

## THE CHAIR AND ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Tuesday 12 October 2021

Dear Member

### COUNCIL - WEDNESDAY 20TH OCTOBER, 2021

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Council of the Borough of Middlesbrough to be held on **Wednesday 20th October, 2021** at **7.00 pm** in the Council Chamber to transact the following business, namely:-

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Declarations of Interest  
To receive any declarations of interest.
3. Minutes - Council - 22 September 2021 5 – 12
4. Announcements/Communications  
To receive and consider any communications from the Chair, Mayor, Executive Members or Chief Executive (if any).
5. Questions from Members of the Public (if any).
6. Mayor's Statement and Report
7. Executive Member reports 13 – 52
8. Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Board 53 – 58
9. Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Strategy 59 – 68
10. Adoption of the Marton West Neighbourhood Plan - 2021-2029 69 - 112
11. Urgent Items  
To consider and Deal with any urgent business brought before the Council by the Proper Officer (if any).
12. Members' Question Time 113 - 114

13. Notice of Motions

115 – 116

14. Notice of Urgent Motions (if any)

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "CJ Benjamin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The "CJ" is written as a single unit, followed by "Benjamin".

Charlotte Benjamin,  
Director of Legal and Governance Services

PLEASE NOTE THERE IS RESTRICTED  
DISABLED ACCESS TO THE COUNCIL CHAMBER

Inspection of Papers – Documents referred to on this Summons may be inspected between 9.00 am and 4.00 pm Monday to Friday at the Town Hall, Middlesbrough. Copies may also be downloaded from the Council's Website.

Questions / Motions – Details of questions or notices of motion received and not enclosed with the Summons will be circulated prior to the meeting.

Should you have any queries in regard to the items on this agenda please contact Bernie Carr, Democratic Services on (Direct Line 01642 729714 or e-mail on: [bernie\\_carr@middlesbrough.gov.uk](mailto:bernie_carr@middlesbrough.gov.uk)).

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Website: [www.middlesbrough.gov.uk](http://www.middlesbrough.gov.uk)

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**COUNCIL**

A meeting of the Council was held on Wednesday 22 September 2021.

**PRESENT:** Councillors J Hobson, A Bell (Vice-Chair), R Arundale, D Branson, C Cooke, B Cooper, D Coupe, S Dean, C Dodds, T Furness, L Garvey, TA Grainge, A Hellaoui, T Higgins, A High, S Hill, C Hobson, N Hussain, L Mason, T Mawston, D McCabe, C McIntyre, J McTigue, M Nugent, E Polano, A Preston (The Mayor), J Rostron, R Sands, M Saunders, M Smiles, M Storey, P Storey, J Thompson, Z Uddin, G Wilson and C Wright

**OFFICERS:** B Carr, S Bonner, C Benjamin, C Breheny, D Johnson, S Lightwing, A Perriman, S Reynolds and K Whitmore

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Councillors D Davison, B Hubbard, D Jones, L Lewis, J Platt, G Purvis, J Rathmell, D Rooney, J Walker, S Walker and A Waters

21/44 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest received at this point in the meeting.

21/45 **MINUTES - COUNCIL - 28 JULY 2021**

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 28 July 2021 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

21/46 **ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS**

The Chair welcomed Councillor Tony Grainge, who was elected as Ward Councillor for the Ladgate Ward on 16 September 2021, to his first meeting of the Council.

The Chair invited Councillor Grainge to address the meeting. Councillor Grainge thanked those electors that had voted for and supported him and for the kind welcome he had received from those present at the meeting. He stated that he hoped to make a difference for the people of Middlesbrough.

21/47 **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC (IF ANY).**

There were no valid questions submitted from members of the public for this meeting.

21/48 **CHANGE TO THE EXECUTIVE SCHEME OF DELEGATION**

The Mayor advised that he had made the following change to his Executive Scheme of Delegation:

Marketing and Communications had been moved from the portfolio of the Mayor to the portfolio of the Deputy Mayor and Executive Member for Culture and Communities.

**ORDERED** that the change to the Executive Scheme of Delegation be noted.

21/49 **MAYOR'S STATEMENT AND REPORT**

The Mayor stated that the streets were getting busier and it was encouraging that things appeared to be getting back to normal.

Covid

The Covid rate of infections had fallen and Middlesbrough was about 40<sup>th</sup> in the country in terms of rates of infection. The Mayor stated that people should enjoy the added freedom, but that they should not get too complacent and they should continue to act responsibly. Infection rates compared to hospital admissions were low.

### Fly-tipping

The Council was clamping down on fly-tipping. The new squad, as well as clearing the fly-tipping away, were carrying out investigations to find out who the perpetrators were, with the intention of prosecuting them.

### Anti-social behaviour

The Council were closing down houses where drug dealing and other anti-social behaviour was taking place. The Mayor urged residents to get in touch and report any instances of anti-social behaviour.

### Regeneration

The amount of people shopping in the town was rising and business and investment in the town was improving. The Northern School of Art had recently set up in the centre of the town and developments like this had assisted in regenerating the town, changing other peoples' perception of the town and would assist in creating jobs. More initiatives involving education were due to be announced.

The Mayor stated that he wanted people to grow their own food and to get fit. A new communal growing area had been established in Coulby Newham and Councillors Branson and Smiles had attended the launch. The Mayor stated that initiatives like these were good for mental and physical health and nutrition.

### Welcome – Councillor Grainge

The Mayor welcomed Councillor Grainge to his first meeting of full Council and he made reference to the work of the previous Ward Councillor - Councillor Goodchild. He encouraged people to get involved in local politics and commiserated with the candidates that had stood for election but did not get elected.

The Mayor advised the members of the public that he and the rest of the Councillors were there to help with any issues that they might have.

### Hemlington

The Mayor made reference to issues in Hemlington, including anti-social behavior and crime and the practice of some people setting fires so that the Fire Brigade would be called, then throwing bricks at the officers of the Fire Brigade. He encouraged residents to report those responsible. More cameras were getting installed in the area to enable the perpetrators to be identified, so that appropriate action could be taken.

Councillor M Storey reiterated the welcome to Councillor Grainge and advised that the Council was a great place to work and he hoped that the new councillor would enjoy it. Councillor Storey stated that he was proud of the diversity in the town and this was reflected in the make-up of the Labour Group councillors.

Councillor Storey stated that he was pleased that more action was being taken in respect of fly-tipping and he queried with regard to the average waiting times to get bulky items removed. He queried with regard to how many additional staff had been employed and how many more might be hired.

Councillor Storey queried with regard to the future plans for the House of Fraser store and how long it would be for the plans to come to fruition. Councillor Storey also made reference to the vacant Debenhams and Burtons stores and future use for those buildings.

Councillor Storey highlighted that in addition to Hemlington, other areas outside of the town centre were also suffering from anti-social behaviour and crime, and care needed to be taken to ensure resources to deal with these issues, were not taken away from other areas outside the town centre.

The Mayor stated that there was no excuse for fly-tipping. The Council offered a free

collection service, but if residents wanted their bulky waste collecting earlier, they would be charged for the expedited service. Fly-tipping was a challenge because if the Council removed the fly-tipped items, people were more likely to fly-tip again. The new squad carried out investigations in respect of any instances of fly-tipping but it was a time-consuming exercise. The staff were working very hard to deal with the issue of fly-tipping.

The Mayor advised that the House of Fraser store was bought by the Council for £1m around 16 months ago. There was a concern that Binns would leave the building and the property would remain empty.

The Mayor referred to The Crown and the fact that it had been left vacant for some time. The Council had been trying to engage with the owner for some time to try and ascertain what was happening with the building. The Council had also liaised with the owners of the vacant Debenhams store with regard to future use of the store, but the owners had not provided any update with regard to the future of the vacant building. The Burtons store had been purchased by a private investor, but to date, the Council had not received any information with regard to the future use of the store. The Council was also intending to get in touch with the owners of the Astoria building with regard to overgrown trees which were affecting the guttering of the building.

Councillor Cooke referred to the 'Give a Coat a Home' initiative. The Town Hall carriageway would be open from 10am – 2.00pm on Saturday, 25 September 2021, to enable members of the public to obtain a winter coat, free of charge.

In respect of house closures, Councillor Cooke stated that he felt very strongly about this issue and he tried to attend all of the house closures. The Councillor stated that the issue was that only half of the Newport Ward was covered by the Selective Landlord Licensing scheme. If the scheme was extended to the rest of the ward, some of the issues leading to house closures, might be alleviated.

Councillor McTigue stated that there appeared to be some confusion between fly-tipping and unwanted household goods. Councillor McTigue advised that she had never waited longer than a week for fly-tipping to be removed, but the timescale for removal of bulky household items was usually twelve weeks.

Councillor McTigue stated that she wanted to add to what Councillor Storey had mentioned regarding diversity in the town. Councillor McTigue advised that when she had requested clothing and toys for the Afghan people fleeing the Taliban, the people of Middlesbrough had been very generous. A family in Harrogate had also donated items after reading about the initiative in the press.

Councillor Bell stated that he agreed with the Mayor's comments about Hemlington. He stated that he had seen fires in Hemlington, but he urged residents to report any instances of anti-social behaviour, in order for something to be done about the issue.

Councillor Coupe stated that he wanted to thank the Mayor regarding the plans to renovate the old Town Hall. Councillor Coupe stated that it was right to chase up owners of derelict buildings to encourage them to repair or occupy the buildings.

Councillor Coupe stated that fly-tipping was an issue in every ward and he was pleased that fly-tippers were being targeted.

Councillor Furness referred to Universal Credit cut and the rise in energy prices and the rise in inflation and he requested the Mayor to do what he could to assist those affected by these issues.

The Mayor stated that the effect on the poorest people would be devastating. He stated that he hoped the government would look at the cut in Universal Credit again. He stated that the biggest losers would be the poorest and the government needed to be reminded of that.

Executive Member portfolios (Section 1), Executive decisions taken (Section 2) or to be taken where known, prior to and following the meeting (Sections 3 and 4).

### **Questions on the Mayor's Executive Member report**

Councillor Higgins in relation to Commissioner

Councillor Higgins stated that she was concerned with regard to the political situation with regard to Children's Services. The Chair and the Vice Chair of the Children's Social Care and Services Scrutiny Panel had resigned and the Mayor was currently the Lead Member for Children's Services. Councillor Higgins stated that she was concerned that the political turmoil might lead to the Council being advised that it could no longer run Children's Services, which would be devastating following the improvements that had been made to the service.

The Mayor advised that there had been a great improvement in Children's Services. The Council had received a positive report from the Commissioner and he had recommended to the Government that the Council was ready to run and manage Children's Services. The formal announcement was due to be made on 15 September, but following changes in the Government positions, the announcement had been delayed.

In response to the resignations of the Chair and Vice Chair of the scrutiny panel, the Mayor advised that he did not have any influence on scrutiny positions within the Council.

Councillor Uddin queried whether the Mayor could provide an update on the current position in respect of vaccinations and what the procedure was for obtaining a booster.

The Mayor advised that he did not have the latest figures to hand in respect of vaccinations, but he advised that he would forward them and details of the procedure for obtaining boosters, in due course.

Councillor Thompson commented, that as an ambassador of 'You've Got This', she was pleased to see that it was included in the Executive Member reports and that the 'Beat the Box' initiative that was due to be launched on 26 September 2021 was being promoted.

Councillor Smiles stated that she was looking forward to 'Beat the Box'. Little boxes would be placed across the whole town and all of the schools were involved. Young people would be set a town-wide exercise to locate the boxes either by cycling or walking, to improve fitness. The children would then tag the boxes with little key chains. It was a positive initiative for the whole town. Up to 13% of residents were involved, but Councillor Smiles urged councillors to encourage their residents to become involved.

The Mayor stated that he wished to pay tribute to Hugh and Emma Alberti from the Green Party, who had alerted the Mayor to the initiative over a year ago. The Director of Public Health had sourced funding to bring it to Middlesbrough. He stated that it would be lots of fun and a good way to get fit.

### **Questions on the Deputy Mayor and Executive Member for Culture and Communities report**

Councillor Mawston in relation to Stewart Park

Councillor Mawston stated that he wished to pay tribute to John Fearn, one of the stewards of the Park Run who had recently died aged 88. Mr Fearn had been a steward of the Park Run since its inception. He was a former Middlesbrough Council officer. He was a friend of Stewart Park and Marton library and a volunteer at Marton Community Centre. He had also carried out work in relation to the environment. Councillor Mawston stated that Mr Fearn had carried on cycling throughout his life and he was known as the man on the bike and he felt it was important to pay tribute to him.

Councillor Smiles echoed Councillor Mawston's sentiments and passed on her condolences, and advised that she was sure that all the other councillors would join her in acknowledging Mr Fearn's passing.

Councillor Branson in relation to Newham Grange Farm.

Councillor Branson stated that he welcomed the introduction of community allotments and he thanked Councillor Smiles, the area care team and members of the Erimus Rotary Club. He stated that he was surprised at the high level of demand for allotments and there needed to be an increase in allotments across the town.

Councillor Smiles advised that it had been lovely to visit Newham Grange Farm. It was the Jewel in the Crown for Middlesbrough. People who were interested in having an allotment would be placed on a waiting list until one became available. Allotments had become more popular during the lockdown period as they were good for peoples' mental and physical health. It was hoped that more allotments could be created across the town.

#### **Questions on the Executive Member for Environment, Finance and Governance report**

Councillor Cooke in relation to Recycling

Councillor Cooke stated that there had been 2 new recycling initiatives that had been successful. The area care team were now operating with split bins, with a section for recycled waste and a section for general waste, which could result in less items being sent to land fill. There had also been a trial to deliver recycling bags to 600 homes in Newport and it was hoped that this could be rolled out in other wards that used the bags, to encourage residents to recycle.

Councillor Cooper stated that the new split bins were very good and easy to push. Residents used to visit Streets Ahead to collect the bags but it was planned to post the bags through the letterboxes of residents in the future.

