

MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

AGENDA ITEM: 7 (f)

SOCIAL CARE AND ADULT SERVICES SCRUTINY PANEL PROGRESS REPORT
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24 September 2014

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

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

BACKGROUND

Assistive Technology – How New Technology Can Transform Care

2. At the last meeting, held on 4 September 2014, the panel began its review of Assistive Technology – How New Technology Can Transform Care. Erik Scollay (Assistant Director for Social Care) and Polly Wright (Telecare Service Development Officer) were in attendance.
3. At the meeting the scrutiny panel received an overview of what is meant by the term ‘assistive technology’, an outline of who qualifies for assistive technology, information on the types of assistive technology that the Council provides and the associated cost implications. Members also received information on the benefits and limitations of using assistive technology.
4. On 4 September, the scrutiny panel considered, discussed and agreed the terms of reference for the review, these are outlined below:
 - a) To explore the purpose, benefits, impact and limitations of using assistive technology products and services.
 - b) To examine the current range of assistive technology products and services available to Middlesbrough’s residents, including associated costs.
 - c) To explore the processes in place to identify people who could benefit from gaining access to assistive technology products and services, including how devices and systems are marketed and promoted in Middlesbrough.
 - d) To examine research and development work relating to assistive technology.
 - e) To explore measures and strategies that could be implemented to further improve and develop assistive technology.

RECOMMENDATION

5. That the Overview and Scrutiny Board notes the progress of the Social Care and Adult Services Scrutiny Panel.

COUNCILLOR MICK THOMPSON

CHAIR OF THE SOCIAL CARE AND ADULT SERVICES SCRUTINY PANEL

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