



Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Scrutiny Board (Adult Social Care)

Date: 17 September 2008

Subject: Adaptations: Scope of the inquiry

Electoral Wards Affected:

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 At its meeting in June 2008, the Board also identified 'Adaptations' as a potential topic area for a more detailed inquiry. At its meeting in July 2008, Members were provided with a copy of a previous scrutiny inquiry report on adaptations, published in October 2002.
- 1.2 The Board was also reminded of the range of available approaches to evidence gathering that could be adopted as part of a scrutiny inquiry.

2.0 ADAPTATIONS INQUIRY

- 2.1 During the previous agenda item, the Board was provided with an overview of the current delivery arrangements for adaptations within Leeds, including performance data and some areas of service development. Having received this information, Members of the Board are now asked to consider the scope of the proposed inquiry to facilitate the drafting of more detailed terms of reference.
- 2.2 As previously outlined at the Board meeting in July 2008, there is a range of available approaches to evidence gathering which the Board could seek to adopt as part of the scrutiny inquiry process. Approaches include:
- Establishing a working group of the Scrutiny Board to consider some evidence and question key witnesses
 - Full meetings of the Scrutiny Board to consider some evidence and question key witnesses

- Discussion with key stakeholders
- Visits to selected establishments, as appropriate, to engage with service users and staff
- Visits to and/or discussions with other organisations identified as delivering best practice, as appropriate

2.3 It is perhaps worth noting that a working group arrangement often allows an inquiry to proceed more quickly than through formal Board meetings. Nonetheless, Members of the Board are asked to consider the possible approaches outlined above as part of the initial scoping discussion.

2.4 In addition, the Board is reminded that the Scrutiny Board Procedure Rules Guidance Notes require that, before embarking on an inquiry, the Board seeks and considers the views of the relevant Director and Executive Member. As such, these views will need to be taken into account when finalising the terms of reference for this inquiry.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 Members are asked to consider the overall scope and focus of the proposed scrutiny inquiry around adaptations in order to facilitate the drafting of more detailed terms of reference.

4.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

Adaptations: Final Report of Scrutiny Board Social Care – October 2002
Adult Social Care Scrutiny Board: Minutes of meeting – 24 June 2008
Adult Social Care Scrutiny Board: Minutes of meeting – 23 July 2008