Councillor Thompson in relation to Hedges and Shrubs.

Councillor Thompson stated that she was in favour of the idea of supporting micro forests, however some trees needed pruning or moving as they were located in the wrong place.

Councillor Cooper advised that the Council had an agreed strategy for dealing with dead/deceased/damaged trees. He stated that in terms of trees, the Council needed to do the right thing, at the right place at the right time.

Councillor Thompson queried whether when a councillor identified a tree where the shoots were expanding all over, whether the trees would be pruned.

Councillor Cooper advised that officers would inspect any trees where they had been notified that they were in need of pruning, and get the job done.

Councillor Hellaoui in relation to APSE Service Awards 2021.

Councillor Hellaoui stated that she wished to pay tribute to the Council's area care team. The APSE awards recognised the best in public service and shared good practice. The Council's area care team had been awarded 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Best Service Team Award, out of a total of 320 submissions and Councillor Hellaoui stated that she wanted to offer her congratulations to the team on this great achievement.

Councillor Cooper stated that he was sure that the staff would appreciate the fact that their efforts had been recognised.

#### **Question on the Executive Member for Regeneration report**

Councillor Furness in relation to Towns Fund – Ward Initiatives

Councillor Furness stated that the funding that had been allocated could have a huge impact. He stated that he would like to see the funding rolled out continually, rather than a 'one-off' event.

Councillor Polano advised that there was a process for Councillors to feed ideas in with regard to the use of the funding in their Ward.

21/51 **REPORT OF THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD**

The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Board submitted a report, the purpose of which was to provide an update on the current position regarding progress made by the Overview and Scrutiny Board and each of the individual Scrutiny Panels.

**ORDERED** that the report be noted.

21/52 **URGENT ITEMS**

There were no urgent items submitted within the specified deadlines for this meeting.

21/53 **MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME**

The Chair announced that there were four questions from Members of the Council. The details of the specific questions were included at Agenda Item 11.

Question 4/21 - Councillor M Storey to the Mayor with regard to when the recently adjourned meeting to discuss the Stainsby Masterplan would be reconvened and whether a decision would be taken that both addressed the concerns of residents and safeguarded the Council from any legal action from developers?

The Mayor advised that this was an issue where the Council would need to look closely at the evidence, and they would not rush into making a decision on it. There was more work to be done before the Council could make a decision on this issue, and they were looking now at how they would do that. The Mayor advised that he would not put any definitive timescales on when the decision would be taken, at this stage.

Question 5/21 - Councillor Cooke to the Mayor with regard to Middlesbrough Council offering a pest control service.

The Mayor stated that it was the case that other Councils offered a subsidised pest control service to private properties. He advised that whilst he could not promise anything at this point, he would request that the provision of a pest control service be explored as part of the Council's budget setting process.

Question 6/21 – Councillor Furness to the Executive Member for Regeneration regarding Selective Landlord Licensing with regard to how many houses were under license throughout Middlesbrough? In the likes of Gresham ward where only half were under licence, whether there was a difference in housing from the licensed areas to the unlicensed areas?

The Executive Member for Regeneration advised that the Newport Selective Landlord Licensing Scheme had been in place since June 2019. To date 845 licences had been issued with 107 still outstanding. It was too early to conduct a formal evaluation of the scheme because of the interruptions to some of the elements caused by COVID - there had been a delay to housing inspections but actions in response to anti-social behaviour, such as housing Closure Orders, had been able to be progressed.

Evaluation would be re-programmed and would take place in due course. A full evaluation was carried out in respect of the first North Ormesby Selective Landlord Licensing Scheme (2016-2021) and this demonstrated positive outcomes in terms of house prices; reduction in tenant turnover; improvements in the condition of properties and a reduction in some aspects of anti-social behaviour.

The second North Ormesby Scheme was introduced in June 2021 to continue to progress this work and it was estimated that 878 properties would be licensed.

Councillor Furness stated that he would like to see the difference in the two areas. He stated that he had experienced issues in the past with bad landlords and tenants and he hoped that the scheme would be rolled out across the whole of Newport Ward and eventually the rest of the town, although he acknowledged that this would need government approval.

Councillor Polano advised that the Council was endeavouring to roll out the Selective

Landlord Licensing Scheme across the whole of the Newport Ward.

Question 7/21 - Councillor P Storey to the Mayor regarding whether he could rule out the introduction of fortnightly bin collections in the financial year 2022/23?

The Mayor advised that there were no plans to introduce weekly collections in 2022/23.

21/54 **NOTICE OF MOTIONS**

There were no Notice of Motions submitted within the specified deadlines for this meeting.

21/55 **NOTICE OF URGENT MOTIONS (IF ANY)**

There were no Notice of Urgent Motions submitted within the specified deadlines for this meeting.

21/56 **COUNCIL COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE BODY VACANCIES**

Council received a report which sought Members' approval to nominations for appointment, arising from vacancies deferred at the Annual Meeting of Council and resignations from Committees.

The report included a list of current vacancies on various committees and Outside Bodies and nominations were put forward at the meeting by individual members.

**ORDERED** that the following vacancies allocated in accordance with the wishes of the political groups and other councillors be approved by Council:

**Live Well South Tees Board**

Councillor Hellaoui appointed

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**Ad Hoc Scrutiny Panel**

Councillor Mawston appointed

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**Children and Young People's Social Care and Services Scrutiny Panel**

Councillor Hellaoui appointed

**Chair of Children and Young People's Social Care and Services Scrutiny Panel:**

Councillor Davison appointed

**Vice-Chair of Children and Young People's Social Care and Services Scrutiny Panel:**

Councillor Mawston appointed

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**Corporate Parenting Board**

No nominations – 1 Vacancy

**Chair of Corporate Parenting Board**

Councillor C Hobson appointed

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**Corporate Health and Safety Steering Group**

No nominations - 1 Vacancy – Open to all Councillors

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**Outside Bodies**

**(ANEC) Resources Task and Finish Group**

No nominations received – 1 Vacancy – Open to all Councillors

**North East Regional Employers' Organisation (NEREO)**

No nominations received – 1 Vacancy – Open to all Councillors

**Tees Valley Arts Board**

Councillor Mieka Smiles appointed







# **Executive Member Reports and additional Executive decision information**

**Council Meeting: 20 October 2021**

**DEMOCRATIC SERVICES**

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## INTRODUCTION

This document contains Executive Member reports relevant to the Council meeting to be held on **20 October 2021**.

The booklet, in addition to containing details of Executive Member activities covering the period following the last Council meeting (section 1), also details those Executive decisions taken since the last booklet was published (section 2) together with those decisions planned to be taken from dispatch of this booklet up until the date of the Council meeting (section 3) and those decisions planned to be taken following the Council meeting (section 4).

The table at section 2 contains details of decisions taken by individual Executive Members, the full Executive, Executive Sub-Committees and Joint Archives Committee. The public reports that were considered are also available through the Modern Gov system.

The tables at section 3 and 4 contain details of the decisions to be taken by individual Executive Members, the full Executive, Executive Sub-Committees and Joint Archives Committee. Further details on key decisions that are to be taken can also be found on the Modern Gov Forward Plan.

The Executive Member reports and the additional decision making information will hopefully assist Members when considering any questions they may have for Executive Members at Council, which can be asked within accordance of the Council's procedure rules.

Details of those decisions to be taken, as outlined in Section 3 and 4, may sometimes be subject to change (e.g. dates of meetings may alter). Members are therefore advised to check with the Democratic Services should they have an interest in specific issues.

Charlotte Benjamin  
**Director of Legal and Governance Services**  
(01642) 729024

### Contact details

Bernie Carr – Principal Democratic Services Officer - (01642) 729714

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## EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### COUNCIL MEETING: 20 OCTOBER 2021

#### CONTENTS

#### SECTION 1 - Executive Member Reports

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Elected Mayor (who also has responsibility for the Adult Social Care and Public Protection and Children's Services Safeguarding portfolios) <i>Andy Preston</i></li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Deputy Mayor and Executive Member for Culture and Communities <i>Councillor M Smiles</i></li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Executive Member for Education <i>Councillor S Hill</i></li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Executive Member for Environment, Finance and Governance <i>Councillor B Cooper</i></li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Executive Member for Regeneration <i>Councillor E Polano</i></li></ul>

**SECTION 2** – Table of Executive decisions taken and that have been through the Call-In period, since the last booklet, published on 14 September 2021.

**SECTION 3** – Table of Executive decisions planned to be taken from dispatch of this booklet up until the date of the Council meeting.

**SECTION 4** – Table of Executive decisions planned to be taken following the Council meeting.

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## EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORT TO COUNCIL 20 OCTOBER 2021

### CHILDREN'S SERVICES

#### Safeguarding and Care Planning

1. 15 students have now joined us through the frontline programme and 10 newly qualified Social Workers have started their ASYE's (Assessed and Supported Year in Employment) in the social work academy and are currently being inducted.

#### Early Help and Prevention

2. The **Seen Heard Believed Project** (SHB) has recently launched and is a collaborative approach between Children's Early Help Services, Safer Communities (voluntary sector organization) and public health to bring additional expertise and capacity into the Early Help Service with an additional £300k funding. As part of the project, two Social Workers will work preventatively with those families that are at risk of re-escalating from Early Help into Children Social Care. The SHB project team and the outcomes from this project will be fully evaluated by Teesside University and will support the aims of the Early Help Strategy, to increase capacity of the Early Help partnership. Since it launched in August the team have already accepted **74 children**.
3. **Pause North East**. As part of our Prevention offer in Childrens Social Care, we have joined Pause North East with a number of other regional Local Authorities. Pause works with women who have experienced or are at risk of, repeated pregnancies that result in children needing to be removed from their care. The aim of this programme is to give women the opportunity to 'pause' and take control of their lives, breaking a destructive cycle that causes both them and their children significant and deep trauma.

The priorities of the women that Pause are currently working with include; relationships with their children, as many of the women still have contact with their children, physical and mental health including support around grief and loss and also practical support to secure safe and adequate housing. All women are supported by a dedicated Pause Practitioner who is able to build trusted relationships and provide personalised support.

#### Futures for Families

4. Rosecroft Children's Home has now changed its registration with Ofsted. The service offers an independence programme to prepare each young person for living on their own. Once assessed each young person will have their own flat with support from the Residential team. It offers 5 places to young people aged 16/17 with care needs. The service admitted its first young person on the 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021 and all is going well.

## **Multi Agency Children's Hub**

5. Demand has seen a recent increase with a conversion rate of 44% (cases that progressed for assessment by Children's Social Care). This is an increase from 36% previously. Meetings to take place to establish if there has been an increase in referrals received from any one agency or whether the increase is linked to a particular stated issue i.e. domestic abuse, homelessness etc.

## **Assessment Teams**

6. The focus remains ensuring that all assessments are evidence based and capture the voice of the child, to inform the delivery of services and demonstrate impact in terms of outcomes for the children and young people who require a service from CSC (children's social care), whether at CIN (children in need), CP (child protection) or CLA (children looked after) level.

## **Review and Development Unit**

7. The Social Work Academy has been launched in the Centre for Practice Excellence. This offers newly qualified Social Workers a protected learning environment, to put learning into practice with enhanced reflective supervision, training and support. The Academy aims to improve workforce stability by ensuring staff get the support and time they need to transition from teaching to employment. This will give our children and families good quality and consistent Social Work support.
8. On 27<sup>th</sup> September, for 1 week, Colleagues in Children's Services and partners internally and externally were invited to participate in 20 workshops. Our focus this time was Prevention – which is the first principle of our Permanency Strategy. To support children to remain safely with their families.
9. Our Practice Priority for October will build on learning from Practice Week – as we focus on Permanence and how we achieve it for our children when they cannot be kept safe at home with their families. Our aim is to achieve permanence for our children as early as possible.

## **Looked After Children**

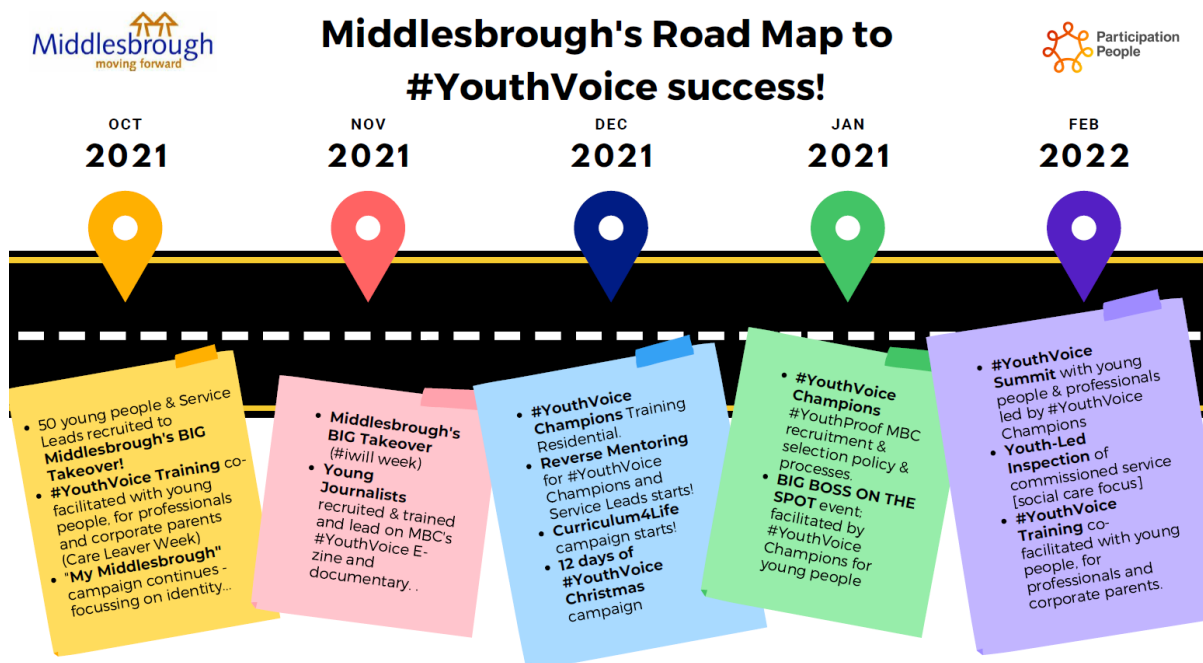
10. The staff have been taking part in Lifestory work training that has been delivered by Strengthening Practice. They have also undertaken Berri training in September which will allow us to start to understand, assess and intervene more effectively to ensure young people are supported with their emotional health.
11. The team have secured 3 Adoption Orders this month and continue to progress children in to adoptive placements in a timely way.

