

ADULT SERVICES

A record of decisions made by the Executive Member with responsibility for Adult Services on:-

WEDNESDAY, 27TH OCTOBER, 2010

following consideration of the matters detailed below in the presence of:-

Councillor Sherrington	Executive Member for Adult Services
Councillor Greenhalgh	Major Opposition Spokesperson
Councillor R. Ronson	Minor Opposition Spokesperson
Mr. J. Rutherford	Director of Adult and Community Services
Ms. S. Crossley	Assistant Director, Culture and Community Services
Mr. K. Durkin	Head of Older People Strategy and Involvement
Mr. A. Scott	Policy Accountant
Mrs. S. Bailey	Principal Democratic Services Officer

16. MONITORING OF EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISIONS

The Director of Chief Executive's Department submitted a report which provided an update on decisions taken at previous meetings of the Executive Member.

The Executive Member NOTED the report.

17. INFORMATION AND ADVICE STRATEGY

A report of the Director of Adult and Community Services was submitted which put forward an Information and Advice Strategy for consideration and approval by the Executive Member which would aim to improve access to universal information and advice as a fundamental part of more personalised and flexible services for local people.

The report advised that the national Putting People First programme had placed a duty on local councils to provide universal information and advice, to help people make choices and have greater control over their lives. By 2011, all councils were expected to have universal, joined-up information and advice available for all individuals and carers, including those who self assessed and funded, which enabled people to access information from all strategic partners.

In this regard, the Bolton Information and Advice Strategy set out how the Council planned to work with local advice and information providers and citizens to bring about greater co-ordination and promotion of information and advice for local people, making information available in a wide range of ways to support the diverse local communities.

The Strategy set out an Action Plan under the following themes:

- improving the infrastructure and delivery arrangements;
- improving the co-ordination of information and advice;
- improving the quality and consistency of information and advice; and
- understanding the information needs of people and raising awareness of sources of information and advice

The Action Plan concentrated on actions for the next 12 months, with a review planned for the summer of 2011.

A copy of the Plan was appended to the report.

The Executive Member APPROVED –

The Information and Advice Strategy, as now submitted.

18. UPDATE ON FINAL REPORT FINDINGS OF THE MAJOR ADAPTATIONS SCRUTINY PANEL

The Director of Adult and Community Services submitted a report which put forward the initial responses to the recommendations of the Major Adaptations Scrutiny Panel for

approval by the Executive Member.

The report reminded the Executive Member that the 1989/96 Housing Grants, Construction and Regeneration Acts introduced the Disabled Facilities Grant process which Bolton at Home currently managed under its regeneration portfolio.

During the last 12 months, the Council's Major Adaptations Scrutiny Panel had been examining the whole grant process to identify ways of streamlining and improving customer waiting times and experience.

In this regard, the report went on to outline the findings and recommendations of the Scrutiny Panel and provided an initial response to the proposals.

The Executive Member was asked to approve the initial responses and that further work be undertaken to progress them.

The Executive Member APPROVED –

The initial responses to the findings of the Major Adaptations Scrutiny Panel, as detailed in the report now submitted, and that further work be progressed on the issues raised in the recommendations, with a further report back to the Executive Member by April, 2011.
