
OVERVIEW OF ADULTS AND HOUSING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

1. Since the last meeting of the Council, the following are the main areas of work the Adults and Housing Scrutiny Committee has undertaken :-

Work Programme

2. We further discussed the work programme and the work we are undertaking. The Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee are undertaking a piece of work later this year in relation to young carers and we have nominated Councillors Kelley and S. Richmond to participate in that Review on behalf of our Scrutiny Committee once it has been established. We will continue to monitor and add to our work programme during the Municipal Year.

Impact of Welfare Reforms

3. We received a presentation on the impact and experiences of the Revenues and Benefits Team within the Council following the changes which had recently been introduced in relation to welfare benefits and Council Tax relief administered by this Council.
4. The presentation covered the significant changes which affected Council services and local residents together with the position of each element as at the end of July 2013. It was pleasing to note at this point, that the picture in relation to Council Tax collections and rent arrears, was much better than originally anticipated however, it is important to note that further work was being undertaken corporately on the wider economic and health effects.
5. We will continue to monitor the effects on residents of these changes.

Councillor Bryan Thistlethwaite
Chair of Adults and Housing Scrutiny Committee