## **Strategic Services**

## **Participation and Communication**



12. We are currently preparing for the Middlesbrough Big Take Over taking place in November. This gives young people the chance to work with adults and co-produce solutions to the Big Business Challenges in Middlesbrough together. Young people benefit from the opportunity to experience how decisions are made. Adults get a real insight into what it is like accessing their service through the youth lens. The Children's Services senior leadership team have all signed up to the challenge.
13. We are also developing training for our Corporate Parenting Board, led by our young people in care. We believe this will be an enriching experience for elected members and our leadership team and will strengthen our Middlesbrough Children Matter vision.



14. We have been working closely with the Corporate Communication team to develop a coherent communication plan in line with the Councils priorities and support the key messages we need to communicate to our key stakeholders. Our Communication and Participation Board have agreed on the following 6 priorities:

- Levelling Up (the case for investment in Children's Services in the North East)
- The Improvement Journey
- Becoming an employer of choice
- Education outcomes
- Young people not in education, training or employment and adult learning
- Fostering recruitment

## Audit and Performance

15. We have continued to deliver our Audit to Excellence programme and our performance framework. We are developing our Education performance dashboards and our multi-agency dataset. Our audit programme includes an accreditation programme for managers to become skilled auditors. This is a key initiative to embed a strong audit process for the future.

## **ADULT SOCIAL CARE, PUBLIC PROTECTION AND PUBLIC HEALTH**

### **Temporary emergency accommodation**

1. The number of individuals in temporary accommodation are reducing, we now have 70 people in temporary accommodation compared to 90 last month, the majority are all single people. We still have a long way to go to get to the numbers pre-Covid, which were between 25 and 30.
2. The funding secured from MOJ/MHCLG will be used to secure accommodation for:
  - Adults with a history of offending of all genders who are aged eighteen or above.
  - Assessed as ready to take on an Assured Shorthold Tenancy.
3. Homeless or at a risk of homelessness/rough sleeping, and fall within one of the following groups:
  - Moving on as homeless from Community Accommodation Service;
  - Moving on as homeless from Approved Premises accommodation;
  - Moving on as homeless from Bail Accommodation Support Service;

### **Rough sleeping**

4. All must have served a custodial sentence within the 12 months prior to needing accommodation. This will free up temporary accommodation by placing individuals straight into private rented accommodation that will be furnished, affordable and supported to reduce reoffending.

### **Rough Sleepers**

5. We are experiencing an increase in the number of rough sleepers. There are several reasons for this, evictions from temporary accommodation; evictions from supported housing; rough sleepers coming to Middlesbrough from out of area and 'everybody in' due to Covid no longer applies which means those with no priority need are not offered temporary accommodation. The rough sleeper action group are working alongside our outreach workers to ensure welfare checks are carried out and actions agreed to try and get people off the streets. Funding has been secured from Public Health which will support the employment of two additional rough sleeper outreach workers.

### **Community Reading Coach Project**

6. On Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> September the regional launch of the Community Reading Coach project took place at the Gala Theatre, Durham. South Tees is one of five areas in the region that are delivering the innovative scheme. In South Tees we have recruited a community reading coach (due to start imminently) that will work with parents and their children in the Thorntree area of Middlesbrough as well as the Loftus area of Redcar and Cleveland.

7. The project aims to improve family wellbeing through the medium of reading, supporting parents to read for their own and their child's wellbeing.
8. The press release for the regional launch was picked up and featured in a number of local and national news outlets:
  - [Vera author Ann Cleeves on how reading will help people improve their health through new scheme - Chronicle Live](#)
  - [Vera author Ann Cleeves launches reading for wellbeing project | The Northern Echo](#)
  - [Vera creator backs Reading for Wellbeing scheme | Evening Standard](#)
  - [Vera creator backs Reading for Wellbeing scheme | indy100](#)

### **Health and Wellbeing Recovery Partnership**

9. A working plan has been developed which maps all current activity against the evidence base and local research findings and contains some high impact actions for health and wellbeing recovery. The partnership will now move towards establishing itself as a Community of Practice where learning and insights in delivering the actions can be shared to shape the ongoing approach to recovery, promote partnership working and share best practice.
10. The Community of Practice will meet quarterly and will have an expanded membership including all the organisations that have been issued grants and wider partners with an interest in the agenda. The format will be shaped by the group but will eventually (restrictions pending) provide a space for informal connection and collaboration as well as learning and reflection.
11. As a reminder over the last 18 months the partnership has collectively:
  - Co- produced key areas for focus, captured cross sector action against each area and shared themed discussions on a number of key areas
  - Identified the need for community voice and completed co-produced research which is informing the council's wider approach and has been recognised regionally and nationally as good practice, and will be published in the Lancet
  - Secured and disseminated through the Council grant programme funding to allocate on the key areas of focus at grass roots level (£366k in grass roots grants across 24 organisations issued to address co-produced key areas of focus and a further £195k for mental health and isolation support)

- Established and grown a community champions model – over 40 community champions recruited covering a range of target groups (older people, those with addictions, a number of BAME communities, council and non-council champions representing target ward and locality working)
- Took a citizen led approach to communications issuing 21 comms grants of up to £5k each, resulting in a range of modes of communication of key messaging on testing, isolation, vaccination, available support in formats and from sources trusted and understood by communities;
- Supported a number of Community based vaccine pop ups and outreach
- Secured and allocated £490k from MHCLG to expand community approach for moving into recovery – increasing community development capacity, supporting VCS delivery, increasing vaccine uptake and building further the champions network enhancing their work.

### **Illicit tobacco trader shut down**

12. Using Closure Order powers the Vilem Grocery in Crescent Road was ordered by Teesside Magistrates to close for 3 months after investigations led to the seizure of more than 10,000 illicit cigarettes and 2.75kg of illicit hand-rolling tobacco. Vilem Grocery was visited as part of a multi-agency intelligence- led operation, which included Trading Standards Officers, Police, Street Wardens and a tobacco detection dog. The tobacco was concealed in a purpose built hide in the ceiling. They did not display the correct labelling including health warnings and many of them were counterfeit. Such illicit tobacco is regularly found to not contain the reduced propensity ignition strips which means they won't extinguish safely. The investigation into the sale of illegal tobacco is ongoing.

### **Drinking at home research**

13. The Drinking at Home project, involving partner agencies across South Tees, aims to raise awareness about alcohol-related health harms. It delivers messages through various media and social events including educating young people about alcohol-linked adverse health impacts and responsible drinking, which is linked into the Headstart survey in schools and colleges. Promotion of the scheme through Facebook has reached more than 10,000 people. The project has been supported through Thirteen Community Fund. Teesside University is also engaged in the project and has been carrying out research into the changes in alcohol consumption among adults over 18 in Middlesbrough during the Covid-19 pandemic.

## **New food labelling laws set to enhance consumer safety**

14. The Public Protection Service is working with local food businesses in preparation for new food labelling laws, which come into effect on 1st October. The new rules, known as “Natasha's Law” are named after Natasha Ednan-Laperouse who, at the age of 15, sadly passed away due to a severe allergic reaction. Natasha had a sesame allergy and was not made aware that sesame seeds had been baked into the bread of a sandwich she had purchased. The new labelling rules require all food that is wrapped at the same place where it is sold to be clearly labelled with the name of the food, a full list of ingredients and allergenic ingredients highlighted within the list.

## **You've Got This – Sport England South Tees Local Delivery Pilot Update**

15. ‘You've Got This’ is the Sport England Local Delivery Pilot across South Tees, taking a whole system approach to increasing physical activity at a population level, with the vision of ‘An active life as a way of life’.
16. A whole system approach means looking beyond the actions individuals can take themselves to become more active. To encourage greater activity amongst more people we need to change policy, improve the local environment in a way that promotes physical activity and consider how, as organisations, we can all encourage those who we work with to be more active.
17. YGT is focused on two key themes: Communities of Place and Communities of Interest. Communities of Place cover four focus wards, where work is with the whole community. These are North Ormesby and Brambles & Thorntree in Middlesbrough. Communities of Interest include groups where increasing physical activity can help improve medical conditions and quality of life.
18. As an example of the approach, working with James Cook University Hospital, the Prehabilitation programme is supporting patients to increase their physical activity prior to major surgery. This is being shown to improve clinical outcomes for the patients. Moreover, early results also indicate that a high proportion of patients are more active after they have recovered from surgery, bringing longer term benefits. As part of the system change, consultants from the hospital are working to broaden the use of the approach across the specialties. YGT is also working with the hospital team to identify ways to encourage more patients to take up the Prehabilitation offer.
19. YGT is about to enter the next stage of the programme, “Accelerator”, which will continue through to 2025. The proposal will be submitted shortly to Sport England and will focus on bringing about some of the policy and system changes to help people become more active, expand successful work streams and kickstart some work streams that were postponed due to Covid.

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## **EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORT TO COUNCIL**

**20 October 2021**

### **Culture**

#### **Strategic Updates**

1. Middlesbrough Council is currently leading a bid with Middlesbrough Cultural Partnership to work on the regeneration of our cultural buildings in Middlesbrough, including Middlesbrough Library. The bid is for a total of £5m.

#### **Public Art**

2. Working with the local arts organisation Navigator North, Middlesbrough Council has commissioned a series of public art pieces, including light pieces in our restored phone boxes developed by artist Stephen Hurrell.



#### **Sports and Leisure**

3. Middlesbrough has launched its Beat the Street programme. Beat the Street is a six week game of physical activity that will challenge the entire population of Middlesbrough to get active and tag in at as many of the 135 Beat Boxes as frequently as possible.

The project is predicting at least 14,000 participants during the six week game. It's likely that most of these will be children who will get their fobs and game cards via their school – but the

rest of the population can collect their game cards from any of the 12 distribution points at our Community Hubs).

## **Albert Park**

4. Following the success of the Holiday Hunger programme at Albert Park through the summer, Albert Park will again be looking to apply to the Holiday Activity Fund to provide a programme in the lead up to Christmas.

A Christmas programme will see collaboration between Albert Park, The Dorman Museum and Musinc to deliver a rich programme of cultural and physical activity alongside high quality meals for children participating.

5. An application for funding has been submitted to the Lawn Tennis Association to make good the tennis courts at Albert Park. If successful this fund will see the refurbishment of the courts at Albert Park with a view to developing greater opportunities to play tennis in Middlesbrough and progress in the sport at either a recreational or performance level.
6. Work is continuing to deliver capital improvements to Albert Park. This work will see improvements to the visitors centre, park signage and the fishing lake. Part of the funding for these improvements has been committed as match funding to an application to the 'Changing Places' fund, which, if successful, will see the development of new inclusive toilet facilities on Albert Park.

## **Events**

7. September 30 saw the launch of Middlesbrough Arts Weekender. We offered our support for this event over the past few months and played host to a few of their installations.
8. We are carrying out an evaluation of Middlesbrough Mela in partnership with TVCA and looking at ways we can develop it going forward into 2022. We will be undertaking consultation with the public as to what they would like to see at their Mela in an open focus group on October 9 at Dorman Museum.
9. Dino Day plans for Teessaurus Park are coming together with all of our dinosaur based activities now confirmed. Event goers can look forwards to some Jurassic based crafts, dino-story time, walk about characters and a family show.
10. We are very excited to bring a new and exciting event to Centre Square this autumn. Diwali delivered in partnership with Kash Patel Productions will take place on Centre Square on Saturday, November 6. Look out for more details in the coming weeks.
11. Christmas is coming together nicely with lots of schools and community groups from across Middlesbrough showing interest in the participating in the Magical Middlesbrough Parade where they will be partnered up with a carnival artist to create costumes for the procession.

This year's theme is a Dickensian Christmas, following the tale of A Christmas Carol. This theme will be carried across the parade, light switch on and festive window displays.



## **Archives**

12. The move is underway at the archives with removal men working on the decant from Exchange House to the new storage location in Sedgefield. Our engagement officer has been working on new educational resources for the Second World War for use in schools and preparing for more partnership working within the other local authority museums.
13. The work at the Dorman Museum to create a front of house position for Teesside Archives is now due to be complete in 2022 when we look forward to welcoming all of our users and volunteers. In the next few weeks the archives team will take delivery of the Tees Works Archives which we are all looking forward to cataloguing and exploring.

## **Town Hall**

14. After a successful season of socially distanced music and theatre in the Town Hall Courtyard, the doors fully reopened to Middlesbrough Town Hall on August 28, with a full main hall for Jimmy Carr – this was a huge success and a welcome sight to see 1000+ customers through the doors following the closure during Covid-19.
15. We're heading into a very busy Autumn season with a star studded line up including Jason Manford, Paul Weller, Enter Shikari, The Stylistics and Martin Kemp along with providing space for regular engagement classes from Musinc, community hires and wedding ceremonies and receptions.
16. We have submitted our application to Arts council England to extend out NPO status by an additional year we hope to receive a decision on this application in early January 2022.

