OVERVIEW OF ADULT SERVICES PORTFOLIO

Purpose of Report

1. Since the last meeting of Council, the following are the main areas of work under my Adult Services Portfolio:-

Older Peoples and Physical and Sensory Impairment Partnership Commissioning Strategies

2. Two joint Adult Social Care and Health Commissioning Strategies (Older Peoples Services and Physical and Sensory Impairment Services) have been drafted. They are currently available for wide public consultation.

"Access to Adult Social Care Services and Employment" Minority Communities Event

3. A combined "Access to Adult Social Care services and jobs opportunities event" aimed at improving access and employment opportunities for members of the local minority communities within Darlington has been planned. The event will take place on Sunday 20 November 2005 at the Dolphin Centre.

Quality Standards Residential and Domiciliary Care Scheme

4. The Adult Services Contracting Section have held a series of workshops to support independent care providers to prepare for the Adult Services 2006/2007 Residential and Domiciliary Care Quality Standards Schemes.

Joint Service User Involvement Arrangements

5. The revised joint adult social care and primary care trust service user involvement arrangements have been outlined. The draft arrangements have been forwarded to the three strategic partnership boards (Physical and Sensory Impairment, Learning Disability and Older People) for public consultation.

Call In of Integrated Services for Older People

6. The Cabinet decision agreeing to further integrated working with Darlington PCT was called in by Social Affairs and Health Scrutiny Committee. The outcome at the meeting on 19 August was that Cabinet recommendations were supported.

National Social Services Conference

7. I attended the National Social Services Conference on 19 to 21 October.

Councillor Bryan Thistlethwaite Cabinet Member with Portfolio for Adult Services