

AGENDA ITEM: 9 c

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

4th APRIL 2005

ADD HOC SCRUTINY PANEL

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

PROGRESS REPORT

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1 To inform Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Board of the progress made to date by the Ad Hoc Scrutiny Panel examining Community Engagement.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2 It is recommended that the Overview and Scrutiny Board approves the actions of the Ad Hoc Scrutiny Panel resulting from its meeting of 10th March 2005 and its briefing meeting of 15th March 2005.

PROGRESS OF THE PANEL

3. The Ad Hoc Scrutiny Panel examining Community Engagement held a meeting on the 10th March when it received information from the Councils Education service on the engagement with the Youth sector of Middlesbrough. The Panel determined to form two small groups to directly engage with Youth. Arrangements are now being made for one group to engage with representatives of the Youth Parliament while the

other group will engage with a youth Centre. Members of these Scrutiny groups will then report back their findings and assessments to the Ad Hoc Scrutiny Panel at the appropriate open meeting.

4. The panel also engaged on the 10th March with representatives of the BME Network. The Panel was appraised of the Networks function and how it endeavours to ensure the various ethnic groups of Middlesbrough are adequately informed.
5. The Panel has also held a briefing meeting on the 15th March where it explored the Councils support both financially and in resource terms to Community Councils. The Panel is aiming to meet some representatives from Community Councils on the 30th March. Consequently the Panel considered it would be beneficial to be appraised of the level of engagement and the duties invested in Community Councils in advance of that meeting.

COUNCILLOR MICHAEL CARR

CHAIR OF THE “Community Engagement” AD HOC SCRUTINY PANEL

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background paper was used in the preparation of this report: -

16th March 2005

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