

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

A meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Board was held on 8 January 2019.

PRESENT: Councillor Sharrocks (Chair); Councillor Storey (Vice Chair); Councillors Coupe, Hellaoui, Higgins, Lewis, McGee, McGloin, Saunders and J Walker.

OFFICERS: J Dixon.

PRESENT AS AN OBSERVER: J Cain – Local Democracy Reporter.

An APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE was submitted on behalf of Councillor Mawston.

**** DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

There were no Declarations of Interest made by Members at this point in the meeting.

**** MINUTES**

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Board held on 4 December 2018 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

FINAL REPORT OF THE ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND SERVICES SCRUTINY PANEL – THE LGB&T COMMUNITY ELDERLY CARE

The Chair of the Adult Social Care and Services Scrutiny Panel presented the Panel's Final Report in relation its review of The LGB&T Community and Elderly Care.

The Board's attention was drawn to the conclusions, contained at paragraphs 100 to 110, and the recommendations, contained at paragraphs 115 to 123 in the report.

The Scrutiny Panel Chair highlighted that, during the course of its investigation, the Panel became aware of issues facing the wider LGB&T community that related to the Terms of Reference established at the start of the review into the LGB&T Community and Elderly Care. Subsequently, the Panel agreed to make recommendations that were specific to the LGB&T Community and Elderly Care and further recommendations based on wider LGB&T community issues.

The Overview and Scrutiny Board welcomed the conclusions and recommendations contained within the report and thanked the Adult Social Care and Services Scrutiny Panel and the Democratic Services Officer for the work undertaken during the course of the investigation and the production of the report.

The Adult Social Care and Services Scrutiny Panel recommended the following to the Executive:-

Recommendations Specific to the LGB&T Community and Elderly Care

1. That activities which raise awareness and celebrate LGB&T be undertaken in care settings to encourage participation in open discussion.
2. That training and development sessions be undertaken with care providers. Training should focus on general awareness-raising of LGB&T matters as well as more specific training around the promotion of engagement and open discussion between clients and staff.
3. That work be undertaken by officers in Commissioning and Procurement to ensure that contracted providers have policies in place to support the anticipated increase of openly LGB&T residents in the future.
4. That an online LGB&T awareness-raising module be introduced and implemented for all Elected Members and Council employees, which could also potentially be part of the induction process. The Panel would also encourage staff to undertake additional offline training, where possible.

Recommendations Based on Wider LGB&T Community Issues

1. That consideration be given to the use of the LGB&T acronym across the Council.
2. That engagement work be undertaken with all communities to raise awareness and understanding of LBG&T issues, which would promote community cohesion and group interaction whilst challenging negative behaviours. This would also assist the relatives and friends of LGB&T individuals receiving care support.
3. That an awareness-raising briefing/training session, or series of sessions, be scheduled for all Elected Members in respect of the issues surrounding LGB&T and wider Equality and Diversity areas and how to engage with 'hard to reach' groups around LGB&T matters.
4. That the Local Authority works in partnership with other organisations to further develop LGB&T support provision in Middlesbrough – each service directorate to consider how support can be provided to the LGB&T agenda.
5. That a wider related project be undertaken by the Health Scrutiny Panel to look at the support being offered to LGB&T individuals within health services, particularly in terms of accessing health facilities and the processing of referrals.

ORDERED as follows:-

1. That the conclusions and recommendations, as set out above, of the Adult Social Care and Services Scrutiny Panel in relation to The LGB&T Community and Elderly Care, be endorsed and referred to the Executive.
2. That recommendation 3) in relation to the Wider LGB&T Community Issues, be amended to include the following wording: "That an awareness-raising briefing/training session, or series of sessions, in collaboration with LGB&T support organisations, be scheduled for all Elected Members in respect of the issues surrounding LGB&T and wider Equality and Diversity areas, and how to engage with 'hard to reach' groups around LGB&T matters."

EXECUTIVE UPDATE

The Democratic Services Officer submitted a report advising Members of the matters considered by the Executive at its meeting on 18 December 2018, namely:-

- Report from the Service Area in relation to the Final Report of the Ad-hoc Scrutiny Panel on Council Tax Processes in Middlesbrough. (The Service Area response to the recommendations and associated Action Plan).
- Civic Community Awards
- "50 Futures" – A New Approach to Work Experience
- Middlesbrough Place Brand
- Calculation of Council Tax Base for 2019/20
- Local Council Tax Support 2019/20
- Middlesbrough Integrated Transport Strategy 2018-2028
- Housing Delivery Vehicle – Preferred Model

ORDERED that the information provided be noted.

