

MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM 9F

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

5 FEBRUARY 2013

<p>SOCIAL CARE AND ADULT SERVICES SCRUTINY PANEL - PROGRESS REPORT</p>

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

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

BACKGROUND

2. At the time of writing, the Social Care and Adult Services Scrutiny Panel has met on one occasion since the last update report was presented to OSB, on 10 January 2013.
3. At that meeting the Panel received an update from the Head of Business Development and Service Provision on the Panel's previous review into the Care Link / Telecare service. The Panel was pleased to see that a number of changes had been implemented since the Panel's review.
4. Most notably consideration had been given to introducing a single tier charging system for the Carelink / Telecare service in place of the complex three tier charging structure that had been in place. This recommendation, as put forward by the Panel, had resulted in a single more affordable charge of £3.99 per week being introduced. It is envisaged that this will enable the service to grow and develop significantly over the next 3 years.
5. Members of the Panel had also been concerned about the marketing of the Care Link / Telecare service and so they were pleased to learn that a Marketing Officer is to be appointed. The Department of Wellbeing, Care and Learning is a present in the process of designing logos and promotional leaflets for the service, which since the 1 August 2012 has been renamed the Connect service.

6. Following receipt of the above information Members of the Panel gave consideration to which topic they wished to consider next from the Panel's 2012 / 2013 work programme. It was agreed that the Panel would examine the issue of BME Communities: Access to Social Care Services in Middlesbrough.
7. The Panel's next meeting is scheduled to take place on 31 January 2013 when the Panel will receive a 'Setting the Scene' presentation on the above topic.

RECOMMENDATION

8. That the Overview and Scrutiny Board notes the content of the report and the updated position.

COUNCILLOR P PURVIS

CHAIR OF THE SOCIAL CARE AND ADULT SERVICES SCRUTINY PANEL

Contact Officer:
Caroline Breheny
Scrutiny Support Officer
Legal & Democratic Services
Telephone: 01642 729711(direct line)
e-mail: caroline_breheny@middlesbrough.gov.uk