

MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM: 8(b)

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

17th SEPTEMBER 2013

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 The Community Safety and Leisure Scrutiny panel met on the 14th August to consider the subjects of Domestic Violence and the development in the review of Leisure Services.
- 4 In summary Domestic Violence remains a significant issue for Middlesbrough with an average of over 4,000 reported incidents per year, (over 300 incidents per month) were reported to Cleveland Police over the last three years. Repeat victimisation was common and within 2012/2013 repeat incidents in the highest-risk cases, although on a positive downward trend, still remained high at 46.31%.
- 5 The D V function has financial risks to approximately £100,000 of the overall funding by 2015 as the North Rock Foundation would cease its grant funding. However, the majority of funding has recently been secured and the Charity is working with the Foundation to put sustainability plans in place to offset this risk.
- 6 The Leisure Needs Assessment included a review of current provision and services, demographic analysis, identification of neighbouring provision, analysis of participation data and health profiles as well as options for the way forward.

- 7 The conclusions identified a range of developments which will shape the Leisure Strategy. Particular focus is on Prissick Park, having a mix of facilities including an eight lane event running track, shot putt and long jump facilities, a grandstand, football and cricket pitches, cycle facility, velodrome, skate park, provision for tennis, a 100 station gym, basketball and badminton courts, cafe and possibly a 50 metre swimming pool. Clairville Stadium was due to close in October 2014 and replacement facilities needed to be available at Prissick by then. The proposal presented to the panel was comprehensive and will clearly assist the decision making process.
- 8 The panel will be meeting on the 11th September, which is before this meeting but after the distribution of the agenda for this meeting. Consequently, I will update the Board verbally at the meeting as appropriate
- 9 The purpose of this meeting is to address the removal of Police Horses in Cleveland.
- 10 The panel recognises the decision to no longer provide a mounted division within Cleveland due to increased financial pressures on the service. However the panel wants to know the consequential affects of such a decision and in particular the impact for Middlesbrough.
- 11 The panel also wants to know what arrangements are being made to address or compensate for the removal of this service.
- 12 To clarify the position and the impact on Cleveland in general and Middlesbrough specifically, an invitation has been sent to the Chief Superintendent of Cleveland Police to attend this Meeting and convey the present position and future arrangements.
- 13 In addition to Cleveland Police attendance an invitation has been sent to the Vice Chair of Cleveland Police and Crime Panel.
- 14 The Police and Crime Panel (PCP) has a duty to scrutinise the decisions of the Commissioner or other actions taken by the Police and Commissioner. In this regard the panel had indicated that they would wish to know how extensive the range of questions raised by the PCP to Cleveland Police and the Police commissioner.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

COUNCILLOR FRANCES McINTYRE

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

28th August 2013

Contact: Peter Clark
Senior Scrutiny Officer, Legal and Democratic Services.
Telephone: 01642 729 708 (direct line)