

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

A meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Board was held on 11 January 2011.

PRESENT: Councillor Brunton (Chair), Councillors Dryden, Ismail, Kerr, McPartland (as substitute for Councillor Khan), Mawston, Purvis, Sanderson and J A Walker.

OFFICERS: J Bennington, P Clark, S Joscelyne, J Ord, R Pink and S Wright.

**** PRESENT BY INVITATION:** Councillor Budd, Deputy Mayor
John Stamp, Strategic Commissioning Manager, Mental Health,
NHS Tees.

**** APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were submitted on behalf of Councillors Cole, C Hobson,
J Hobson, Khan and Williams.

**** DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

No declarations of interests were made at this point of the meeting.

**** MINUTES**

The minutes of the meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Board held on 16 November, 18 November and 8 December 2010 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

EXECUTIVE MEMBERS – ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

In a report of the Senior Scrutiny Officer the Board was reminded of arrangements for individual Members of the Executive to attend meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Board and update Members on their respective work in terms of their aims, aspirations, objectives, priorities and any emerging issues. The process was part of the arrangements of 'holding the Executive to account' and also provided the opportunity for the Board to identify or highlight any issues of concern.

NOTED

DEPUTY MAYOR

The Chair welcomed Councillor Budd, Deputy Mayor to the meeting who highlighted some of the current priority areas of work and emerging issues.

In his introductory remarks the Deputy Mayor referred to a number of overriding factors influencing current direction of work which included budgetary constraints, Government policies and in particular changing funding regimes. The 12 unitary authorities in the North East continued to work together in what was regarded as an area with specific requirements unique to the area. It was acknowledged that there were current tensions around the extent to which authorities were able to plan in the medium and long term and the transfer of certain controls back to Central Government and consequent lack of clarity about level of flexibility locally.

One of the main changes involved the abolition of Regional Development Agencies in support of the creation of Local Enterprise Partnerships. As a consequence funding from the Tees Valley Industrial Programme would cease although details of new Government incentives were expected to be announced in the near future. It was also confirmed that a decision was awaited on a bid to the Regional Growth Fund from the Tees Valley Local Enterprise Partnership.

An indication was given of other joint ventures such as the North East Economic Partnership where further clarification was needed regarding its future.

The Board's attention was drawn to details of the Localism Bill, which had recently been published. It was considered that whilst there some potentially useful provisions further clarification was required in relation to a number of areas. Current indications were that there

were more powers being reverted back to Central Government. It was suggested that the implications of the Localism Bill for Middlesbrough could be a potential topic for scrutiny investigation and/or possibly the subject of a Members' briefing.

In recognition of the current difficulties in terms of planning for the future and in response to Members' questions the Deputy Mayor indicated that the Council was well placed to look at the issues corporately and deal with the ever-changing circumstances. It was considered important to continue to strive forward and to consider different mechanisms and alternative ways of seeking funding.

ORDERED as follows: -

1. That the Deputy Mayor be thanked for the information provided.
2. That the implications of the Localism Bill for Middlesbrough be considered as a potential topic for scrutiny investigation and/or possibly the subject of a Members' briefing.

EXECUTIVE FEEDBACK – FLEET SERVICES – PERSONAL BUDGETS

As part of the scrutiny process and in a report of the Executive Office Manager it was reported that the Executive had considered the findings of the following: -

- (a) Environment Scrutiny Panel's Final Report on Fleet Services,
- (b) Social Care and Adult Services Scrutiny Panel's Final Report on Personal Budgets.

The Executive and the Corporate Management Team had considered and supported the Service Responses.

NOTED

EXECUTIVE FEEDBACK –MATCHDAY PARKING – SUPPORT FOR YOUNG CARERS

As part of the scrutiny process and in a report of the Executive Office Manager it was reported that the Executive had considered the findings of the following: -

- (b) Economic Regeneration and Transport Scrutiny Panel's Final Report on Matchday Parking,
- (b) Children and Learning Scrutiny Panel's Final Report on Support for Young Carers.

