>The Board considered the Economic Regeneration and Transport Scrutiny Panel's final report on this topic.</p> <p>The report was approved for submission to The Executive.</p>
<p><b>Joint working Arrangements - Final Report of the Environment Scrutiny Panel</b></p>	<p>The Board considered the Environment Scrutiny Panel's final report on this topic.</p> <p>The report was approved for submission to The Executive subject to the amendment of Recommendation 3. to include referring the matter to the Tees Valley Chief Executives' Meeting.</p>
<p><b>Consideration of Requests for Scrutiny Reviews</b></p>	<p>The purpose of the report was to inform the Board of a request for a scrutiny review, submitted by a Member of the Council, into issues associated with Durham Tees Valley Airport.</p> <p>Having considered the submitted information, it was agreed to refer the topic to the Economic Regeneration and Transport Scrutiny Panel for examination.</p>
<p><b>Scrutiny Panel Progress Reports</b></p>	<p>The Board considered an update on the work of each of the Council's scrutiny panels, including the current Ad-Hoc Scrutiny Panel.</p> <p>In respect of the Social Care and Adult Services Scrutiny Panel update it was noted that the Panel had initially considered the topic of Welfare Reforms. It was apparent from the information received that the impact of the reforms would be wide reaching and some areas for consideration would fall outside of the Panel's remit. It was therefore agreed that the Board would consider the topic of Welfare Reforms.</p>

**COUNCILLOR EDDIE DRYDEN**

**CHAIR OF HEALTH SCRUTINY PANEL**

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

The following background papers were used in the preparation of this report  
- Agenda and papers of the Overview and Scrutiny Board meeting of 16 October 2012.

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