

AGENDA ITEM: 11f

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

29 JULY 2008

SOCIAL CARE AND ADULT SERVICES SCRUTINY PANEL

PROGRESS REPORT

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

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

BACKGROUND

2. The panel has had their first meeting on the topic of Improving Levels of Employment for People with Disabilities. The meeting involved a 'setting the scene presentation' from the Head of Mental Health and Learning Disabilities.
3. Members agreed the terms of reference for the review which are as follows:
 - (a) To examine the barriers that people with disabilities face when seeking employment.
 - (b) To examine the support that is/or will be offered to people, both to assist them in finding meaningful employment and supporting them, where necessary, to stay in employment.
 - (c) To examine areas of innovation and examples of good practice.
 - (d) To consider the local labour market and how the Council works with its partners in order to increase job and/or self-employment opportunities.
 - (e) To establish who the Council's key partners are and then consider how they work together in order to ensure that people with disabilities are supported into meaningful, sustainable employment.
 - (f) To consider if the Council has the resources to deliver the Employment Strategy for People with Disabilities.

4. The panel will continue with their evidence gathering at their next meeting on 28 July to address the first two terms of reference above. At this meeting Members will receive evidence from the Mental Health & Learning Disability Partnership Manager, Job Coaches and the Project Manager for the Employment Strategy for People with Disabilities.

RECOMMENDATION

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

**COUNCILLOR PETER PURVIS
CHAIR OF THE SOCIAL CARE AND ADULT SCRUTINY PANEL**

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