## **Middlesbrough Theatre**

17. The Autumn season continues to go from strength to strength with almost all programmed shows exceeding their sales targets. We have embarked on a new journey with Less is More Productions to support and cultivate local creative talent and are now running regular cabaret and scratch nights at the theatre on less commercially attractive days. The program has been extremely well received and has allowed the theatre to support in excess of 15 local creatives with freelance work.
18. This year's panto is proving very popular with ticket sales on track to pre pandemic targets. We are looking forward to a laughter filled panto season after last year's darkness.

## **Communities**

### **Strategic Cohesion and Migration**

19. During August and September, the Cohesion Team continued to attend alley clean ups with residents, talking to them about their views of the town. Of interest was the fact that many residents expressed that they would like to have opportunities for their children to become more aware and appreciative of the different cultures and communities in the town.

20. Support for the Amazing Alleys scheme is continuing. One Middlesbrough resident, who is originally from El Salvador, is interested in transforming her alley and is being supported by the team to apply for funding.
21. The cohesion team is also engaging with Barefoot Kitchen and Middlesbrough MELA to develop a “taste of home” cookbook. A number of workshops have been organised to bring community members together and share recipes and skills from their own cultures. The cohesion team has ensured community organisations and people they work with are aware of the events and participate.
22. The team supported the first two “Haircut for Homeless” events, organised by Middlesbrough’s Helping Hands and the Skins and Needles Academy. This was a joint effort by various organisations to offer support to some of the most vulnerable members of the community and was a great success. The event will now take place on the last Sunday of every month, with a wider celebration event at Christmas. The project consists of four volunteers from Helping Hands, six barbers from Skins and Needles, a Community Cohesion Officer and a Tenancy Support Officers. The Neighbourhood Wardens supported by raising awareness.



23. The refugee Specialised Training and Employment Programme (STEP) Advisor has continued to support refugees into employment opportunities, working with them on CVs, interview preparation, identifying ESOL and functional skills opportunities, and more. A number of new potential employers, including Greggs, Jury’s Inn, and Premier Inn have been identified. Welcome news was also received in that one of the STEP clients has been offered a position with Amazon, which makes them the first STEP client to find employment.
24. The Afghan ARAP program has continued, with processes being put in place to identify best practice. Yaseen, the integration officer, has built relationships with each of the three families to help them with their wider integration. Through the EMAT team, school places

have been identified for most of the children. Two further properties have also been identified and the Home Office is in the process of allocating families to those.

Furthermore, the team worked on developing an orientation presentation for our new Afghan arrivals. This presentation is based on the highly successful work completed as part of the Controlling Migration Fund and provides people with information on life in Britain and in Middlesbrough in particular.

25. Finally, work has continued with the asylum seeker mother and baby unit. The ladies are supported to access MyPlace, where they can access digital devices, use the gardens and other facilities and more. In partnership with Barefoot Kitchen, the mums are being supported to transform their outdoor space into a growing area for fruits, herbs and vegetables.

## Reducing Reoffending

26. The Community Safety Partnership (CSP) in partnership with Middlesbrough's Retail Crime Partnership (MRCP) and Cleveland Police led on a five day week of action focusing on retail crime and anti-social behaviour. Throughout the week partners worked with individuals identified by the MRCP to address their underlying complex issues. Police and wardens conducted high visibility patrols throughout the week as a deterrent and crime prevention assisted premises with advice on retail crime.
27. The CSP officer, working with Cleveland Police, has developed and launched a public facing council web page for cybercrime, including one for community based awareness and another focusing on increasing business communities' resilience to the threat of cybercrime. The CSP officer has also co-written a campaign to raise awareness around the growing concern of courier fraud in order to help protect those most vulnerable in our communities whom may fall victim.

## Crime and Locality Working

28. The following draft tables have been produced for use at Active Intelligence Mapping (AIM) meetings. The first shows the number arrests captured by CCTV per ward, the second shows per type of reporting category. The third and the most informative table, shows the no. arrests, assaults/fights, begging offences, hospital admissions, knife crime and facials taken/captured by CCTV.

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### NUMBER OF INCIDENTS - CAPTURED BY CCTV

Ward	Arrests	Assault/ Fight	Begging	Hospital Admissions	Knife/ Knives	Facials Taken
Central	36	18	47	7	7	18
Newport	6	2	1	1	8	1
North Ormesby	4	3	0	2	2	1
Hemlington	1	0	0	0	0	0
Ayresome	0	0	0	0	0	1
Berwick Hills and Palli...	0	2	0	1	0	2
Brambles and Thorntr...	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ladgate	0	0	0	0	0	0
Linthorpe	0	1	0	0	0	0
Longlands and Beech...	0	0	0	0	0	0
Park	0	1	0	2	1	0
Park End and Beckfield	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>23</b>

## **Enforcement Update – Work in Progress**

### **Enforcement Actions Taken**

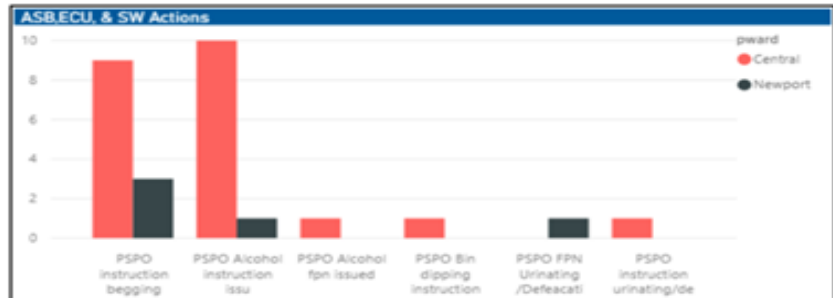
- Total of 2 FPN notices issued (1 Alcohol, 1 Urinating/defecating), 4 last period (3 Begging, 1 Urinating/defecating).
- 12 PSPO begging instructions issued (9 in Central, and 3 in Newport, 11 last period).
- 11 PSPO Alcohol instructions issued (10 in Central, 1 in Newport, 15 last period),

### **Closures**

- 14/09/2021 – 3 month premises closure Bramwith Avenue (Berwick Hills)
- 15/09/2021 – 3 month premises closure Oliver Street (Linthorpe)
- 03/09/2021 – 3 month premises closure Tennyson Street (Newport)

### **Civil Injunctions**

- 10/09/2021 – 12 months against prolific beggar – Jonathan Ambrose (Town center and Linthorpe Road)



29. Also under development for AIM is the enforcement figures per period – i.e. what has been done to tackle crime, ASB, fire, fly-tipping etc. Further AIM slides include:

- The make-up of crime - identifying the most prevalent times and crimes
- Crime & ASB hotspots
- Fire hotspots
- And environmental crime hotspots

**EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORT TO COUNCIL**  
**20.10.2021**

**1. South Tees Youth Offending Service**

South Tees Youth Offending Service held their annual open day on 15th September. The event was well attended by over 50 people including staff, partner agencies, Corporate Parenting Board Members and Councillors from both Middlesbrough and Redcar and Cleveland Local Authorities. The event was held virtually, and saw presentations on current priorities, the 'Child First' principle and how it is applied in practice, caseload demographics, and a section on the voice of the child. There was also a powerful input from a young person currently open to the service who spoke about his experiences with YOS and how the service has helped him. Feedback on the event has been very positive and the Service plan to hold the event again next year.

**2. Achievement Team**

GCSE results. Outcomes in 2021 at the end of key stage 3 improved in all areas with the exception of the number of pupils being entered for the English Baccalaureate (Ebacc). In the absence of national comparison data, it is difficult to predict any closing of attainment gaps. However overall, progress and attainment in Middlesbrough improved for the second year.

Below is the Gap Analysis 2019-2021:

<b>Subject Area</b>	<b>Percentage +/-</b>
Attainment 8	+6%
5+ English and Math's	+11%
4+ English and Math's	+11.5%
5+ English	+11.7%
4+ English	+13.8%
5+ Math's	+10.3%
4+ Math's	+11%

In all areas of GCSE statutory assessment there is a percentage increase in the key outcome measures.

**3. Schools**

Overall, engagement with schools and settings is very good, and schools are reporting continued good attendance and engagement of students since the start of the new school year.

In addition to monthly LA meetings with Head Teachers, Middlesbrough's Private and Voluntary Independent (PVI) nursery settings now also attend monthly LA led meetings, which allow for the sharing of best practice and shared understanding of strategic priorities.

Following a recent visit by the Executive Member for Education and Partnerships to Acklam Grange it was clear that the vibrancy to the school day has returned as covid-

restrictions are now easing within the classroom. A series of visits across all of the education sector in Middlesbrough will now continue throughout the new school term

#### **4. Maintained, Private, Voluntary and Independent Nurseries**

For the AY2O (Achieving Two Year Old) cohort – children aged two who are now eligible to take up a nursery place in advance of their 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday – participation is high. 86% of 2 year olds now attend a nursery setting, ranking the LA 11<sup>th</sup> nationally. Promotion of the offer will continue to all eligible families using lessons learnt from covid such as the use of social media communication methods to engage hard-to-reach families.

#### **5. Ethnic Minority Achievement Team (EMAT)**

A new EAL (English as additional language) network meeting has now started meeting termly with colleagues from primary and secondary schools sharing best practice. Subsequently professional development has now been planned. Feedback from the first meeting has been extremely positive and welcomed by schools.

In response to the implementation of the new RSHE (Relationships, Sex and Health Education) curriculum, the LA successfully led community consultations aimed at addressing common misconceptions, in order to alleviate fears and ensure as many pupils as possible are able to attend the lessons. There's been very positive feedback from the wider community and schools as a consequence.

#### **6. School Readiness**

Children's Centres continue to offer a bespoke delivery method. The team have continued to develop a virtual offer for families, which has been successful in engaging some families who would not normally use our Children's Centre services. Reach and Registration figures for the centres have remained consistent over the lockdown period as staff have worked hard to engage with families on a virtual basis. Social media platforms have also been invested in which have offered parents the opportunity to engage in national literacy campaigns. Initiatives include:

- Take10 - The **Take 10** Challenge encourages people to read for just **10** minutes a day to improve their wellbeing and support their literacy.
- Bath, Book, Bed - Bath, Book, Bed routine: a simple solution to sleepless nights
- Look for a Book - Look for a Book encourages children and families to explore their local area together, while emphasising the importance of reading for enjoyment. Middlesbrough Reads and Teesside Look for a Book have distributed over 500 reading packs, which include a brand new book and reading tips for parents

All of these initiatives are promoted on the Early Years Facebook page and through the Council communication team.

#### **7. Access to Education**

The DfE has extended the remit of Virtual School Headteachers to include strategic oversight of the academic performance of children involved with Child Protection and Children in Need Social Care services. Funding has been provided to support this, and is time limited to March 2022 - the DfE will decide shortly whether to extend this funding period. Within Middlesbrough Virtual School, we are well placed to implement these new responsibilities. The Virtual School began to track and analyse the school attendance of children open to Social Care in June and we have put in place robust systems to support this and to improve the attendance of these vulnerable children. Good attendance is the pre-cursor to improved achievement so we have made a good start on getting the foundations in place.

Further to the above, DfE invited bids for funding to pilot new approaches to supporting post-16 looked after children; we submitted a bid and found out in early September that

we were the only Authority in the area to be successful. We will receive an additional £60k of grant funding to help us fund a post 16 project – fantastic news!

Personal Education Plan (PEP) completion within timescales is very good at around 98%. All of the looked after children of school age have a PEP, which is co-produced by the school, social worker and Virtual School, with input from the child.

## **8. New Schools**

In October 2019, Middlesbrough Council led on a Free School bid for a Tees Valley Free School for children and young people with Social Emotional Needs and for those with Autism. This bid was successful and the new school will be based in Redcar. Work is currently underway and the school is planned to open in October 2022. The school will have approximately 100 students when fully open. These places are for children across the Tees Valley.

Tees Valley Education have also been successful in their bid to build a Free School on the site at Natures World, which will be called Discovery Special Academy. The school is currently based at Tees Valley Education's site at Brambles Primary Academy. The school will be for up to 84 children aged 4-11 with complex and significant learning, communication, physical and medical needs. The new site will be open in September 2022.

In addition, Outwood Grange Academy Trust (OGAT) has also received approval from the Government's Free School Programme to establish a new 1,050-place secondary school to serve central Middlesbrough. This school is currently operating at its temporary site on Russell Street and it is planned that the school will move to its permanent location in September 2023.

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## **EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORT TO COUNCIL**

### **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

#### **DECISIONS**

The following papers went to Executive on 5<sup>th</sup> October:

Community Environmental Initiatives

Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2022/23

1. Draft tenders from the final three bidders for the Future Waste Project have been received and the Project Board are currently reviewing these. Feedback to the bidders is expected to be provided in late October.
2. Final Tender Submissions are expected November 2021 with the preferred bidder to be selected in March 2022
3. Transporter Bridge - Rapid Consulting are preparing all necessary design and tender documents to enable us to appoint Contractors to carry out the initial work required to make the bridge safe. Works are currently underway to drill and bolt the upper angles of the bridge with completion estimated for early November.

#### **STRATEGIC**

6. Green Strategy - We are about to launch our internal training module for all staff to complete, focussed on climate change and carbon emissions reductions which is a key component of the strategy and one which all staff must subscribe to and play their part. Following this we will develop the role of Green Champions in Departments and Teams to take forward and drive our green ambitions internally.
7. Bridges and Structures – Capita have completed the design for jacking up of A66 and concrete repair works required to Column 20b on A66 and expect the tender documents to be published on the NEPO portal within the next 3 week with works to begin thereafter. Capita have been appointed as consultant/contractor to carry out Principal and general inspections on the remainder of the Council's bridge and structure asset stock to inform us of current condition and identify and maintenance works required. Inspections are currently underway.
8. Traffic Signals/UTMC - The new UTMC and UTC system development is progressing well with Siemens carrying out the works to have the new system in place soon. TCF funding is available to expand our UTMC assets across the Tees Valley, with the UTMC manager currently working with Fore Consulting to develop an asset plan for hardware type and location (VMS, CCTV, ANPR, Air Quality, Traffic Counting, Weather monitoring etc.)

