

MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM: 10 (b)

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY BOARD

2 FEBRUARY 2016

COMMUNITY SAFETY AND LEISURE SCRUTINY PANEL PROGRESS REPORT

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. Since the last report to OSB, the Community Safety and Leisure Scrutiny Panel have met on one occasion on the 18 January 2016.
3. At that meeting, the panel received an update in respect of the Alternative Delivery Model for Sport and Leisure Services. The Assistant Director for Environment, Property and Commercial Services informed the panel that the preferred outcome for the future delivery of sport and leisure services was to transfer them into an established leisure trust organisation, as was approved by the Executive on 9 December 2014.
4. It was clarified that the leisure facilities at the Southlands Centre, with the exception of the playing pitches, were not considered financially sustainable by any of the bidders. It was emphasised, however, that this does not represent a decision to close the business enterprise element of the venue. As stated in the Council's Strategic Plan 2015-18 the Southlands Centre is to be re-designated as a commercially-owned and operated business centre. The commencement of the leisure trust contract will come into effect on 1st April 2016.
5. The Community Safety Partnership Manager was in attendance at the meeting to provide an update on the current picture of crime and disorder in Middlesbrough. It was highlighted that the priorities 2016 – 17 are as follows: Work with partners to tackle violence in the town, enhance collaborative working with police in neighbourhoods to tackle crime and ASB, maximise the use of CCTV throughout the town, to continue to tackle Domestic Violence

and use the Troubled Families approach to tackle high cost / complex vulnerable adults. It was evident to the panel that there have been significant changes / reductions resources over the last two years in all areas of public sector provision including the Local Authority, Police and Probation and that crime and disorder in Middlesbrough is increasing.

RECOMMENDATION

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

**COUNCILLOR FRANCES MCINTYRE
CHAIR OF THE COMMUNITY SAFETY & LEISURE SCRUTINY PANEL**

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