

Dear Councillor

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD - WEDNESDAY 15TH APRIL, 2026

I am now able to enclose, for consideration at next Wednesday 15th April, 2026 meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Board, the following reports that were unavailable when the agenda was printed.

Agenda No Item

10. **Executive Member Update - The Mayor (Pages 3 - 22)**

The Mayor will be in attendance to provide an update on his portfolio.

Yours sincerely

Democratic Services.

Distribution

Councillors Councillor Lewis Young (Chair) J Ewan (Vice-Chair) D Branson, E Clynch, D Coupe, J Kabuye, L Lewis, T Mohan, I Morrish, J Platt, M Saunders, Z Uddin, G Wilson and J Young

Please ask for:

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OSB – Mayoral Update

Review – Celebrate – Preview

Page 3

Agenda Item 10

Chris Cooke - Mayor of Middlesbrough

Youth services in every ward

Free pest control service

Parks and open spaces

Doubling our team of caretakers

Page 4

Council Budget Highlights

Chris Cooke - Mayor of Middlesbrough

Youth services in every ward - update

- Review of provision complete and gaps are now identified
- For areas without a hub/obvious community venue we are working to provide a bus with MFC to do outreach in the first instance
- Staff are now in place

Free pest control service- update

Page 6

- Additional report taken through executive in April
- Service expected to start in July
- The free service covers –Rats, Mice, Bed bugs & Cockroaches

Chris Cooke - Mayor of Middlesbrough

Parks and Open Spaces - update

Page 7

- All interviews have now taken place
- Phased start over the next few months based on release period needed from former employers etc
- Full review of parks and open spaces taking place to ensure we have a full view of the equipment needed

Chris Cooke - Mayor of Middlesbrough

Doubling our Neighbourhood Caretakers - update

Page 8

- All interviews have now taken place
- Phased start over the next few months based on release period needed from former employers etc

Chris Cooke - Mayor of Middlesbrough

Funding Secured

City of Culture bid

Pride in place

Progress update

Town Timeline

Page 9
Celebrate

Chris Cooke - Mayor of Middlesbrough

Funding Secured

Parks funding – 270k

Improving local food supplies funding - £150k

Page 10 Funding to help implement renters rights bill -
£115k

Arts Council, contribution towards Town Hall roof
works – £2.5m

City of Culture

- Simply being longlisted is another huge win for Middlesbrough and our cultural industries
- Comes on the back of the Arts council making their one annual visit to Middlesbrough last year
- Hosting the Turner Prize this year
- Arts council involved in multiple projects across Middlesbrough including Town Hall, Auxiliary and Central library

Pride in Place

- £40 million across three wards / two MSOAs – Board led – Currently seeking chairs
- £1.5 Million Town centre funding – No board required – Already moving

