

MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM 11(f)

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

28 MAY 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. The Social Care and Adult Services Scrutiny Panel continues with its investigation into BME communities: access to social care services. Since the last report to OSB, the panel has met on one occasion on 2 May 2013.
3. At that meeting the panel's investigation focused on whether the Council is providing the same level of support to carers in Middlesbrough's BME community as the town's non-BME community.
4. Information was provided on the Carers' Small Grants Fund, which was administered by MVDA on behalf of the Council. The Council's Head of Business Support and Commissioning, along with MVDA's Strategic Development Manager were both in attendance at the meeting to provide the panel with detailed information on how the Carers' Small Grants funding has been allocated and to discuss future funding provision.
5. In addition the panel also received evidence from two BME projects, which have received funding through the Carer's Small Grants fund in 2012/13, namely BECON and Humanah on the work that their organisations have undertaken in identifying BME carers in the town, as well as highlighting the barriers that BME carers and service users face in accessing mainstream services.
6. The panel has now completed its evidence gathering in respect of this topic and a draft final report is in the process of being drafted.

RECOMMENDATION

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

COUNCILLOR J SHARROCKS

CHAIR OF THE SOCIAL CARE AND ADULT SERVICES SCRUTINY PANEL

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