9. TVCA/Joint Authorities have been awarded £500k for traffic signals improvements following a successful bid to DfT. Funding will be awarded by the end of October with improvement works to be carried out before the end of the financial year.
10. Highways Projects –the planned highways team are underway with the 2020/21 works programme and are working towards having all of the scheme works complete prior to April 2022. Tarmac have been appointed as main contractor for the surfacing programme following a tender process with all of the planned carriageway surfacing works scheduled to be completed prior to April 2022.

## **PERFORMANCE**

11. Progress against Strategic Plan and Directorate priorities.

## **INVOLVEMENT AND PROMOTION**

### **ICT**

12. Following the successful implementation of Microsoft 365's Email and Teams collaboration tools. ICT are now busy planning phase 2 of the programme. In support of the Councils continued development of the "Blended Working" approach, we will shortly begin the reconfiguration of approximately 2700 laptop and desktop devices with the latest Windows 10 operating system. This new version of Windows will feature cloud based services that will increase our security posture, introduce additional collaboration tools and innovative productivity applications. Planning is at an advanced stage and it is anticipated that work to rollout the new software will commence in December.
13. One of the key principles of the ICT Strategy is the consolidation of our hardware and software assets. Reducing our footprint reduced time, cost and is better for the environment. For many years ICT has maintained two types of server infrastructure Windows based and Unix/Oracle based. Changes in technology have created an opportunity to consolidate our Oracle based applications onto the Windows platform. The first of which iWorld, our Revenues & Benefits application was moved at the end of September. Two further applications, IDOX (Planning) and Capita One (Education Management) will be moved during October. After which the Oracle server environment will be decommissioned. This move will reduce the ICT Capital requirement by around 50k per annum (the servers are refreshed every five years at a cost of £250k) as well as improving the availability and reliability of these three key applications for our users and residents.
14. Following the approval of an outline business to redevelop the Councils Website & Intranet and bring the technical support "in-house". ICT are now working to cost up this alternate support model. In conjunction with Marketing and Communications and supported by the Councils survey tool (Survey 1-2-3) we are actively seeking the opinion of residents, Members and Council Officers who regularly interact with

the Website. This feedback will be incorporated into technical requirements of the new site as well as the longer term roadmap for its development.

15. As mentioned previously ICT are currently in the process of reassessment for our annual PSN (Public Sector Network) compliance. PSN compliance is a mandatory requirement of all Local Authorities if they are to retain their link to Central Government and in particular the Department of Work and Pensions. The assessment spans a ten day period and involves certified specialists attempting to circumvent our external and internal security systems. They will make recommendations to improve security where required and their assessment of our overall posture dictates our compliance. Following the onsite visit we expect to receive the verdict on our security posture before the end of October.

## Human Resources

16. Middlesbrough Council is proud to have a number of staff networks and Covid has highlighted the need more than ever to stay connected so we have stepped up our efforts to encourage participation. Our staff networks give staff a chance to connect with one another, voice their opinions, share experiences, create a space for mutual support and sharing lived experience. But best of all they are a way to contribute to positive change, they create opportunities to shape the culture of our organisation and positively influence employee experiences. The networks are:
- DAWN (Disability and Wellbeing)
  - BAME (Black, Asian, Minority, Ethnic)
  - Carers' Network
  - LGBT+ Network

We will also be launching the Gender Equality Network. The networks are open to all supportive allies and welcome those who are not in the social group represented, but who will champion and support the aims of the group



17. Our menopause Support Group was launched in September. The group will help staff share their experiences, support each other and learn more about menopause and its effects.



## Commissioning and Procurement

18. On the 24<sup>th</sup> September the Procurement team hosted a Procurement event in the Town hall Crypt in which all local suppliers were invited to come and engage with Middlesbrough Council and other key anchor organisations across the town in regards to doing local business. The event was aimed at keeping investment local. The event was open by The Mayor, and presentations were given by ourselves, Cleveland Police and North East Purchasing Organisation. Attendees were encouraged to network with other organisations whom attended the event to find out what opportunities for business would be available and make local contacts. Feedback from the event has been very positive and as a result future engagement events are already being planned.
19. Processing and Recycling of Kerbside Collected Dry Recycling Contract is currently out for tender with a closing date of 12 October. This is a joint contract between Middlesbrough Council and Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council with a proposed start date of 1 April 2022.
20. Middlesbrough's fortnightly green waste service is set to make its annual change to a monthly collection, with households receiving one collection per month in October and November.
21. Residents are advised to consult their collection calendar which is available online or via the Contact Centre.

**Councillor Eric Polano**

**EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORT TO COUNCIL  
Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

**STRATEGIC**

**1. Selective Landlord Licensing**

An area of Newport ward was designated for a Selective Landlord Licensing Scheme and this came into force on 13th June 2019. Under this scheme the Neighbourhood Safety Officer has worked to address anti-social behaviour in the area and within the private rented sector. In September, the Selective Landlord Licensing Team successfully took two House Closure cases to Teesside Magistrates' Court. Evidence was presented to show there had been regular complaints relating to anti-social, disorderly and criminal behaviour at the addresses next door to each property on Tennyson Street. Closure Orders were granted by the Magistrates and both properties were required to be closed for a period of 3 months. To date under the Newport scheme, 7 properties have now have Closure Orders granted through the work of the Selective Landlord Licensing Team.

**PERFORMANCE**

**2. Stainton Way Toucan Crossing**

The new Toucan Crossing on Stainton Way is now 'live' and ready for its first users.

Issues at the junction of Stainton Way and Stokesley Road were raised in late 2020 and the service has responded with a rapid response to community need.

As with all highway improvement schemes, the facility will be closely monitored to make sure that it operates as intended.



Welcome Back to Andrea!

Schools Crossing Patrol Officer Andrea O'Donnell has returned to her role following an accident in September 2020.

Andrea is a dedicated officer supervising the Avenue in [Linthorpe](#), outside St Edward's School.

Albeit the accident was not speed related, a new zebra crossing and reduced speed limits have been introduced in the area. Middlesbrough Council installed the crossing this summer, placing new street furniture and narrowing The Avenue to slow down speeding motorists after councillor Theo Furness, member for the Park ward, secured funds from the members' small grant scheme.



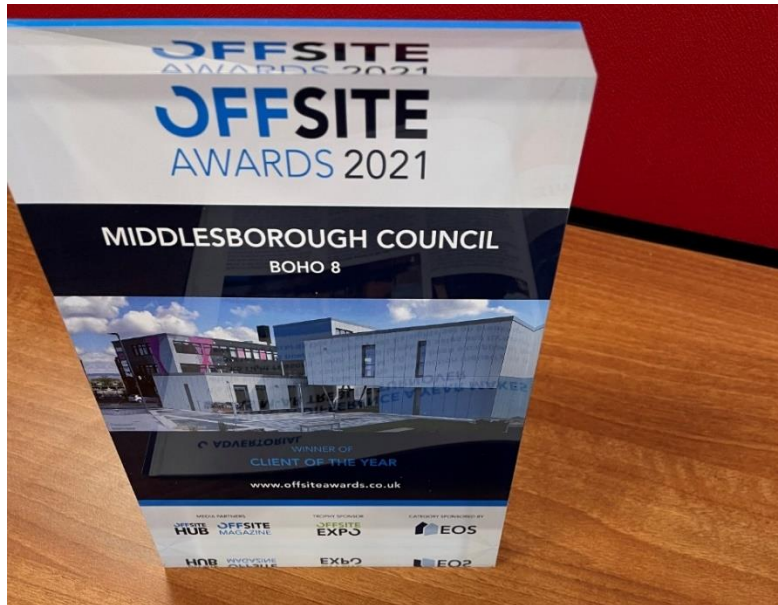


## **INVOLVEMENT AND PROMOTION**

### **3. Boho 8**

Middlesbrough Council won client of the year at the Offsite Construction Awards 2021. This award reflects the great ambition and innovation in using modular construction techniques in modern developments.

Boho 8 hope to replicate this achievement with its nomination for the Offsite project of the year at October's Construction Excellence North East (CENE) Awards.



### **4. TeesAMP**

The accolades keep rolling in with TeesAMP winning the Commercial Development of the year at The North East Property Awards.

TeesAMP is an 11-hectare development site consisting of 22 buildings on the former 'Ironmasters' blast furnace site on the banks of the Tees. 90 per cent of the units were occupied (or under offer) by the end of February 2021. It will bring advanced manufacturing businesses to the Tees Valley, something that made this the stand-out commercial development with the judges.









## EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### **SECTION 2 – DECISIONS THAT HAVE BEEN TAKEN AND HAVE BEEN THROUGH THEIR CALL IN PERIOD**

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DATE	DECISION MAKER	ISSUE	PURPOSE OF REPORT	KEY DECISION
21 Sept 2021	Executive	Future Development of Middlehaven	To set out the approach to be taken to the development of Middlehaven, and the agreement proposed to enable BCEGI to facilitate the development of over 500 new homes at St Hilda's.	Yes
21 Sept 2021	Executive	EXEMPT: Middlesbrough College	To explore potential co-investment with Middlesbrough College	Yes

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### **SECTION 3 – DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN UP UNTIL THE COUNCIL MEETING**

DATE	PROPOSED DECISION MAKER	ISSUE	PURPOSE OF REPORT	KEY DECISION
13 Oct 2021	Executive Member - Regeneration	Tackling Eye Sore Sites	To ask the Executive to approve investment up to £1,000,000 to tackle eyesore sites.	Yes

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## **SECTION 4 – DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN FOLLOWING THE COUNCIL MEETING**

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DATE	PROPOSED DECISION MAKER	ISSUE	PURPOSE OF REPORT	KEY DECISION
Date TBC	Executive	Stainsby Country Park and Masterplan To be deferred from 26/10/2021	To adopt the Stainsby Country Park and Masterplan.	Yes
9 Nov 2021	Executive	Strategic Plan 2021-24 – Progress at Quarter Two 2021/22	Report outlining performance against the Strategic Plan at Quarter Two 2021/22	No
9 Nov 2021	Executive	EXEMPT: Strategic Town Centre Acquisition	The report needs to go to the Executive due to the financial thresholds having been exceeded (for decision) as they are over £150k. The decision relates to one Central Ward only– albeit the economic benefits will be town-wide. The report seeks approval for a number of decisions relating to the proposed commercial acquisition.	Yes
9 Nov 2021	Executive	Middlesbrough's Ambition for Children	To build upon our existing improvement journey within Children's Services and our existing Middlesbrough Children Matter priorities, to create a Corporate ambition, strategy, and priorities for the whole of the town guided and co-produced with children and young people.	Yes
9 Nov 2021	Executive	Health Determinants Research Collaboration bid	The National Institute of Health Research (NIHR) spends over £1 billion a year on health and social care research. As part of the NIHR, the Public Health Research (PHR) Programme commissions research in non-NHS settings – primarily evaluating activity within Local	Yes

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DATE	PROPOSED DECISION MAKER	ISSUE	PURPOSE OF REPORT	KEY DECISION
			Government across the UK. A recent development is the concept of Health Determinants Research Collaborations – NIHR PHR is looking to award five of these in 2022 the aim of which is to embed a culture of research within the host Local Authorities, each worth up to £1 million a year for five years. Each HDRC will lead to increased research activity and collaboration and better use of evidence in decision making. The proposal is that Public Health South Tees and Teesside University will collaborate on a bid, which will drive organisational change across the two Local Authorities to embed a culture of evidence based decision making and research activity.	
9 Nov 2021	Executive	Middlesbrough Council Local Implementation Plan (LIP); Consultation findings	It is recommended that the Executive: Approve and adopt the draft LIP into a formal Council policy document; and, Acknowledges the broad satisfaction (of responses) of the draft LIP following the conclusion of public consultation.	Yes
9 Nov 2021	Executive	Children and Young People's Learning Scrutiny Panel's Final Report - Behaviour, Discipline and Bullying in Schools		No
9 Nov 2021	Executive	Middlehaven - Outwood Academy Riverside	The report sets out the case to dispose of the Council's freehold interest in land at Middlehaven, in order to facilitate the delivery of a new secondary free school in Middlesbrough.	Yes
9 Nov 2021	Executive	Highways Asset Infrastructure	Executive approval is required for the ECS Capital Highways Infrastructure Asset.	Yes
9 Nov 2021	Executive	ECS Built Asset Investment	Executive approval is required for the ECS Capital Asset Strategy.	Yes

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DATE	PROPOSED DECISION MAKER	ISSUE	PURPOSE OF REPORT	KEY DECISION
9 Nov 2021	Executive	PSPO (Alley Gates)	Supports the proposals to extend the existing town wide PSPO (previously known as gating orders) for a further 3 years.	Yes
9 Nov 2021	Executive	Annual Update: Special Educational Needs and or Disabilities 0-25	To provide an update to members re Special Educational Needs and or Disabilities 0-25 in Middlesbrough since the local area revisit in July 2019 and since the last report in November 2020	No
9 Nov 2021	Executive	Medium Term Financial Plan Update and Budget Savings Proposals	That the Executive notes the updated Medium Term Financial Plan position and budget savings.	Yes
9 Nov 2021	Executive	Revenue and Capital Budget - Projected Outturn Position as at Quarter Two 2021/22	To advise the Executive of the Council's financial position at Quarter Two 2021/22.	Yes
7 Dec 2021	Executive	Newham Grange Development Overview	The report will document the process of securing options for the marketing and delivery of the site and will include the key infrastructure phasing strategy.	Yes
7 Dec 2021	Executive	Nunthorpe Grange Development Overview	The report details the current situation regarding the Community centre development work, partnered infrastructure works and housing delivery schemes including the Persimmon and Taylor Wimpey sites. Alongside of this is an update on the Nunthorpe commitments.	Yes
7 Dec 2021	Executive	SACRE Annual Report	Annual Report	No
11 Jan 2022	Executive	Council Tax Support Scheme for 22/23	That the Executive approves the Council Tax Support Scheme for 22/23.	Yes
14 Feb 2022	Executive	Revenue Budget, Council Tax, Medium	The setting of the Revenue Budget, Council Tax, Capital Strategy for	Yes

DATE	PROPOSED DECISION MAKER	ISSUE	PURPOSE OF REPORT	KEY DECISION
		Term Financial Plan and Capital Strategy 2022/23	2022/23.	
14 Feb 2022	Executive	Revenue and Capital Budget - Projected Outturn Position as at Quarter Three 2021/22	To advise the Executive of the Council's financial position at Quarter Three 2021/22.	Yes
14 Feb 2022	Executive	Strategic Plan 2021-24 – Progress at Quarter Three 2021/22	Report outlining performance against the Strategic Plan at Quarter Three 2021/22	No



**MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL****COUNCIL**

<b>Report title</b>	Scrutiny Progress Report
<b>Chief Executive or Director</b>	Director of Legal and Governance Services
<b>Date</b>	20 October 2021

**Summary****Proposed decision(s)**

To update the position in respect of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Board and scrutiny panels. The current position regarding progress made by the Board and each of the panels is set out below.

