

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD**

A meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Board was held on 13 June 2017.

**PRESENT:** Councillors J Sharrocks (Chair), J Blyth, E Dryden, A Hellaoui, T Higgins, C Hobson, J McGee, L McGloin, D Rooney, M Storey and J Young

**PRESENT BY INVITATION:** Councillor L Young - Executive Member for Economic Development and Infrastructure (by invitation)

**OFFICERS:** C Breheny

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** Councillor L Lewis, Councillor T Mawston, Councillor P Purvis.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

None Declared

**1 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR FOR 2017/18 MUNICIPAL YEAR**

The Chair sought nominations for the appointment of Vice Chair for the Overview and Scrutiny Board for the 2017/2018 Municipal Year.

It was proposed, seconded and agreed that Councillor T Mawston be appointed.

**ORDERED** that Councillor T Mawston be appointed as Vice Chair of the Board for 2017/2018.

**2 MINUTES - OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD - 28 MARCH 2017 AND 20 APRIL 2017**

The minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Board held on 28 March and 20 April 2017 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

**3 LEWIS YOUNG EXEC MEMBER ATTENDANCE**

The Democratic Services Officer submitted a report to provide information in respect of the scheduled attendance of Members of the Executive at the Overview and Scrutiny Board (OSB). It was intended for Executive Members to provide updates on their respective work in terms of their aims, aspirations, objectives, priorities and any emerging issues.

The Chair welcomed the Executive Member for Economic Development and Infrastructure to the meeting.

The Executive Member for Economic Development and Infrastructure advised that he had recently been given responsibility for this portfolio whereas previously he had responsibility for Culture, Leisure and Sport. Leisure remained an important aspect of the Economic Development and Infrastructure portfolio and a significant amount of work had been undertaken over the last year in respect of the Leisure Trust. The momentum for next year was focussed on legacy building and social regeneration was at the heart of the work being undertaken. Art in the community was a massive impetus and £500,000 had been received from the Council's Great Places Bid to grow Middlesbrough's creative industry. The aim was make art accessible for communities across Middlesbrough.

Mima had led on a project to redevelop socially deprived areas into artists' residents. A public poetry had also been started in the town centre and it was anticipated that this project would be completed in the next 18 months. Reference was made to the Captain Cook Birthplace Museum and it was advised that a new cafe operator had been appointed and was keen to bring in educational programmes.

In terms of the Town Hall project it was explained that the work was ongoing and a huge transformation was taking place. There was a significant amount of community buy-in for the project, which had been given national portfolio status. The ambition was for the Town Hall to become a sub-regional centre for culture. The marble floors, court rooms and cells were all

impressive and had captured people's imagination. Discussions had taken place regarding the possibility of a craft beer / gin festival taking place in the cells. The venue had real potential and the opening up of this heritage venue was of cultural significance.

Tees Steel Bridging the World was set up by a group of individuals following the closure of SSI steelworks. The aim of the group was to promote Teesside's great connection to the world and the group had many ambitions about taking over the full site and the blast furnace. A £10,000 feasibility study was currently being undertaken, although it was acknowledged that the project would be starting out small.

Reference was made to the Tour de Yorkshire and the legacy of the event, which had showcased Middlesbrough to the world. It had been a fantastic event and had drawn massive crowds. A Go Ride Coach, who was part funded by Public Health, was currently providing a number of services including training at the velodrome, a cycle user forum and support for the bike library. Anyone in Middlesbrough could hire a bike for free and the suggestion was put forward that an article be included in the Love Middlesbrough magazine to ensure the service was well advertised.

In terms of Economic Development and Infrastructure the Department of Growth and Place was considering how this work could be further developed. Officers were currently examining a range of cycling and walking routes throughout Middlesbrough, with a view to promoting the health benefits available via Facebook to enable people to look at the various options about what to do / routes to take, for example, with family at the weekend.

In respect of sport and leisure services the Executive Member explained that he was working with the Leisure Trust (SLM), as part of the Strategic Leisure Board, which was chaired by the Director of Public Health. Over £2 million had been invested in leisure facilities in 2016/17 including £800,000 at the Neptune Centre, £150,000 at the Rainbow Centre and the remainder at Middlesbrough Sports Village. SLM had also invested approximately £641,000 in the Golf Club, which included the reconfiguration of the golf shop, provision of professional golf advice, the development of a pitch and putt offer and FootGolf to attract more children to become involved in the sport. SLM were also looking to develop and enhance the catering facilities at the Golf Club and a new Golf Manager had been appointed.

