

**(Social Care and Adult Services) SCRUTINY PANEL
(The Experience of Vulnerable Older People in Care Settings) – ACTION PLAN**

11th September 2012

SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATION	PROPOSED ACTION	BY WHOM	BUDGET COST	TIMESCALE
<p>The Department of Social Care should complete or commission a piece of work, identifying the population projections for Middlesbrough for the next ten to twenty years, both in terms of age breakdown, as well as morbidity rates, with a specific focus on dementia. Until this essential piece of work is completed, with sufficient detail and rigour, care home provision and the associated skill mix cannot be reliably planned. The panel would look to the Executive and Department of Social Care to set a deadline for this work to be completed.</p>	<p>This work has commenced in respect of the general population and estimates a growth in the number of Older People requiring services.</p> <p>Further work to establish dementia specific demands will now be implemented but will take some time to complete.</p>	<p>Louise Grabham</p>	<p>Nil</p>	<p>April 2013</p>
<p>That following the completion of this work, a strategy should be prepared with sufficient political oversight and leadership, outlining how the implications/findings of the research will be put into practice with the development of the configuration and skill mix in care homes. The document should articulate how the Department of Social Care will manage the market to deliver on these needs, as well</p>	<p>Commissioning strategies to deal with anticipated demands will be required. These will need to be developed in partnership with the South Tees Clinical Commissioning Group and Tees, Esk & Wear Valley Mental Health Trust, James Cook University Hospital and Public Health. This work can then be reflected in the Joint</p>	<p>Tony Parkinson</p>	<p>Unknown</p>	<p>December 2013</p>

Appendix A

as contain appropriate milestones to chart progress against.	Strategic Needs Assessment for Middlesbrough.			
The Care Homes brochure, as produced by the Department of Social Care, should contain a section on good questions for people to ask when selecting a care home.	A list of questions and a checklist to facilitate people in choosing a home is already included within the brochure and will be reviewed.	Louise Grabham	Nil	November 2012
The Care Homes brochure should also contain details of any care homes suspension of placements and reasons for those suspensions.	This is not achievable as the Care Home Brochure is printed annually. The information would therefore only be correct at the time of print and the Council would be subject to legal challenge for loss of business for publicising inaccurate information. Currently we ensure Providers notify all family and residents of suspensions. A telephone number for people to contact and get information on current suspensions at any point in time will be included in the brochure.	Louise Grabham	Nil	September 2012
That the local authority, at a political level, lobbies central government about the needs of a town like Middlesbrough, with relatively few self funders, when considering national social care reform.	Not a Departmental action.			

Appendix A

<p>That when the Government publishes its White Paper into Social Care, a detailed paper is prepared by the Department of Social Care, for consideration within the political domain, of its implications for Middlesbrough.</p>	<p>A report is scheduled for production by October 2012.</p>	<p>Tony Parkinson</p>	<p>Nil</p>	<p>October 2012</p>
<p>That the local authority, as a political entity, holds a debate about the prevalence of a low wage economy in care homes and any steps it may wish to take to address the matter. The Local Authority has a responsibility to promote good care and good employment practices. Better wages for such an important area of work would also help boost the local economy.</p>	<p>Not a Departmental action.</p>			