



**AGENDA ITEM:** 13 (f)

## **OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD**

**11 JANUARY 2011**

### **SOCIAL CARE AND ADULT SERVICES SCRUTINY PANEL - PROGRESS REPORT**

#### **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

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

#### **BACKGROUND**

2. Since the last update report to OSB the Social Care and Adult Services Scrutiny Panel has met on two occasions, on 18 November and 9 December 2010.
3. At its meeting on 18 November the Panel heard from the Assistant Director of Service Reform for the PCT in respect of the Panel's current review of Telecare. The Council's Service Manager and Project Development Officer for Telecare were also in attendance to provide information on the current level of investment in telecare / telehealth services in Middlesbrough and to discuss future funding arrangements.
4. The Panel heard that work was ongoing across the Tees Valley in relation to the development of telehealth services. It was acknowledged, however, that the development of a co-ordinated Teeswide vision for telehealth would be preferable to the current arrangements.
5. Similarly Members expressed the view that a number of benefits could be derived from a sub regional approach to the delivery of Telecare compared with the present arrangement of the service being delivered individually by each local authority within the Tees Valley.

6. The Panel also heard that many studies have been carried out across the UK looking at the efficiency savings delivered through Telecare. The studies undertaken have indicated an average saving of £4000 per person per annum.
7. At its meeting on 9 December the Panel held its final evidence gathering session on Telecare. Members heard evidence from the officers responsible for the delivery of Telecare at Sunderland City Council. Sunderland has been identified as demonstrating best practice in promoting the benefits of Telecare to the wider community. The Panel was provided with information in respect of Sunderland City Council's approach to the delivery of Telecare and its current funding model.
8. In addition the Panel received an update in respect of its previous review into the Quality of Homecare Services in Middlesbrough.
9. Finally at its meeting on the 9 December information was also provided on the work undertaken by the Council in respect of improving safeguarding for vulnerable adults. An update was provided on the progress made against the action plan, as developed by the Department of Social Care, in response to the Care Quality Commission's report following its inspection of Adult Social Care in January and February 2010.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

10. That the Overview & Scrutiny Board notes the progress of the Social Care & Adult Services Scrutiny Panel.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

9. No background papers were used in preparing this report.

**Councillor P. Purvis**  
**Chair, Social Care & Adult Services Scrutiny Panel**

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