Swimming was highlighted as an area in which the Council was keen to encourage more young people to become involved in. A scheme was in place that was due to commence in the summer holidays, which targeted families and it was requested that information on the scheme be forwarded to Community Councils. The provision of Dementia friendly swimming was also a key priority of the Mayor, who was keen to ensure that a safe, inclusive environment was provided for people with Dementia in which to swim.

The town's running programme was a further area of development and the forthcoming 10k race had a target of attracting 1400 runners. Running for juniors was a further area for development and the junior park run at Hemlington was proving hugely popular.

Reference was made to the Cultural Strategy and it was noted that the Strategy was being taken forward by the Executive Member for Culture and Communities. Work was ongoing to attract the biggest acts, including top comedians to Middlesbrough through the use of different venues. The theatre offer was also being further developed to provide a diverse range of acts that would appeal to a wide range of audiences. In respect of the offer available at the Dorman Museum the view was expressed that there was a need for a refresh to be undertaken. Funding for any such project would more than likely need to be applied for externally, for example, from the Arts Council but the point was made that the museum was worth cultivating, as it was the most accessible museum in the town.

Finally the Board was advised that the decision to move Orange Pip Market to Centre Square was not permanent. However, Bedford and Baker Street were a relatively small space and therefore consideration needed to be given to safety measures that needed to be in place and how the market could remain in that location, whilst attracting more visitors each month. Consideration was to be given to extending the use of road closures in the surrounding area and it was acknowledged that the market had to remain in the streets.

The Chair thanked the Executive Member for his update to the Board.

4 **FINAL REPORT AD HOC SCRUTINY PANEL - APPRENTICESHIPS**

The Chair of the Ad Hoc Scrutiny Panel outlined the Panel's main findings, conclusions and recommendations following a scrutiny investigation of the topic of Apprenticeships.

The Ad Hoc Scrutiny Panel recommended to the Executive:

- a) That MCL undertakes further work with secondary schools to increase pupils' awareness of, and engagement in, Middlesbrough Council's apprenticeship programmes.
- b) That an update in respect of this topic be provided in November 2017, when the revised national apprenticeship structure has been firmly established and the first autumnal intake of apprentices undertaken.
- c) That the information, as provided, be noted.

**ORDERED** that the findings and recommendations of the Ad Hoc Scrutiny Panel be endorsed and referred to the Executive.

5 **FINAL REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY PANEL - NO BALL GAMES SIGNS**

The Chair of the Environment Scrutiny Panel outlined the Panel's main findings, conclusions and recommendations following a scrutiny investigation of the topic of No Ball Games Signs.

The Chair of the Environment Scrutiny Panel recommended to the Executive:

- a) That the Council ceases to process any new requests for 'No Ball Games' signs, based on the following reasons:-
  - i. The Panel considers the current process for dealing with No Ball Games signs to be confusing and resource-intensive.
  - ii. The current process is outdated and the introduction of legislation since 1997, the last time that the No Ball Games policy was reviewed, has enabled the Council to establish robust mechanisms for addressing complaints relating to all aspects of anti-social behaviour, including ball games nuisance, which meets the needs of the local community. The Panel feels confident that any such complaints will be dealt with appropriately.
- b) The current process is outdated and the introduction of legislation since 1997, the last time that the No Ball Games policy was reviewed, has enabled the Council to establish robust mechanisms for addressing complaints relating to all aspects of anti-social behaviour, including ball games nuisance, which meets the needs of the local community. The Panel feels confident that any such complaints will be dealt with appropriately.
- c) The Panel recognises that, in some locations, the signs may act as a deterrent and, as such, considers that existing signs should remain in-situ and that any requests for signs to be removed should be dealt with on an area by area basis with the involvement of the Neighbourhood Safety Officer and the local community. The Panel feels it is important for Ward Councillors and Community Councils to convey this message at a local level.
- d) The Panel considers that the Community Safety Team's leaflet 'Guidance on Football Nuisance' is a useful tool to assist in resolving disputes regarding ball games nuisance and offers advice on how all parties can compromise and live together peacefully. Therefore, the Panel recommends that the leaflet should be made more widely available, including being placed prominently on the Council's website and distributed to all Community Councils and Ward Councillors.
- e) The Panel has concerns regarding the 31 requests for No Ball Games signs that are

currently outstanding since September 2015. The Panel, therefore, requests that the Service Area revisits each outstanding request to check whether the details have been passed to the Community Safety Team for assessment and whether the residents/applicants making the request have been contacted and made fully aware of the process. The Panel also requests that the Service Area provides a report to the Environment Scrutiny Panel, at the earliest opportunity, including the following information:-

**ORDERED** that the findings and recommendations of the Environment Scrutiny Panel be endorsed and referred to the Executive with the inclusion of an additional element to recommendation a) as follows:-

1) As the Panel was keen to avoid any unnecessary reports of anti-social behaviour arising from ball games, the decision to cease processing any new requests for No Ball Games signs should be monitored by Environment Services.

