

MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM 9 (b)

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

3 March 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 11 February to receive their annual update on Domestic Violence (DV), including information on levels of DV and recent developments in this area since the end of the DV strategy in March 2014.
3. Members were told that Middlesbrough had a relatively high prevalence of DV and a high proportion (the highest in the Country) of the town's homelessness cases were people fleeing DV. Whilst there are good agencies in Middlesbrough it was noted that the Council needed to be more proactive in trying to prevent DV.
4. The Council was working with young people in schools to discuss what constitutes a healthy relationship and the types of behaviour that is acceptable, however due to the nature of the subject it can be difficult to reach all schools. The Council is currently developing a new strategy which will be given to all the relevant partners.
5. The panel's next meeting is on 12 March, where the Assistant Director of Safeguarding and Children's Care has been invited to update panel members on the implementation of recommendations following the panel's review of Preventing Children from Sexual Exploitation.

RECOMMENDATION

7. 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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