

AGENDA ITEM: 11 b

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

8th February 2011

<p>COMMUNITY SAFETY and LEISURE SCRUTINY PANEL</p> <p>PROGRESS REPORT</p>

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1 To inform Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Board of the progress made to date by the Community Safety and Leisure Scrutiny Panel.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2 It is recommended that the Overview and Scrutiny Board approves the actions of the Community Safety and Leisure Scrutiny Panel since the last update, which was presented to this Board at its meeting of 11th January 2011.

PROGRESS OF THE PANEL

- 3 **Middlesbrough Golf Centre.** At the panel meeting of 15th December the panel addressed the topics approved by OSB to identify its next subject. The panel identified that it would be Middlesbrough Golf Centre. The panel specifically wanted to examine the usage of the Golf Centre and the funding the Council allocated to support the facility. Consequently, the panel requested the attendance of representatives from the Environment department to provide detail regarding this.
- 4 The panel received a range of information and found that substantial changes have been undertaken to the Centres drainage which assists in providing the opportunity for all year round golfing. The panel was also informed of the

financial position and that the centre was on target to break even this financial year which was a substantial improvement against the anticipated deficit.

- 5 The panel was please to find that the Golf Centre was no longer expected to be a financial drain on the Councils finances, that it would be available for golf longer during the year and thereby continue to provide a leisure facility.
- 6 **Metz Bridge - Gypsy – Travellers’ Site.** The panel agreed at their previous meeting of 5th January that they would want to examine the provision, service and cost associated with the Gypsy/ Traveller site at Metz Bridge. Therefore the panel met on 26th January with the Environment department to address this issue. The panel received a range of information regarding costs and the provision and found that the Council only has to deal, on average, with one illegal encampment per year. This would not provide sufficient evidence for the consideration of providing transit pitches.
- 7 The panel was made aware that the Gypsy site at Metz Bridge was to commence having substantial building work undertaken from early February. Consequently the panel requested that a site visit be arranged to see the existing provision. This site visit is being arranged for the 3rd February.
- 8 Domestic Violence Strategy. The panel is aware that a domestic violence strategy is to be presented to the Executive for consideration on 1st March 2011. Consequently, the panel are requesting this strategy be presented to the panel for awareness and consideration at their meeting of 16th February.

COUNCILLOR PERVAZ KHAN

**CHAIR OF THE COMMUNITY SAFETY AND LEISURE
SCRUTINY PANEL**

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 9 No background paper was used in the preparation of this report: -

27th January 2011

Contact: Peter Clark
Senior Scrutiny Officer, Performance and Policy Directorate
Telephone: 01642 729 708 (direct line)