## 6 **FINAL REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY SAFETY & LEISURE SCRUTINY PANEL - DIGITAL SAFEGUARDING - SEXTING**

The Chair of the Community Safety & Leisure Scrutiny Panel outlined the Scrutiny Panel's main findings, conclusions and recommendations following a scrutiny investigation of the topic of Digital Safeguarding & Sexting.

a) That the support of the Regional Ofsted Leads for Safeguarding and Education are enlisted to ensure that the best practice findings outlined in the report are taken on board and promoted amongst all schools in Middlesbrough as follows:-

- That all schools in Middlesbrough employ CEOP ambassador trained staff to routinely deliver digital safeguarding presentations to children.
- That schools produce a bespoke version of the Sexting in schools and colleges: responding to incidents and safeguarding young people (August 2016) document based on the best practice example provided by a Middlesbrough Primary School.
- That children and young people be provided with a 3 point plan of 'what to do if this happens to me'.
- That teachers, parents, carers and professionals working with children and young people are provided with a quick and easy reference method on how to respond to any incidents.
- That due attention is given to the Local Children's Safeguarding Board's quarterly newsletter.
- That schools listen to children and young people regularly to ensure they are aware of the most up to date information in respect of sexting taking place in the school / wider community.
- That the 'Digital Leaders' Program is promoted in all schools across the town.
- That the use of drama be used (as with Chelsea's Choice) to deliver information to parents directly by children and young people in Middlesbrough.

b) That in readiness for the introduction of new statutory 'Relationship and Sex Education' in September 2019 schools, sixth forms and colleges are proactively encouraged to take advantage of the resources available and sign up to the Council's 'Respect Yourself' and 'Why Risk it Programme'.

c) That all schools in Middlesbrough be actively encouraged to sign up to receive a regular digital parenting magazine and attend the Safeguarding Network Forum.

d) That an alert system be set up to immediately inform safeguarding staff of trends / apps / online crazes that could pose a danger to young people, which staff should be made aware of (similar to the way in which alerts are sent out to professionals who work in drug and alcohol services to alert them of specific dangers).

e) That a publicity campaign to raise awareness for parents, carers, teachers and other professionals working with young people on how to set safety and privacy controls on the most popular social network sites, apps and live streaming services be undertaken to further

protect children and young people in Middlesbrough.

I. Many staff employed by the Council have children and grandchildren aged between 4 - 18 years old and getting the message out to staff around protecting their child's digital footprint, understanding the latest apps, learning how to use parental controls is as important as teaching young people about the dangers involved in new risk taking behaviours.

II. That the CEOP and the thinkyouknow website be regularly promoted via the Love Middlesbrough magazine and the Council's digital media platforms.

f) That a bi-annual event be hosted on 'Digital Safeguarding/Digital Resilience' in an effort to increase awareness, share best practice and provide an opportunity for statutory agencies in Middlesbrough to share knowledge and experience in addressing these challenges.

g) That training on 'Digital Safeguarding' be included in the Local Children's Safeguarding Board's (LCSB) and School Governors annual training programme in an effort to further strengthen knowledge and awareness.

h) That all schools in Middlesbrough are fully supported to ensure that they have links from their main school websites to CEOP, the NSPCC and a digital parenting magazine to enable parents to access trusted advice directly from their child's school website.

i) That a public safety campaign by Middlesbrough Council and Cleveland Police similar to that used by Leicestershire / West Yorkshire Police to warn young people, both girls and boys, about the dangers of speaking to people they don't know online be developed and rolled out. The possibility of undertaking this work in partnership with the NSPCC, O2, Vodafone or BT could be explored particularly in respect of working with parents to help them understand and protect their children from online abuse.

a. That innovative ways in which to reach parents through the public safety campaign as a targeted demographic be explored - including the use of social media and the purchasing of reach on Facebook.

b. That the idea of children signing a contract with their parents / carers when receiving / upgrading their mobile phone to work out the rules on how the device is to be used and what can / cannot be accessed be promoted.

j) That Cleveland Police's Economic and Cyber Crime unit's presentation on indecent imagery and the impact it has on children be provided to all elected Members.

k) That the panel receive an update on 'Digital Safeguarding - Sexting' in 6 months' time.

