

MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

AGENDA ITEM: 9 (f)

SOCIAL CARE AND ADULT SERVICES SCRUTINY PANEL PROGRESS REPORT
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29 March 2016

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 – An Update

2. In 2014/15, the Social Care and Adult Services Scrutiny Panel undertook a review of Assistive Technology – How New Technology Can Transform Care. The current review of Prevention Services in Adult Social Care follows on from this work and both topics are closely linked.
3. The last meeting was held on 25 February 2016. At this meeting, the Assistant Director for Social Care and the Prevention and Access Lead provided Members with an update on the progress made with the implementation of the agreed actions - since the panel's report was submitted to the Executive.
4. The scrutiny panel heard that Connect are currently exploring the use of a device as a gateway to Telecare and as a link to 24/7 monitoring services, therefore enabling service users to go out into their local community, knowing that they are safe regardless of what happens.
5. It was advised that the importance of considering assistive technology has been built into departmental training and into updated practice guidance, which is provided to all staff. It was highlighted that the department continues to develop the self-service model through Autonomy, online self-assessment and the Middlesbrough Matters online directory.
6. Members heard that a Market Management Officer has recently been appointed, whose role includes liaison with the voluntary and community sector (VCS). It was also advised that the Middlesbrough Voluntary Development Agency (MVDA) is being funded to develop the VCS capacity and introduce a local model of support focused on primary prevention – assistive technology will form part of this model.

Prevention Services in Adult Social Care

7. The next meeting is scheduled to be held on 14 April 2016. At this meeting, the scrutiny panel will continue to gather evidence in respect of its current review of Prevention Services in Adult Social Care.
8. On 14 April, representatives from the MVDA, Carers Together, Hope North East and My Sisters Place will be in attendance to provide the scrutiny panel with information in respect of the following enquiries:
 - An overview of the preventative work that the VCS undertakes and the role of the VCS in providing preventative services.
 - A list of the VCS organisations that provide preventative services, namely those seen to improve wellbeing and support resilience and self-help.
 - An outline of how preventative work is co-ordinated between the public sector and the VCS and information on the work currently being undertaken.
 - Case study examples of the preventative impact of the sector's activities.

RECOMMENDATION

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

COUNCILLOR JULIE MCGEE

CHAIR OF THE SOCIAL CARE AND ADULT SERVICES SCRUTINY PANEL

Contact Officer:

Georgina Moore (Scrutiny Support Officer)
Democratic Services
Telephone: 01642 729711(direct line)
e-mail: georgina_moore@middlesbrough.gov.uk