The Executive and the Corporate Management Team had considered and supported the Service Responses.

NOTED

EXECUTIVE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

As part of the Board's remit in terms of holding the Executive to account a report of the Executive Office Manager was submitted which identified the forthcoming issues to be considered by the Executive as outlined in Appendix A of the report submitted.

NOTED

DEMENTIA SERVICES IN MIDDLESBROUGH UPDATE

The Scrutiny Support Officer submitted a report the purpose of which was to introduce representation from local health and social care services to provide a further update on Dementia Services in Middlesbrough following the scrutiny review of Dementia Services in 2008/2009. A report outlining the recommendations in the Final Report and progress on action taken in relation to such recommendations was provided in Appendix 1 of the report submitted.

The Chair welcomed John Stamp, Strategic Commissioning Manager, Mental Health, NHS Tees who addressed the Board and highlighted the key areas of the briefing paper.

The Older People's Inreach Acute Liaison Psychiatry Services at James Cook University Hospital had had a significant increase in funding and now operated as a full Multi-Disiplinary team. The service had developed and agreed clinical pathways for supporting people with dementia in JCUH and the rollout of services, which included awareness training, and education to the staff at JCUH would be completed to ensure full coverage of the Hospital site.

In addition, an intermediate care project had been commissioned by NHS Middlesbrough and NHS Redcar and Cleveland, which would run for an initial one-year period. The project aimed to ensure people with dementia who required specialist support had access to rehabilitation and re-ablement services either in a residential setting or in their own homes as intensive home treatment.

The project staff would work in partnership with staff in the intermediate care services to jointly assess the patient's needs and to develop a support plan working alongside the teams to support effective treatment and recovery. It was noted that such a project was unique in the region and would be the subject to a review of its effectiveness, which would be shared via the Regional Dementia Strategy Steering Group.

A Care Home Support project had been commissioned by NHS Middlesbrough and NHS Redcar and Cleveland, which would run for an initial one-year period. The project would incorporate care homes across both Middlesbrough and Redcar & Cleveland to offer non-pharmacological interventions; increase engagement with clients with complex presentations; deliver and support training for effective high quality interventions and care for people with dementia; and to increase knowledge and understanding of the factors which influenced behaviour by working alongside care home staff to provide solutions.

In addition, the Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys Foundation Trust had developed a Clinical Pathway ensuring timely diagnosis following referral to a memory clinic which included self/carer referrals, which would ensure that the role and responsibility of GPs around dementia was clear and simplified to encourage increased awareness and referral rates. The pathway had agreed timescales of 10 weeks from referral to diagnosis and included shared care protocols with GPs for management of the dementia as shown in the Appendix to the report submitted.

Reference was also made to another resource available to GPs to support them in the management of dementia of an online training package aimed at General Practice and developed by the Royal College of GPs supported by the Northern Regional Group available at no cost through e-learning for health.

In July 2010 Sanctuary Carr-Gomm had been commissioned by NHS Middlesbrough and Middlesbrough Council to provide Dementia Advisory services. The service had commenced in September 2010 employing two full-time dementia advisors and had received 68 referrals to date. An indication was given of the work undertaken and reference to further developments of the service to take referrals from JCUH; improve GP awareness around all carers' issues; and to take student placements from Teesside and Sunderland Universities.

Following a tender process the Dementia Advisor Service and peer support service had been commissioned through Sanctuary Carr-Gomm which was a not for profit organisation with significant experience in the area of supporting vulnerable people. The service complemented the carers support service, which was provided by the same organisation.

Tees Public Health had been consulted with regard to awareness of dementia and it had been agreed that dementia was included in the mainstream health messages and local campaigns in areas such as obesity, healthy heart, isolation and others. NHS Tees had worked with BBC Tees and supported radio phone in around Dementia. Contracts with acute Hospitals and Community services had included incentives around the recognition and support for people with dementia in mainstream health services to improve detection and reduce stigma around dementia.