**ORDERED** that the findings and recommendations of the Community Safety & Leisure Scrutiny Panel be endorsed and referred to the Executive.

## 7 **FINAL REPORT OF THE HEALTH SCRUTINY PANEL - FOETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDER (FASD)**

The Chair of the Health Scrutiny Panel outlined the panel's main findings, conclusions and recommendations following a scrutiny investigation of the topic of Foetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorder (FASD).

The Health Scrutiny Panel recommended to the Executive:

a) That the Director of Public Health brings together an expert group of professionals including appropriate representation from South Tees CCG, Public Health, South Tees NHS Hospitals Foundation Trust, Safeguarding Children's Services, CAMHS, Community / LAC Paediatricians, Educational Psychologists and the FASD Network to take this work forward in 2017/18.

b) That a specific piece of research be commissioned by the Council and the CCG in

Middlesbrough / Tees Valley on FASD. That collective effort is made to secure the appropriate funding requirements in order that a local research project on FASD can be undertaken. People with expertise are invited to secure external funding to invest in a study, which includes bloods being taken around a mother's 'booking in' appointment so prevalence rates in Middlesbrough can be established.

c) Given it is estimated that there are between 400 - 1,300 children in Middlesbrough with FASD there needs to be a pathway of care for all FASD spectrum disorders and this needs to be included in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment. This should identify the commissioning responsibilities. For example that a service be developed where a child can have assessments undertaken by appropriate professionals which then make collective recommendations on the support that can be provided to the child.

d) That the above pathway of care needs to ensure that appropriate support for families is also developed.

e) Clinical capacity in this field needs to be further developed. This is not a childhood condition and service provision needs to reflect the support required throughout an individual's lifespan. Adult social care need to review its response to those affected by FASD and plan for future service provision.

f) That the Council and its partners need to raise awareness in schools to ensure young people are fully aware of the dangers that drinking during pregnancy can have on an unborn child. The campaign material should be clear, precise and written in the strongest possible language.

g) That appropriate training is available to relevant professionals on FASD in Middlesbrough. Including VCS organisations.

h) That the Council uses its powers as a licensing authority to further develop its Licensing Policy highlighting the damage that alcohol can cause to an unborn child. A condition for publicity material to be displayed at the point of sale be introduced. This influence should be used with other outlets including pubs, restaurants etc.

i) That the Mayor write on behalf of the Council to the National Institute of Clinical Excellence (NICE) for recognition, referral, diagnostic assessment and post diagnosis guidance on FASD to be issued for clinicians. The guidance would provide an evidence based clinical protocol for diagnosis.

j) That the Council continue to review and improve through children's safeguarding services the support in place to adopters, foster carers and connected persons carers. As well as all parents and children in need.

**ORDERED** that the findings and recommendations of the Health Scrutiny Panel be endorsed and referred to the Executive with the inclusion an amendment to recommendation b) as follows:-

That a specific piece of research be commissioned by the Council's Public Health Team and the South Tees CCG on FASD in Middlesbrough / Tees Valley.

## 8 **EXECUTIVE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME**

The Chief Executive submitted a report which identified the forthcoming issues to be considered by the Executive as outlined in Appendix A to the report.

The report provided the Overview and Scrutiny Board with the opportunity to consider whether any item contained within the Executive Forward Work Programme should be considered by the Board or referred to a Scrutiny Panel.

**NOTED**

9

**SCRUTINY PANEL UPDATES**

The Chair of Children and Learning Scrutiny Panel advised that the panel was currently looking at the topic of School Exclusions and continued to gather evidence on this topic.

The Chair of the Environment Scrutiny Panel confirmed that the panel had recently completed its review on No Ball Game Signs, as presented elsewhere on the agenda.

The Chair of Community Safety and Leisure Scrutiny Panel advised that the panel had completed its review on the topic of Digital Safeguarding - Sexting, as addressed on the agenda.

The Chair of the Health Scrutiny Panel informed the Board that the panel had recently completed its review on the topic of FASD, as covered on the agenda.

**NOTED**