

# MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM: 8b

## OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

21<sup>st</sup> AUGUST 2012

### COMMUNITY SAFETY and LEISURE SCRUTINY PANEL PROGRESS REPORT

#### 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.

#### PROGRESS OF THE PANEL

- 3 **Police Resource**, The Panel met with the District Commander of Cleveland Police at their meeting of 18<sup>th</sup> July to address the subject of budget pressures on front line Policing services in Middlesbrough. The panel was informed that to date there had not been any reduction on direct Policing in Middlesbrough and indeed the crime statistics continue to reduce in Middlesbrough. Consequently, the panel decided note to pursue this subject, as the performance appeared to be very healthy. The panel did however, inform the Police that they would be requiring their attendance at a future meeting to ascertain any proposals which may affect Middlesborough following the determination of the 2013 –14 Police Budget.
- 4 **Neighbourhood Watch**, is the next subject on the panels agenda and is scheduled to be addressed at the panel meeting of the 15<sup>th</sup> August

which is before this meeting but following the distribution of the agenda and papers for this meeting.

- 5 The panel is aware that Neighbourhood Watch in Cleveland is a partnership, which involves the Police, Community Safety Departments of Local Authorities, voluntary organisations and residents in communities who want to make their neighbourhood a better place to live.
- 6 The panel will have in attendance the Police inspector responsible for Neighbourhood Watch across Middlesbrough to outline the present position. Members of this panel have indicated that they would want to look at the area of effectiveness of Neighbourhood Watch and its relationship to the Police. Other areas the panel has indicated they would want to explore and obtain additional information are in the areas of :- is Middlesbrough covered completely by Neighbourhood Watch, the Strengths and indeed any of the weaknesses/concerns which may be evident about Neighbourhood Watch and how these could be addressed. In addition to enquiries about the future of Neighbourhood Watch and how this will be developed.
- 7 The panel also intends to pursue the relationship of the Police to Neighbourhood Watch and the assistance this provides to the local community. The panel has referenced how the Local Authority links in with these schemes and the connection Neighbourhood Watch schemes have with Street Wardens and the Voluntary Sector

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

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

**COUNCILLOR FRANCES McINTYRE**

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

6<sup>th</sup> August 2012

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