



**AGENDA ITEM:** 10 (f)

## **OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD**

**8 MARCH 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 one occasion, on 17 February 2011.
3. At its meeting on 17 February the panel received evidence from a number of sources in respect of its current review on Appointeeships. A representative from the Department of Work and Pensions, a Social Worker from the Learning Disabilities Team and an Advocacy Group representative from the Citizens Advice Bureau were in attendance at the meeting.
4. The meeting concentrated on the issue of why Middlesbrough statistically has a high number of appointeeships and what action can be taken to reduce the pressure on the service. The Panel also considered the legal basis of introducing a charge for the appointeeship service and whether in fact a charge should be introduced. Finally, a number of case studies were provided to the Panel to highlight the different types of cases that the Estate Section handles in respect of appointeeships
5. At the Panel's next meeting, which is scheduled for 10 March 2011 the Panel is due to receive best practice evidence from North Tyneside

Council with regard to establishing a Finance Panel that will help to protect vulnerable people from financial abuse.

**RECOMMENDATION**

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

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

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

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

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