Members sought clarification around a number of areas and expressed support for the progress made.

ORDERED as follows: -

1. That John Stamp be thanked for the information provided which was noted.
2. That a further update on Dementia Services in Middlesbrough be submitted to the Board in November 2011.

DESIGNATED PUBLIC PLACE ORDERS – FINAL REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY SAFETY AND LEISURE SCRUTINY PANEL

The Vice-Chair of the Community Safety and Leisure Scrutiny Panel outlined the Panel's conclusions and recommendations following a scrutiny examination of Designated Public Place Orders.

The Panel had acknowledged that the effective control of Alcohol in Middlesbrough and the prevention of interception of anti social behaviour required the input from a number of agencies and services. The introduction of DPPO's was regarded as one step towards that. The Board considered the following recommendations of the Panel based on the submitted evidence: -

- (i) To look at the evidence across Middlesbrough and to assess if there is grounds to support an application for a town wide Designated Public Place Order which would facilitate the swift response to alcohol related anti-social behaviour.
- (ii) To review the signage across Middlesbrough to ensure it is accurate and the terminology used is easily understood by the public.
- (iii) The Panel supports the alcohol strategy and would encourage six monthly updates on its progress to monitor its effectiveness and impact on alcohol related issues.
- (iv) The Panel considers surveillance to be a vital tool in tackling the illegal sale of alcohol and would request the Executive make representation to Government to ensure the regulations within RIPA do not inhibit the Council's ability to undertake such actions.
- (v) That, in the interim, action is taken to introduce certain exclusions where alcohol is not permitted under any circumstances, irrespective of having to be evidence based from previous abuse. The specific areas to be determined to include all children's play areas where appropriate signage is displayed.

ORDERED that the findings and recommendations of the Community Safety and Leisure Scrutiny Panel be endorsed and referred to the Executive.

END OF LIFE CARE – FINAL REPORT OF THE HEALTH SCRUTINY PANEL

The Chair of the Health Scrutiny Panel outlined the Panel's findings, conclusions and recommendations following its scrutiny review into End of Life Care in Middlesbrough.

The Board was advised that the Panel had compiled extensive evidence from a range of different sources on the topic of End of Life Care in Middlesbrough. It was noted that the Panel had come across some areas of disagreement, particularly around how services could be configured to deliver end of life care. It was reported however that the Panel had identified one view that was held unanimously, which was that End of Life Care in Middlesbrough was not working well and needed significant consideration and development, as a matter of urgency.

The Board considered the following recommendations of the Panel based on the submitted evidence: -

1. That the emerging GP Commissioning Consortia, Department of Social Care and NHS Middlesbrough engage to conduct a root and branch review of End of Life Care in

Middlesbrough. That review should identify a new 'whole system' strategic vision for End of Life Care, which should be articulated in new strategy for the development of End of Life Care Services (and their capacity) in Middlesbrough. This is all the more essential given that NHS Middlesbrough's Strategy Delivery Groups, including the one focused on End of Life Care, have been discontinued. The new strategy should include the following:

- (a) How patient choice will become a more important factor in the location of someone's end of life care and death.
- (b) How the system can better share care plans so patient's wishes and status as an end of life care patient can be more widely known, particularly by paramedics and out of hours GPs.
- (c) How commissioners will continue to support the rapid discharge programme from JCUH, when its current grant funding expires.
- (d) Explicit articulation as to how community services for end of life care and hospice services will be improved and developed in both range and capacity to meet anticipated demand. The Panel feels that community services for End of Life Care should be led by a community based physician, of consultant rank, and supported by specialist GPs.
- (e) How an adequately resourced telephone advice line for those at the end of life and their carers will be provided and made sustainable through mainstream funding. Further, how that phonenumber will connect to community teams providing end of life care.
- (f) How services will become significantly more 24/7 in focus.
- (g) How residential and nursing homes will become an integral aspect of the delivery of high quality end of life care in Middlesbrough, whilst receiving adequate medical support.
- (h) The timescales this will be achieved by.
- (i) Measures by which the End of Life Care Strategy's implementation can be judged.
- (j) An explicit reference to the level of financial resource dedicated to the improvement of End of Life Care.
- (k) A commissioning plan as to how the above will be achieved.

