

AGENDA ITEM: 7f

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

1 MAY 2007

SOCIAL CARE AND ADULT SERVICES SCRUTINY PANEL

PROGRESS REPORT

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To provide members of the Overview and Scrutiny Board with an update on the progress of the Social Care and Adult Services Scrutiny Panel.

PROGRESS OF THE PANEL

2. The panel has held its last meeting of the municipal year on 17 April. The panel's work programme had been concluded so the panel took the opportunity to discuss the topic of the panel's co-opted members.
3. Historically there is an allocation of 6 places for co-opted members on the panel and there are currently 4 vacancies. The panel wanted to discuss the use of co-opted members and how it could encourage new co-opted members and the use of 'expert witnesses'.
4. Following a useful discussion the panel suggested a number of ideas for involving co-opted members and the public in the next municipal year. The idea of a pool of volunteers who would be willing to attend meetings on topics that they had personal experience of was suggested. As well as continuing with the practice of talking to members of the public by taking the panel meetings out of the Town Hall and holding them in venues accessible to the public.
5. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those officers and representatives from external organisations that have taken part in the panel's reviews.

RECOMMENDATION

6. That the Overview and Scrutiny Board notes the content of the report.

COUNCILLOR CHARLES ROONEY
CHAIR OF THE SOCIAL CARE AND ADULT SERVICES SCRUTINY PANEL

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