

MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM 13 (b)

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

6 JANUARY 2015

<p>COMMUNITY SAFETY & LEISURE SCRUTINY PANEL - PROGRESS REPORT</p>

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To provide members of the Overview and Scrutiny Board (OSB) with an update on the work of the Community Safety and Leisure Scrutiny Panel.

BACKGROUND

2. The panel met on 27 November 2014. At that meeting the panel considered its annual update from the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) function (previously the Safer Middlesbrough partnership) and the new working arrangements currently in place.
3. The panel was informed that there have been significant changes in the management arrangements for the CSP function since the responsibility for Public Health was transferred to the Local Authority. It was advised that the CSP function/workload is due to transfer to the Supporting Communities directorate as part of the pending service review. However, various CSP areas are still currently being picked up Public Health, until such time that they can fully transfer across.
4. It was also advised that the Wellbeing in Middlesbrough Partnership (WIMP), has become the decision making body that replaces the Responsible Authorities Group (RAG) and all CSP statutory Responsible Authorities are represented on the WIMP. A Multi-Agency Crime Working Group is to be established by the WIMP to ensure statutory functions are fulfilled.

5. The panel was also informed that drugs and alcohol early intervention and prevention, and treatment programmes are now the responsibility of the public health delivery partnership (AIM 3). Consideration still needs to be given to who will Chair the Mutli-Agency Crime Working Group, its lead officer and its membership.
6. The panel also received updated crime figures comparing the 2012/13 data with the previous year and the first six months of 2013/14. The figures showed a 10% reduction in publically recorded crime during 2012/13 compared to the previous year and crime in the first 6 months of 2013/14 has fallen by a further 2.8%.
7. The panel also met on 17 December to receive the annual update on the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA). The act governs the use of covert surveillance techniques by public authorities and it is the panel's responsibility to consider the Council's use of the act. The panel learnt that in the last year the Council had made 14 RIPA applications generally concerning illegal cigarette sales and the sale of counterfeit goods.
8. Members concluded that they were satisfied that the Council's arrangements for complying with RIPA were fit for purpose.
9. At the panel's next meeting on 8 January 2015, Members will consider the Council's processes for holding events within the Town.

RECOMMENDATION

10. That the Overview and Scrutiny Board notes the content of the report and the updated position.

**COUNCILLOR FRANCES MCINTRYE
CHAIR OF THE COMMUNITY SAFETY AND LEISURE SCRUTINY PANEL**

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