EXECUTIVE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The Chief Executive submitted a report which identified the forthcoming issues to be considered by the Executive as outlined in Appendix A to the report.

The report provided the Overview and Scrutiny Board with the opportunity to consider whether any item contained within the Executive Forward Work Programme should be considered by the Board or referred to a Scrutiny Panel.

A Member of the Board queried whether enquiries could be made as to how each of the Scrutiny Panels could establish a route for issues emerging from the Panels to feed into the Council's business imperatives.

The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Board proposed that a meeting be arranged between all Scrutiny Panel Chairs and relevant officers to consider the issue.

ORDERED as follows:-

1. That the information provided be noted.
2. That a meeting between all Scrutiny Panel Chairs, the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Board and relevant officers be arranged to discuss a mechanism for feeding issues emerging from scrutiny panels into the Council's business imperatives.

SCRUTINY PANEL PROGRESS REPORTS

A verbal update in respect of the work of each of the Scrutiny Panels was provided by the relevant Panel Chairs as follows:-

Economic Development, Environment and Infrastructure Scrutiny Panel

The Chair advised that the Panel's next meeting was due to take place on 9 January 2019. The Panel was currently investigating the topic of Air Pollution and a representative from the H21 project, Northern Gas Networks, would be in attendance to provide information in relation to the H21 Project on Hydrogen Power. A representative from the Tees Valley Combined Authority would also be in attendance to provide information regarding the Hydrogen Vehicle Project and other relevant projects.

Children and Young People's Social Care and Services Scrutiny Panel

The Chair updated the Board that the Panel was continuing its investigation into Early Help and Prevention Services in Middlesbrough and had visited the staff of the Work Readiness Team at Easterside Hub that morning.

The Panel had heard from a range of early help partners at its last meeting and had invited MVDA to attend its next meeting on 15 January 2019 to provide information regarding its role in the delivery of the early help agenda.

Culture and Communities Scrutiny Panel

The Chair advised that the Panel had met on 17 December and held its first evidence-gathering session attended by representatives from MVDA, focussing on the work undertaken by the voluntary and community sector.

The Panel's next meeting was scheduled for 21 January 2019 when the Director of Culture, Communities and Communications would be in attendance to provide information regarding the Council's relationship with the VCS. The Panel also planned to receive an update in relation to a previous topic – Selective Landlord Licensing.

Children and Young People's Learning Scrutiny Panel

The Chair stated that the Panel's next meeting was scheduled for 14 January 2019 when it would consider its Draft Final Report on Holiday Hunger. The Panel would also receive an introduction to its new scrutiny topic – Mental Health in Schools.

Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel

The Chair advised that, in December, the Panel had looked at the new potential assessment process for families with adults requiring respite which was triggered by changes in respite services. The CCG recognised that better communication was needed with families and the Scrutiny Panel agreed to review the matter.

On 7 January 2019, the Panel received an update from the Director of Adult Social Care and Health Integration regarding the new governance structures around health and social care.

Health Scrutiny Panel

In the absence of the Chair, a Member of the Health Scrutiny Panel provided the Board with an update in relation to the work undertaken by the Panel.

The Panel had met on 8 January 2019 to receive an update on its referral to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care regarding Respite Opportunities and Short Breaks for People with Complex Needs and Learning Disabilities and/or Autism. The Health Scrutiny Panel had made submissions to the Secretary of State in response to the CCG's consultation on Transforming Care and an update was provide that the families currently in receipt of the provision would retain that provision.

The Panel also received information on breast services for patients in Middlesbrough and discussed its aims and draft terms of reference for its new topic of Vulnerable and Fragile Health Services in Middlesbrough.

The Panel had met on 19 December 2018 to receive an update from South Tees NHS Foundation Trust in respect of the current financial position, overall performance / areas for improvement, healthcare associated infections (HCAI) and car parking issues. An update on the Integrated Care System and Integrated Care Partnership for the south of the region was also provided.

ORDERED that the information provided be noted.