<b>Report for:</b>	<b>Key decision:</b>	<b>Confidential/Exempt:</b>	<b>Is the report urgent?</b>
To be noted	No	No	Non-urgent report

**Contribution to delivery of the 2021-24 Strategic Plan**

<b>People</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Business</b>
N/A	N/A	Members will be able to keep abreast of the work carried out through the Scrutiny Process

**Ward(s) affected**

No wards in Middlesbrough are directly affected.

**What is the purpose of this report?**

1. To update the position in respect of the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Board and scrutiny panels.

**Why is this report necessary?**

2. The report is necessary so that Members are aware of the work being carried out by the individual Scrutiny Panels and the Overview and Scrutiny Board.

**What decision(s) are being asked for?**

3. That Council note the report.
4. The current position regarding progress made by the Board and each of the panels is set out below.

## **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD**

The Overview and Scrutiny Board are scheduled to meet on 20 October 2021.

At the 20 October 2021 meeting, the Board will consider / receive information in respect of the following:

- Executive Forward Work Programme;
- Executive Member for Regeneration Update;
- Chief Executive's Update;
- Scrutiny Chairs Updates;
- Culture and Communities Scrutiny Panel – Final Report – Cultural Events in Middlesbrough;
- Revenue and Capital Budget – Projected Outturn position as at Quarter Two 2021/2022;
- Strategic Plan 2021-2024 – Progress at Quarter Two 2021/2022.

## **SCRUTINY PANEL UPDATES**

The updated position in respect of the work of each of the Council's scrutiny panels is shown below.

### **Adult Social Care and Services Scrutiny Panel**

The Adult Social Care and Services Scrutiny Panel will meet on 13 October 2021.

The Panel will receive an update regarding the Integration of Health and Social Care from the Director of Adult Social Care and Health Integration. Members will also receive information from Ageing Better Middlesbrough's Chief Executive and Programme Manager regarding work undertaken to date, and next steps for the future / legacy planning. The Council's Head of Strategic Commissioning and Procurement will provide an update in respect of Aster Care Home.

The following meeting is scheduled to be held on 10 November 2021; the Panel will commence its review in respect of 'Adult Social Care Finance – Residential Care and Ensuring Value for Money'.

### **Children and Young People's Learning Scrutiny Panel**

At the last meeting held on 4 October 2021, in respect of the review of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), the Scrutiny Panel agreed its Terms of Reference and continued gathering evidence.

A number of officers were in attendance, who worked across Education, Social Care and Health. Those officers provided the Scrutiny Panel with:

- key data in respect of special educational needs and disabilities in Middlesbrough, specifically data on type of needs and pupil characteristics and how those compared regionally and nationally; and
- a detailed overview of how Education, Social Care and Health worked collectively to deliver SEND provision at a local level, including information on the SEND Strategy and the SEND Strategic Group.

The Scrutiny Panel also received an update on education and COVID-19 recovery.

### **Children and Young People's Social Care and Services Scrutiny Panel**

The Children and Young People's Social Care and Services Scrutiny Panel last met on 21 September 2021. The Director of Environment and Community Services and the Executive Director of Children's Services provided the Panel with an introduction to its new scrutiny topic 'Locality Working from a Children's Services Perspective'.

The Panel is scheduled to meet on 25 October at 4.00pm and will receive further details in relation to how Children's Services plans to deliver its services within the two locality working pilot areas.

### **Culture and Communities Scrutiny Panel**

The Culture and Communities Panel met on 23 September 2021 and received a presentation from the Selective Landlord Licensing Manager with regard to the roll out in Newport and re designation in North Ormesby. The Panel were pleased to see the results of the scheme and the positive impact it has had on residents.

The Panel also agreed the terms of reference for their review on Tough enough? Enforcement in Middlesbrough and its impact on crime and anti-social behaviour.

The next meeting is scheduled for 21 October 2021.

### **Economic Development, Environment and Infrastructure Scrutiny Panel**

The Economic Development, Environment and Infrastructure (EDEI) Scrutiny Panel met on 6 October 2021.

The Panel received a presentation from the Head of Transport and the Transport Planning Officer at the Tees Valley Combined Authority in relation to the Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Project as part of its scrutiny review of Middlesbrough Council's Green Strategy.

The draft Final Report on Middlesbrough Regeneration Post Covid-19 Scrutiny Review was presented and the Panel agreed conclusions and recommendations. The Final Report will now be submitted to the Overview and Scrutiny Board for consideration.

The next meeting is scheduled to be held on 3 November 2021 and the Panel is scheduled to receive an update on Fly Tipping and the Bulky Waste Collection Service from the Director of Environment and Community Services.

### **Health Scrutiny Panel**

The Health Scrutiny Panel met on 5 October 2021 where it received information from representatives of Prospect GP surgery. Following a CQC inspection in July 2021 the practice was found to be in inadequate and placed into special measures. Representatives from the practice advised the panel they were disappointed with the report but were working at pace to remedy the identified failings.

The panel was advised there had been mitigating circumstances that had led to the outcome of the inspection, which had been compounded by the Covid-19 pandemic. Those difficulties included recruiting Nurse Practitioners and challenges brought by not being able to meeting face to face. The panel was advised, however, that a stringent action plan had been put in place to improve processes and practices. As part of that action plan Prospect was being assisted by other GP practices in the Central Middlesbrough Primary Care Network, as well as the CCG, to meet their targets. The panel was assured that despite the disappointing results of the CQC inspection patient safety was still being held at a premium.

The Panel also received an update in respect of COVID-19 from the Director of Public Health (South Tees). During that update the panel discussed current Covid-19 infection rates and were advised that rates were falling in Middlesbrough albeit slowly. Demographically, there was a decline in Covid-19 rates across all age groups. The panel was advised that schools were maintaining many social distancing practices (such as the bubble system) and that only one school had required onsite testing to be mobilised. The panel also heard that while Covid-19 related hospital statistics were low, and falling slowly, the hospital system as a whole was still stressed and this needed to be borne in mind.

At its next meeting on 2 November the Panel will hear evidence into how economic and regeneration initiatives can help to close gaps in health inequalities from the Council's Director of Regeneration and representatives of the Tees Valley LEP and TVCA.

### **Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Joint Committee**

The Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Joint Committee met on 24 September 2021 and considered the following:-

- Election of Chair and Vice Chair;
- CNTW/TEWV Updates;
- Local NHS / Public Health response to COVID-19.

### **Tees Valley Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

The Tees Valley Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee are scheduled to meet on 14 October 2021 and will consider the following:

- Chief Executive's Update;
- Transport Portfolio Update;
- Delegated Decisions;
- Meetings and Forward Plan;
- Teesside International Airport Update.

### **SCRUTINY REPORTS SUBMITTED TO EXECUTIVE**

Since the last update to Council there have been no Scrutiny Panel reports submitted to Executive.

## **Other potential decisions and why these have not been recommended**

5. No other options were considered.

## **Impact(s) of recommended decision(s)**

### **Legal**

6. There are no legal implications as a result of the proposed appointments.

### **Financial**

7. There are no financial implications arising from this report.

## **The Mayor's Vision for Middlesbrough**

8. The report is line with the Mayor's vision for Middlesbrough.

## **Policy Framework**

9. The report does not impact on the overall budget and policy framework.

## **Wards**

10. The report does not impact on wards.

## ***Risk***

11. Not applicable.

## ***Equality and Diversity***

12. An Impact Assessment has not been completed, as it is not applicable.

## **Actions to be taken to implement the decision(s)**

13. Not applicable.

## **Background papers**

14. No unpublished background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

**COUNCILLOR M SAUNDERS  
CHAIR OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD**

### **Contact Officer:**

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**MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL**

<b>Report of:</b>	Cllr. Barrie Cooper – Executive Member for Environment and Finance & Governance Ian Wright - Director of Finance
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<b>Submitted to:</b>	Council, 20 October 2021
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<b>Subject:</b>	Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Strategy
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<b>Summary</b>
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<b>Proposed decision(s)</b>
That the Council approves the proposed Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Strategy.

Report for:	Key decision:	Confidential:	Is the report urgent?
Decision	Yes – over the financial threshold (£150,000).	No	No

Contribution to delivery of the 2021-24 Strategic Plan		
People	Place	Business
The proposed Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Strategy is linked to the Council's Revenue Budget, Medium Term Financial Plan, and Capital Strategy and therefore plays a key role in ensuring that the Strategic Plan is delivered effectively.		

<b>Ward(s) affected</b>
None.

## **What is the purpose of this report?**

1. This report proposes a Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Strategy for the Council for approval by Full Council, and details the individual projects which are planned to be funded from the flexible use of capital receipts in accordance with the Guidance.

## **Why does this report require a Member decision?**

2. Full Council is required under the Statutory Guidance on the Flexible Use of Capital Receipts to approve the Council's Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Strategy.

## **Report Background**

### **Introduction**

3. Local authorities are limited in their ability to utilise capital receipts (the disposal proceeds from the sale of fixed assets or repayment of loans for capital purposes). Statutory guidance issued under section 15(1) of the Local Government Act 2003 by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (as amended) generally precludes capital receipts being used to fund revenue expenditure and requires them to be applied to either fund capital expenditure or repay debt. The Act also requires local authorities to have regard to other guidance as issued or directed by the Secretary of State – this currently includes the following guidance issued by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy [CIPFA]:
  - The Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities; and
  - The Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting.
4. The Spending Review 2015 included a relaxation to the above regulations allowing the use of capital receipts for a limited period, between 2016/17 and 2018/19, to fund revenue expenditure “that is designed to generate ongoing revenue savings in the delivery of public services and/or transform service delivery to reduce costs or improve the quality of service delivery in future years”. This announcement was implemented by the issuing of regulations in March 2016. The period over which these amended regulations applied was extended for a further 3 years to 2021/22 in the 2018/19 Local Government Finance Settlement.

### **The Guidance**

5. The guidance on the use of capital receipts flexibility was issued by the Secretary of State under section 15(1) of the Local Government Act 2003, and authorities are therefore required to have regard to it. The Guidance specified that;
  - Local authorities will only be able to use capital receipts from the sale of property, plant and equipment received in the years in which this flexibility is offered. They may not use their existing stock of capital receipts to finance the revenue costs of reform.
  - Local authorities cannot borrow to finance the revenue costs of the service reforms.



- The expenditure for which the flexibility can be applied should be the up-front (set up or implementation) costs that will generate future ongoing savings and/or transform service delivery to reduce costs or to improve the quality of service delivery in future years. The ongoing revenue costs of the new processes or arrangements cannot be classified as qualifying expenditure.
  - The key determining criteria to use when deciding whether expenditure can be funded by the new capital receipts flexibility is that it is forecast to generate ongoing savings to an authority's net service expenditure.
  - In using the flexibility, the Council will have due regard to the requirements of the Prudential Code, the CIPFA Local Authority Accounting Code of Practice and the current edition of the Treasury Management in Public Services Code of Practice.
6. Each Council is also required to prepare a "Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Strategy" to be approved by Full Council. Each authority should disclose the individual projects that will be funded or part funded through capital receipts flexibility to full Council or the equivalent. This requirement can be satisfied as part of the annual budget setting process, through the Mid-Term Financial Plan or equivalent, or for those authorities that sign up to a four year settlement deal, as part of the required Efficiency Plan.
  7. The Guidance recommends that the Strategy setting out details of projects to be funded through flexible use of capital receipts be prepared prior to the start of each financial year. Failure to meet this requirement does not mean that an authority cannot access the flexibility in that year. However, in this instance, the Strategy should be presented to Full Council or the equivalent at the earliest possible opportunity.
  8. The Guidance allows local authorities to update their Strategy during the year. However, if they do so they will be required to notify DCLG. This is to allow central Government to keep track of planned use of the flexibility for national accounts purposes.
  9. As a minimum, the Strategy should list each project that plans to make use of the capital receipts flexibility and that on a project by project basis details of the expected savings/service transformation are provided. The Strategy should report the impact on the local authority's Prudential Indicators for the forthcoming year and subsequent years. In addition, the Strategy should contain details on projects approved in previous years, including a commentary on whether the planned savings or service transformation have been/are being realised in line with the initial analysis. The Strategy may also include any other matters considered to be relevant.

### **Examples of qualifying expenditure**

10. The Guidance provides a definition of expenditure that qualifies to be funded from the capital receipts flexibility. Qualifying expenditure is expenditure on any project that is designed to generate ongoing revenue savings in the delivery of public services and/or transform service delivery to reduce costs and/or transform service

delivery in a way that reduces costs or demand for services in future years for any of the public sector delivery partners.

