

MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL

**EXECUTIVE REPORT**

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD**

**28 April 2015**

**FEEDBACK FROM EXECUTIVE – 17 March 2015**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. To receive the decisions of the Executive on the Overview and Scrutiny Board final reports on Early Help, Assistive Technology and Wi Fi Town.

**BACKGROUND**

2. The Board will be aware that as part of the scrutiny processes, the Executive at its meeting on 17 March 2015 considered the findings of the following Scrutiny Panel Reports:
  - Children and Learning Scrutiny Panel final report on Early Help - Improving Outcomes for Children, Young People and Families;
  - Social Care and Adult Services final report on Assistive Technology – How new Technology can Transform Care; and
  - Economic Regeneration and Transport final report on Wi Fi Town.
3. This report represents the formal notification to the Board of the Executive's decisions in respect of the reports.
4. In addition to the final reports, the Executive also considered the Service Responses, which have been attached as Appendix A, B and C respectively.
5. Councillor Jeanette Walker, Chair of the Children and Learning Scrutiny Panel, presented the final report on Early Help - Improving Outcomes for Children, Young People and Families. Councillor Mick Thompson, Chair of the Social Care and Adult Services Scrutiny Panel presented the final report on Assistive Technology – How new Technology can Transform Care. Councillor Peter Sharrocks, Chair of the Economic Regeneration and Transport Scrutiny Panel presented the final report on Wi Fi Town.
6. At the Executive meeting, the Executive supported the service response in respect to the Children and Learning Scrutiny Panel's final report on Early Help - Improving Outcomes for Children, Young People and Families.
7. During the Executive meeting the service response relating to Assistive Technology – How new Technology can Transform Care, the following points / concerns were raised:

- Councillor S Biswas referred to links between dementia and the increase in loneliness and the supportive role that telecare had to play here;
- Councillor J Walker indicated that lonely people could 'get lost' amongst all the new technology and sometimes it required the human touch. She also felt younger people should be encouraged to get involved in working with older people;
- Councillor J Rostron referred to the fact the Ageing Better Partnership, which aimed to address loneliness for those aged 55 and above, would come into being on the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015; and
- Deputy Mayor referred to the long standing issue of data sharing particularly in relation to health.

8. Whilst the service response relating to Wi Fi Town was supported by the Executive, during the meeting the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Board indicated that Wi Fi was 'moving up the agenda' and added that Scrutiny had supported the associated capital programme bid and that it would be helpful at the earliest opportunity to identify the timescales involved in providing Wi Fi to the Council's Golf Centre. The Executive Member for Regeneration felt sure that the list of Council owned buildings detailed in the service response to the first scrutiny recommendation, was not exhaustive.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

9. That the decisions of the Executive be noted.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

10. Minutes of the Executive held on 17 March 2015.

## **AUTHOR**

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