The Health Scrutiny Panel would like to be involved with the development of that strategy.

2. NHS Middlesbrough and the Department of Social Care satisfy themselves that commissioned nursing and residential homes have sufficient capacity, support and skill to facilitate effective End of Life Care on their premises. The Panel would like to hear the outcome of this.

Members acknowledged the comprehensive report and supported the recommendations.

The Chair of the Health Scrutiny Panel suggested that an additional recommendation be made regarding the need to raise awareness to the availability and access to certain welfare benefits.

ORDERED that the findings and recommendations of the Health Scrutiny Panel be endorsed and referred to the Executive subject to an additional recommendation as outlined.

PROPERTY SERVICES – FINAL REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY PANEL

The Chair of the Environment Scrutiny Panel outlined the Panel's findings, conclusions and recommendations following its scrutiny investigation of Streetscene's Property Services.

The Board considered the following recommendations of the Panel based on the submitted evidence: -

- (i) That careful consideration is given to the future budget holding position concerning Property Services. This should include examining the advantages and disadvantages of the differing approaches; the implications of each approach for Property Services; and the implications for departmental budgets.
- (ii) That the services available from Property Services are advertised and marketed with a view to securing additional external work.
- (iii) That in view of the transfer of some Property Services functions back to Middlesbrough Council from Mouchel, and given the financial challenges facing the Authority, the opportunity is taken to review and rationalise the administrative system associated with repairs and maintenance of Council buildings. This should aim to ensure cost-effectiveness and minimise bureaucracy.

ORDERED that the findings and recommendations of the Environment Scrutiny Panel be endorsed and referred to the Executive.

SCRUTINY REVIEWS - CONSIDERATION OF REQUESTS

It was confirmed that no requests for scrutiny reviews had been received from the Executive, Executive Members, Non- Executive Members and members of the public since the last meeting of the Board.

The Chair gave an indication of potential scrutiny examination around the implications of budget reductions and overall impact on services and how scrutiny may operate in the future in the light of such reductions.

NOTED

SCRUTINY PANELS – PROGRESS REPORTS – MENTAL CAPACITY ACT – PUBLIC HEALTH

A report of the Chair of each Scrutiny Panel was submitted which outlined progress on current activities.

The Chair of the Health Scrutiny Panel referred to the Panel's current scrutiny examination of how the local NHS responded to the Safeguarding of Vulnerable Adults. As part of such considerations Members had suggested that a Joint Working Group comprising Members of the Health, and Social Care and Adult Services Scrutiny Panel be created to consider recent developments around the Mental Capacity Act.

Reference was also made to the intention to arrange a Members' briefing on the Public Health White Paper in March 2011.

ORDERED as follows: -

1. That the information provided be noted.
2. That a Working Group be established comprising the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Health Scrutiny Panel and the Social Care and Adult Services Scrutiny Panel together with one other (non-labour) Member from each Panel to undertake a scrutiny investigation in respect of recent developments of the Mental Capacity Act.

CALL IN REQUESTS

It was confirmed that no requests had been received to call-in a decision.

**** EXCLUSION – PRESS – PUBLIC**

ORDERED that the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the whole of the business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information.

NATURE'S WORLD – FINAL REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY PANEL

The Chair of the Environment Scrutiny Panel outlined the Panel's findings, conclusions and recommendations following its examination of the Council's involvement with Nature's World.

The Board considered the Final Report including the recommendations of the Panel as outlined based on the submitted evidence.

ORDERED that the findings and recommendations of the Environment Scrutiny Panel be endorsed and referred to the Executive.