Corporate, Adult Services, and Social Inclusion Select Committee

Update to Executive Scrutiny Committee – 2 August 2011

Update on Progress (including issues/problems/successes)

EIT Review of Commissioned Carers and Independent Living Services

The Committee has agreed the scope and project plan and has received the baseline information.

The work to be undertaken over the next 2 months is to investigate whether the existing portfolio of commissioned services meet the requirements of users and the Council. In this respect three main criteria apply:-

- Does each contract provide a quality service of a reasonable standard?
- Do they fit with future strategy of the Council in supporting people to live independently and have suitable priority?
- Do they provide value for money?

Officers are compiling information for the next meeting on 13 September which will include:

- The percentage of funding provided by SBC as a total of the service provider's income.
- VAT registered providers.
- The results of self-assessments sent to providers to determine quality standards and value for money.

The work should ensure consistency of approach in the commissioning process and the establishment of contracts.

This review may conflict with the intentions of the EIT Review of Community Protection and Security Services (Housing and Community Safety Select Committee) as it has suggested that an additional £35,000 income can be identified from a combination of increased income generation (Care Call) and a reduction in supplies and services.

The original timescale (September 2011) of this review was unlikely to be met and is provisionally scheduled to report in November. Tony Beckwith (Lead Officer) is now due to leave SBC before the conclusion of this review. Julie Nixon has been approached to take over the lead as this review might have some relationship to the EIT Review of Mental Health and Learning Disability Services (Health Select Committee) that Julie is already leading.

Forward Programme

During the August recess the Committee will be undertaking a number of site visits.

Independent Living Centre, Tithebarn;	Shopmobility;
Bridge House Hostel;	Eastern Ravens Trust;
St James' House;	George Hardwick Foundation;
Aspen Gardens; (Extra Care)	Eliot Court, Billingham (Tees Valley Housing)
Parkview; (Extra Care)	Trinity Gardens Almshouses, Stockton;
	Hindu Cultural Centre, North Ormsby.