11. Set up and implementation costs of any new processes or arrangements can be classified as qualifying expenditure. The ongoing revenue costs of the new processes or arrangements cannot be classified as qualifying expenditure. In addition, one off costs, such as banking savings against temporary increases in costs/pay cannot be classified as qualifying expenditure
12. Within this definition, there are a wide range of projects that could generate qualifying expenditure. The key determining criteria to use when deciding whether expenditure can be funded by the capital receipts flexibility is that it is forecast to generate ongoing savings to an authority's net service expenditure. Within the above definition, it is for individual local authorities to decide whether or not a project qualifies for the flexibility. The Guidance provides the following list of examples of projects, but makes it clear that these are only examples and the list is not prescriptive:
  - Sharing back-office and administrative services with one or more other council or public sector bodies;
  - Investment in service reform feasibility work, e.g. setting up pilot schemes;
  - Collaboration between local authorities and central government departments to free up land for economic use;
  - Funding the cost of service reconfiguration, restructuring or rationalisation (staff or non-staff), where this leads to ongoing efficiency savings or service transformation;
  - Sharing Chief-Executives, management teams or staffing structures;
  - Driving a digital approach to the delivery of more efficient public services and how the public interacts with constituent authorities where possible;
  - Aggregating procurement on common goods and services where possible, either as part of local arrangements or using Crown Commercial Services or regional procurement hubs or Professional Buying Organisations;
  - Improving systems and processes to tackle fraud and corruption in line with the Local Government Fraud and Corruption Strategy – this could include an element of staff training;
  - Setting up commercial or alternative delivery models to deliver services more efficiently and bring in revenue (for example, through selling services to others);
  - Integrating public facing services across two or more public sector bodies (for example children's social care, trading standards) to generate savings or to transform service delivery.

## **The Council's Proposals**

13. When the Council set its 2021/22 Budget in February 2021 it was envisaged that the medium term impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic would be becoming clear by the next point of review of the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) in Autumn 2021, and that the long term arrangements for Local Government financing would be understood.
14. The continuing impact of the Covid-19 pandemic has meant that a long-term solution to Local Government funding has not yet been forthcoming and that the Council's future costs and income have become more uncertain. In the opinion of the Director of Finance, in his role as S151 Officer, it is therefore prudent at this point in time to increase the revenue reserves held by the Council as insulation against any future unexpected financial pressures.
15. The Council has in the past not adopted a Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Strategy, however using the Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Strategy in 2021/22 allows the Council to increase its revenue reserves at this time of high financial uncertainty with minimal impact on the Council Tax payer. When a clear medium term picture for Local Government funding and expenditure is available, the Director of Finance will review the level of reserves required and any excess identified could then be re-invested in assets and services for the town.
16. Due to the ongoing Children's Services Ofsted Improvement Plan work the adoption of such a Strategy will help support the significant and continued transformation work taking place within the Council, which will deliver improvement and efficiencies.
17. In the future, if legislation permits, a Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Strategy will be included within the budget report presented to Full Council in February each year.
18. The schedule below presents the projects to transform services that are proposed to be funded through flexible use of capital receipts for 2021/22 along with the estimated projected costs, and the associated estimated annual revenue savings or future cost avoidance. In some cases there is a direct link between a project and the realisable financial benefit, however in others it is difficult to quantify and the project contributes to enabling savings or costs avoidance in other areas or provide a wider benefit, which would not otherwise be realised.

Project	Further Details	Estimated Projected Investment Required 2021/22 £000	Estimated annual savings by end of 2022/23 £000
Children's Services	<b>Funding for transformation of service and Ofsted Improvement Plan to improve services and outcomes</b>		
	Specialist agency teams in Referrals & Assessments to improve the "front door model"	1,130	Cost avoidance
	Specialist agency team examining placements in order to reduce high cost placements	565	1,040
	Workforce remodelling - experienced social worker recruitment and retention / agency worker reduction strategy	15	735
	Transformation costs associated with increasing internal residential provision	300	521
	One-off transformation costs associated with improvements in practice to reduce future numbers of children looked after (includes professional fees, legal costs, increased S17 payments)	200	Cost avoidance
	Transformation of Children with Disabilities long-term packages of support to prevent young people entering care	60	520
	Ofsted Improvement Plan additional posts to drive improvement and transformation	1,811	Enabling
		4,081	2,816
Digital Transformation	One-off implementation costs related to the Digital Transformation Project	236	1,094
Management and Staffing Review	Service reconfiguration, restructuring or rationalisation of management and staff, where this leads to ongoing efficiency savings or service transformation	749	404
Organisational Development	Organisational Development upskilling linked to the Council's values	23	Enabling
HR System	Development of the Council's HR system	34	Enabling
Project Support for Transformation Projects	Support for the transformation across the Council	67	Enabling
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>5,190</b>	<b>4,314</b>

## Monitoring the Strategy

19. The Strategy will be monitored throughout the financial year as part of regular budget monitoring arrangements and be reported accordingly as part of the current quarterly budget monitoring reports to Executive. The Strategy may be updated and replaced as proposals are developed and expenditure is incurred.
20. The legitimacy of the use of the Strategy will be determined by the Council's s151 Officer in order to ensure that it meets the requirements set out by the Secretary of State.

## **The Prudential Code**

21. The Council will have due regard to the requirements of the Prudential Code and the impact on its prudential indicators from implementing the proposed Strategy. The capital expenditure prudential indicators will be amended and approved as appropriate.
22. The indicators that will be impacted by this Strategy are set out below:
  - Capital financing requirement increased by an estimated £5.190m as these capital receipts were intended to support schemes within the existing Investment Strategy that are now budgeted to be financed by prudential borrowing. Schemes financed by prudential borrowing are reflected within the prudential indicators as set out within the Treasury Management Strategy and included as part of the budget.
  - Financing costs as a percentage of net revenue stream (%), noting that the savings generated from these projects will meet the debt financing costs arising from the additional borrowing. The current indicative cost of borrowing £5.190m in 2021/22 is approximately £208,000 p.a.
23. The prudential indicators show that this Strategy is affordable and will not impact on the Council's operational boundary and authorised borrowing limit. However, this will need to be closely monitored as part of the current quarterly budget monitoring reports to Executive.
24. The Council will also have due regard to the Local Authority Accounting Code of Practice when determining and including the entries required from undertaking and funding the projects within the Council's Statement of Accounts.

## **What decision(s) are being asked for?**

25. That the Council approves the proposed Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Strategy.

## **Why is this being recommended?**

26. To enable the effective management of finances, in line with the Council's Local Code of Corporate Governance, the Scheme of Delegation, and agreed corporate financial regulations. The approach set out within the report will help the Council maximise the use of financial resources available, while ensuring that there is a minimum impact on the level of service delivered to the public or on the Council Tax payer.

## **Other potential decisions and why these have not been recommended**

27. Not Applicable.

## **Impact(s) of recommended decision(s)**

### ***Legal***

28. Full Council is required under the Statutory Guidance on the Flexible Use of Capital Receipts to approve the Council's Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Strategy.

### ***Financial***

29. The adoption of the proposed Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Policy will enable the Council to use an estimated £5.190m of capital receipts in 2021/22 to contribute towards the cost of transformation within the Council, in particular with respect to the Children's Services Ofsted Improvement Plan.
30. The Council's capital financing requirement will be increased by an estimated £5.190m as these capital receipts were intended to support schemes within the existing Investment Strategy that are now budgeted to be financed by prudential borrowing. The current indicative cost of borrowing £5.190m in 2021/22 is approximately £208,000 p.a.

### ***Policy Framework***

31. The revenue and capital budgets form part of the Council's Policy Framework and as such must be agreed by Full Council.

### ***Equality and Diversity***

32. No negative differential impact on diverse groups and communities is anticipated from the adoption of the Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Strategy.

### ***Risk***

33. The MTFP has been reviewed to ensure that the correct assumptions are made in the MTFP and that this will not result in a funding gap requiring further savings to be made (08-059).
34. In line with the Council's Risk Management Policy, the corporate Strategic Risk Register will be reported to Executive on a quarterly basis as part of the Strategic Plan 2021-24 quarterly progress reports.

## **Actions to be taken to implement the decision(s)**

35. If approved, the proposed Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Strategy will be adopted, and the capital expenditure prudential indicators will be amended and approved as appropriate.

## **Appendices**

None

## Background papers

March 2016	Department for Communities and Local Government	Statutory Guidance on the Flexible Use of Capital Receipts (updated) <a href="#">Statutory Guidance on the Flexible Use of Capital Receipts (updated) (publishing.service.gov.uk)</a>
6/2/18	Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government	Final local government finance settlement 2018 to 2019.  Flexible use of capital receipts direction: local authorities <a href="#">Local authorities direction.pdf (publishing.service.gov.uk)</a>
24/2/21	Council	Revenue Budget, Council Tax, Medium Term Financial Plan and Capital Strategy 2021/22
7/9/21	Executive	Revenue and Capital Budget – Projected Outturn position as at Quarter One 2021/22

**Contact:** Andrew Humble, Head of Financial Planning & Support  
**Email:** [andrew\\_humble@middlesbrough.gov.uk](mailto:andrew_humble@middlesbrough.gov.uk)

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<b>Report of:</b>	Director of Regeneration and Culture, Richard Horniman Executive Member for Regeneration, Cllr Eric Polano
<b>Submitted to:</b>	The Council 20 October 2021
<b>Subject:</b>	Adoption of the Marton West Neighbourhood Plan – 2021-2029

## Summary

Proposed decision(s)
That the Council adopts the Marton West Neighbourhood Plan 2021-2029, as part of the Council's Policy Framework, so that the Plan can be used in the determination of future planning applications within the designated Marton West Neighbourhood Area.

Report for:	Key decision:	Confidential:	Is the report urgent?
Decision	Yes	No	No

Contribution to delivery of the 2021-24 Strategic Plan		
People	Place	Business
<i>Neighbourhood Plans are required to be compatible with a Council's own strategic policies in the promotion or improvement of the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area.</i>	<i>Neighbourhood Plans are required to plan positively and not promote less development than set out in a Council's development plan or undermine its strategic policies.</i>	<i>Neighbourhood Planning ensures close working with local communities to support them in preparing their Neighbourhood Plans, in order that they are aligned with the strategic needs and priorities of the wider area.</i>

Ward(s) affected
This report only affects Marton West Ward. The Ward Members have been consulted throughout the Neighbourhood Planning process, and are in support of the Plan being adopted.

## **What is the purpose of this report?**

1. To adopt the Marton West Neighbourhood Plan 2021-2029, in accordance with the below Regulations, and relevant Council procedures, in order that the Plan can form part of the Council's Policy Framework, and be used in the determination of future planning applications within the designated Marton West Neighbourhood Area.

## **Why does this report require a Member decision?**

2. When adopted, the Marton West Neighbourhood Plan will form part of the Council's Policy Framework. The decision to adopt Neighbourhood Plans is a non-Executive function, and must be made by the Borough Council, in accordance with the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000, and the Council's constitution.

## **Report Background**

3. Under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, and Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, parish councils and designated neighbourhood forums can prepare Neighbourhood Plans, that put in place a vision and general planning policies for the development, and use of land in their designated neighbourhood. Neighbourhood Plans form part of the Statutory Development Plan, against which future planning applications within the designated Neighbourhood Area will be determined.
4. A Neighbourhood Plan should be aligned with the strategic needs and priorities of the wider area and must be in general conformity with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), and the strategic policies of a Council's Local Plan. In addition, Neighbourhood Plans are required to plan positively and not promote less development than set out in the Development Plan, or undermine its strategic policies.
5. In 2013 the Council approved the designation of the Marton West Ward as a Neighbourhood Area and the setting-up of the Marton West Neighbourhood Forum, enabling the Forum to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan for the designated area. The Forum prepared and submitted its original Marton West Neighbourhood Plan, to the Council for examination in November 2015. Following an independent examination and a successful referendum result, the draft Neighbourhood Plan, was subsequently adopted by the Council in November 2016.
6. As a consequence of recent Ward boundary changes, part of the Coulby Newham Ward covering Newham Hall, Brass Castle Lane and De Brus Park areas, now lie within the Marton West Ward. The existing adopted Neighbourhood Plan for Marton West, does not therefore cover these areas, due to them not being within the Ward at the time of its preparation.
7. In August 2018, the Council received two applications from local De Brus Park residents to establish the Marton-in-Cleveland Neighbourhood Area and Forum in order to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan for those areas outside of the existing designated Neighbourhood Area, but which now lie within the amended Marton West Ward boundary. These applications were refused in January 2019, on the basis that they did not meet the guidelines on what constitutes a Neighbourhood Area or Forum.

8. The Council agreed however, to extend the Marton West Neighbourhood Area to incorporate those areas excluded from the designated area, and which now form part of the amended Ward boundary. It was also agreed that an early review should be undertaken, by the Marton West Neighbourhood Forum, of the adopted 2016 Marton West Neighbourhood Plan, in order to take account of the amended designated Neighbourhood Area.
9. The Marton West Neighbourhood Forum subsequently submitted a modified draft Neighbourhood Plan to the Council for examination in July 2020, incorporating the boundary changes, updating relevant adopted planning policies to reflect the enlarged Neighbourhood Area boundary, and to include additional proposed open space designations.
10. The Independent Examination into the modified Plan was undertaken in December 2020. The Examiner's Report was issued at the end of January 2021, and recommended that the modified Plan should proceed to referendum stage of the Neighbourhood Planning process, subject to some minor amendments being made.
11. The referendum was held on Thursday 15 July 2021, and conducted in accordance with procedures similar to those used at local government elections. The referendum question put before the Marton West electorate was:

**Do you want Middlesbrough Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Marton West to help it decide planning applications in the Marton West neighbourhood area?**

<b>The result of the referendum was as follows:</b>	
644 votes in favour	48 votes against
<b>The Ward electorate is 4319, giving a turn-out for the referendum of 16.02%.</b>	

13. Under the Neighbourhood Planning (Referendums) Regulations 2012 (as amended), if more than 50% of those voting in the referendum vote 'yes', then the local planning authority must bring the Plan into force as soon as reasonably practicable.
14. Following the successful outcome of the referendum the next step in the process, involves the Council formally adopting the finalised Marton West Neighbourhood Plan 2021-2029, replacing the existing 2016 Marton West Neighbourhood Plan, in the determination of planning applications within the designated Marton West Neighbourhood Area.
15. Once the Plan has been adopted, the Council is required to issue an adoption notice to be placed on the Council's web-site. After adoption of the Plan, any person who feels aggrieved by the Plan may apply to the High Court to seek a judicial review of the decision to adopt the Plan. This application to the High Court must be made within six-weeks after the day on which the Plan was adopted.