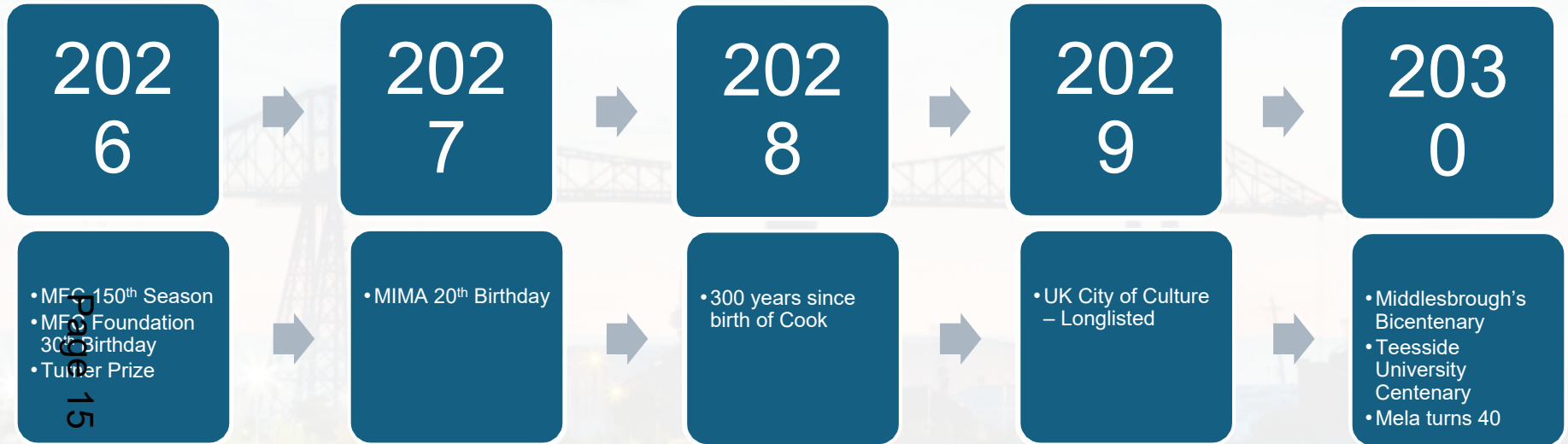
Pride in Place – Impact funding

- Bring Wilkinson Lake back to life to retain as a town centre green asset
- Centre Square Pond Ground Mural
- Modular Play / Activity Pavilions
- Immediate vegetation management to improve sightlines, reduce concealment and improve perceptions of safety while retaining greenery and biodiversity.

Progress on projects

- Southlands – Currently on track to open early June
- Outwood Riverside – On track for April 2027 opening
- Old Town Hall – On track for completion early 2027
- Nunthorpe community centre – On track for completion July 2026

Town timeline



page 15

The background of the slide features a faded, light-colored image of a suspension bridge, likely the Middlesbrough Railway Bridge, spanning across a body of water. In the distance, a city skyline is visible, including a prominent building with a tall, pointed tower. The sky is a pale, hazy blue. A solid red diagonal bar runs across the bottom right corner of the slide.

Preview

Page 16

Making Middlesbrough Thrive

Chris Cooke - Mayor of Middlesbrough

Making Middlesbrough Thrive

Page 17

For my term to date we have been working on multiple projects to support residents across our town. Now it is time to pull that work under one banner and increase our efforts to ensure we have a town where everyone can thrive.

Chris Cooke - Mayor of Middlesbrough

Making Middlesbrough Thrive

– Work to date

Project	Impact
Funding for local authority Multibank Yearly investment £30,000	Since Launch Orders made 2,341 Units distributed 975,727 Value of goods £5,698,246 Supported households 109,171
FSM Auto-enrollment	Average saving of £200 per child per year Over 500 Children enrolled in first year Over £700,000 in additional funding secured for schools
Welfare rights improvements	Over 1,700 cases in the first year Over £3,000,000 awards achieved for local residents
School meal price reduction	£70 per child saving a year for families attending schools with council catering compared to private sector providers.

Making Middlesbrough Thrive – Next Steps

Project	Update
Crisis resilience fund	New iteration of the government household support fund
Life-limiting illness support	New policy coming in the next few months to support around council tax and other major interventions to alleviate stress at an incredibly difficult time.
Lifetime enrichment	Expansion of the childhood enrichment agenda into future years to ensure we are supporting people through various stages of life
10x10	Currently finalising findings from the first stage of the pilot ready for further rollouts expected to run from June
IMD Fund	£150k targeting across 4 areas in the town. Early details to be released in June

Page 9

Chris Cooke - Mayor of Middlesbrough

Why?

Area	IMD	Income	IDACI	IDAOP1	Employment	Education	Health	Crime
Charlbury Rd (E01012076)	42	29	107	1579	74	85	384	25
Harford Street to Chester Street (E01012040)	43	164	17	916	885	73	1691	13
Saltergill Avenue to Deepdale Avenue (E01012019)	61	19	81	479	21	783	106	313
Viewley Hill Academy/ Fonteyn Crt (E01012045)	68	82	158	1058	79	765	117	36

Page 20

33,755

Chris Cooke - Mayor of Middlesbrough

Questions?

Chris Cooke - Mayor of Middlesbrough

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