### **What decision(s) are being asked for?**

16. That the Council adopts the Marton West Neighbourhood Plan 2021-2029, as part of the Council's Policy Framework, so that the Plan can be used in the determination of future planning applications within the designated Marton West Neighbourhood Area.

### **Why is this being recommended?**

17. To enable the Plan to form part of the Council's Policy Framework, to be used in the determination of future planning applications within the designated Marton West Neighbourhood Area.

### **Other potential decisions and why these have not been recommended**

18. Under the Regulations, following a successful referendum result a local planning authority must adopt the Neighbourhood Plan (see Appendix 1). If the local planning authority fails to adopt the Neighbourhood Plan, the Secretary of State may be asked to intervene.

### **Impact(s) of recommended decision(s)**

#### ***Legal***

19. The legal framework for preparing Neighbourhood Plans is set out in the Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. The Marton West Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared in accordance with the legislation.
20. As outlined above in paragraph 18, under the Regulations, following a successful referendum result a local planning authority must adopt the Neighbourhood Plan. If the local planning authority fails to adopt the Neighbourhood Plan, the Secretary of State may be asked to intervene.

#### ***Financial***

21. The financial implications as a result of this report, include both preparation and public engagement processes that the Council is required to undertake. In addition, there are the following identified costs:
  - Independent Examiner fees = £2,835; and,
  - Referendum costs estimated to be in the region of £15-20,000.
22. Following the adoption of the Plan, the Council would normally be eligible to apply to the Government under its Neighbourhood Planning New Burdens grant funding, which assists local planning authorities with additional neighbourhood planning costs, such as, independent examiner fees and undertaking the referendum.
23. As a consequence of measures brought in by the Government, in response to COVID-19, local planning authorities can now access this grant funding, once they have indicated their intention to proceed to the referendum stage of the Neighbourhood Planning process. The Council subsequently applied and as

received £20,000 from the grant-funding package to assist with the above-identified costs.

### ***Policy Framework***

24. The decision to adopt the Marton West Neighbourhood Plan 2021-2029 will alter the Council's Policy Framework, as the Plan becomes part of the statutory Development Plan.

### ***Equality and Diversity***

25. The Marton West Neighbourhood Plan 2021-2029, has been subject to an initial Impact Assessment (IA), which accompanies this report (see Appendix 2). This identifies that a full IA is not necessary.

### ***Risk***

26. Under the Regulations, where a local authority fails to adopt the Neighbourhood Plan following a successful referendum result, without providing clear reasons for doing so, the Secretary of State may be asked to intervene.

### **Actions to be taken to implement the decision(s)**

27. Once the Marton West Neighbourhood Plan 2021-2029 has been adopted, the Council is required to issue an adoption notice to be placed on the Council's web-site. After adoption of the Plan, any person who feels aggrieved by the Plan may apply to the High Court to seek a judicial review of the decision to adopt the Plan. This application to the High Court must be made within six-weeks after the day on which the Plan was adopted.

### **Appendices**

- Appendix 1 – The Marton West Neighbourhood Plan 2021-2029.
- Appendix 2 – Initial Impact Assessment (IA).

### **Background papers**

<b>Body</b>	<b>Report title</b>	<b>Date</b>
Middlesbrough Council	Approval of the Modified Marton West Neighbourhood Plan	24 <sup>th</sup> March 2021

**Contact:** Charlton Gibben, Senior Planning Policy Officer  
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# MARTON WEST

## MODIFIED NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

PREPARED BY THE MARTON WEST NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM ON BEHALF OF THE  
MARTON WEST COMMUNITY

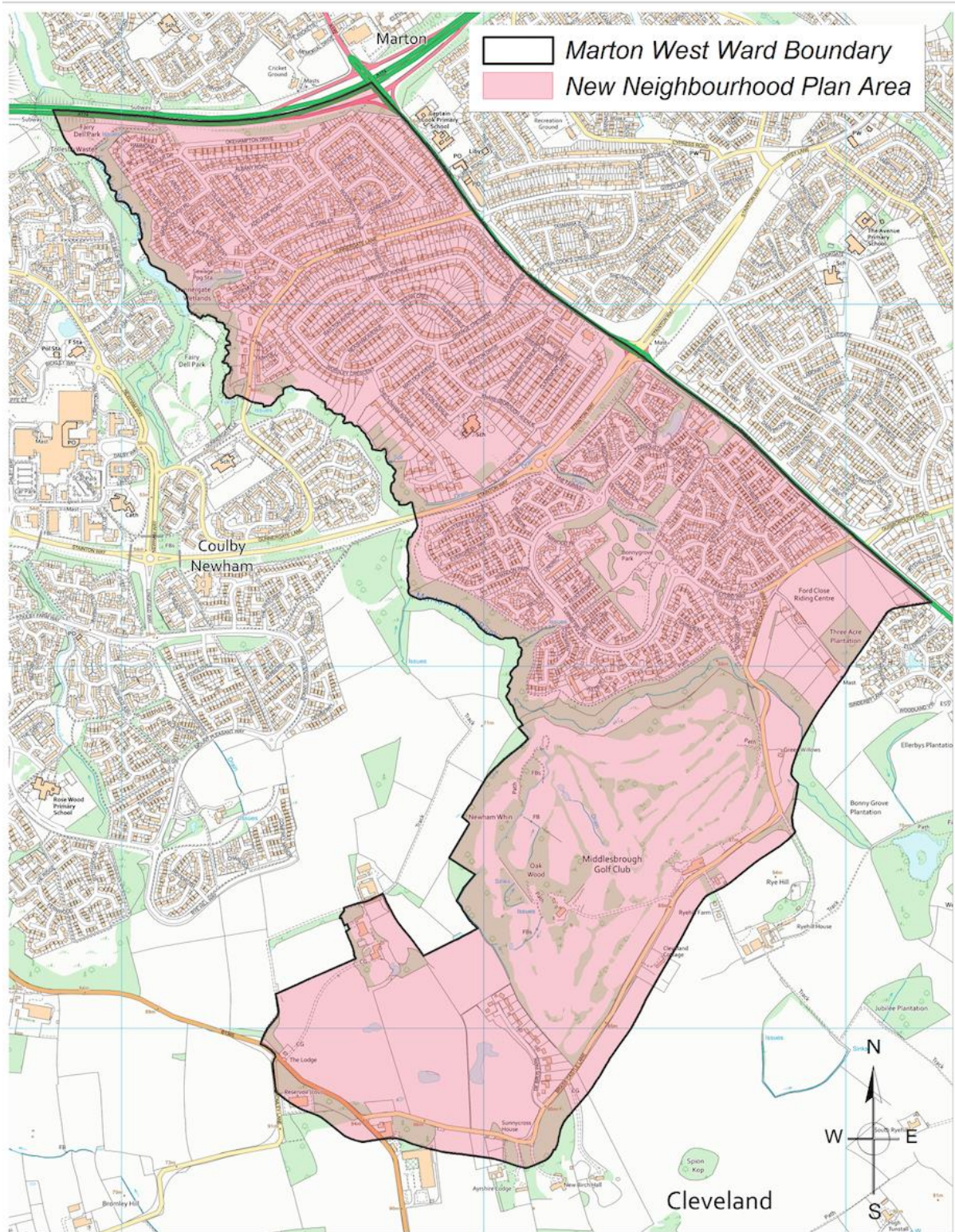


**2021 - 2029**

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## Introduction

1. Welcome to the draft Marton West Modified Neighbourhood Plan (MWMNP). The initial plan was adopted on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2016. As a result of a boundary change and the decision of Middlesbrough Council not to establish the Marton in Cleveland Neighbourhood Forum and Area, it has been agreed to expand the Marton West Neighbourhood Forum to cover the entirety of the Marton West ward i.e.

“The Council<sup>1</sup> will now:

- i. Use its powers of designation, under Section 61(G)(5) and (6) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, to designate the proposed area as part of the Marton West Neighbourhood Area; and
  - ii. Recommend that an early review is undertaken, by the Marton West Neighbourhood Forum, of the Marton West Neighbourhood Plan, in order to take account of the modified Marton West Neighbourhood Area.”
2. As such, the Neighbourhood Plan is being updated and modified to take account of the characteristics of the enhanced De Brus Park area and reflect the views of its residents, businesses and local councillors

## What is a Neighbourhood Plan?

3. The 2011 Localism Act introduced Neighbourhood Plans and Neighbourhood Development Orders. Neighbourhood Plans allow local communities to have a say in developing how their community will grow over a 15-year period. The plan allows the community to choose where it wants new homes to be built, to have their say on what these new buildings should look like whilst at the same time protecting the landscape and character of the area.
4. The Neighbourhood Plan must be in general compliance with Middlesbrough Council Local Plan Policies, The National Planning Policy Framework, (NPPF) EU Obligations and Human Rights requirements. The Neighbourhood Plan, once adopted, forms part of the Middlesbrough Council Development Plan. Its Policies work alongside the Middlesbrough Council Development Plan.
5. The draft MWMNP continues to cover the period from 2016 – 2029, and will be reviewed every 5 years to ensure compliance with National and Local Planning requirements and to reflect the changing needs of the Local Community.

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<sup>1</sup> Middlesbrough Council, 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019

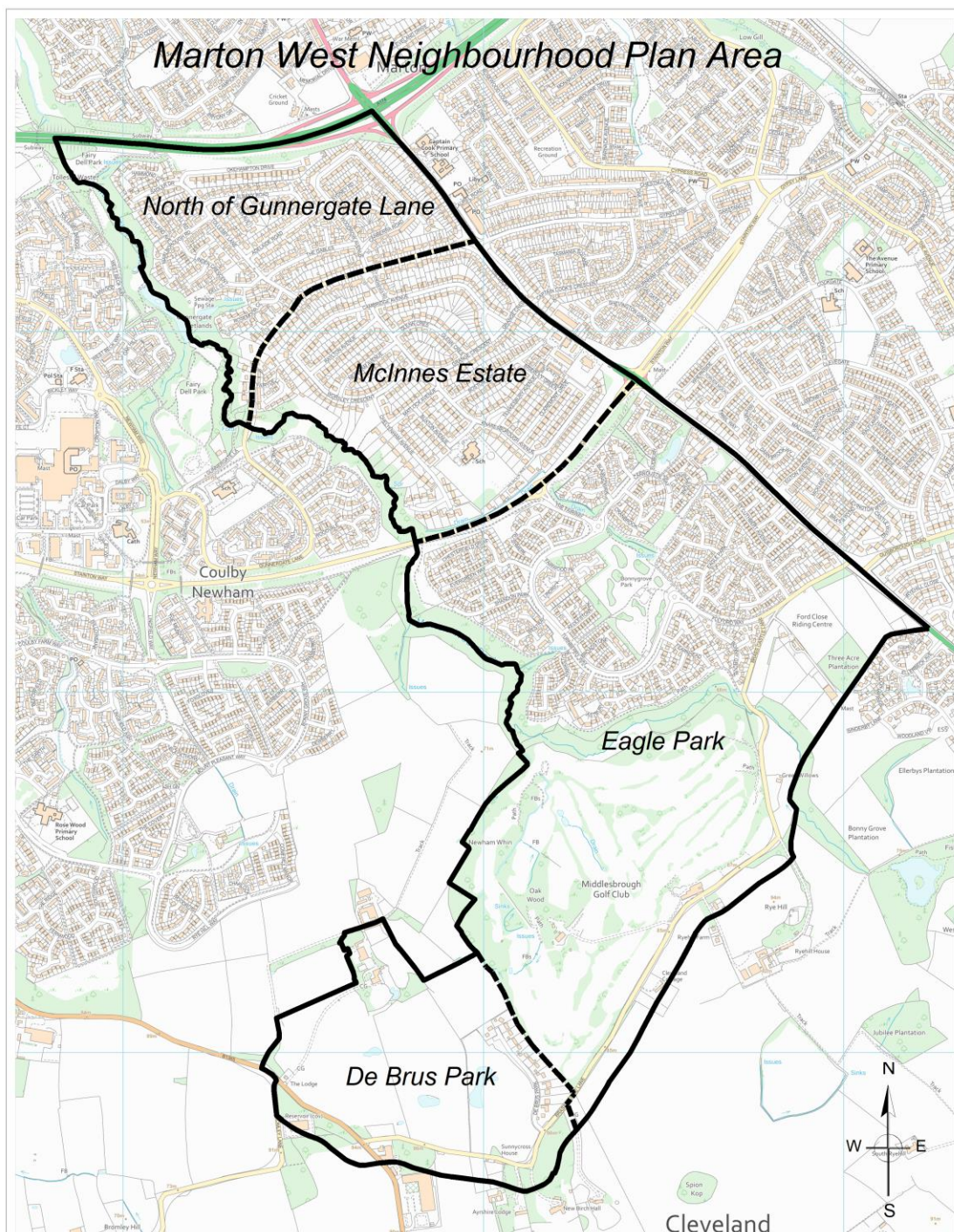
## Background

6. The Council's Executive initially approved the Marton West Neighbourhood Area designation on the 18<sup>th</sup> June 2013. It was amended on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019 to incorporate the Newham Hall / Brass Castle Lane / De Brus Park area, herein after referred to as the De Brus Park area. This is shown on the Neighbourhood Plan Area map on the following page.
7. The Council's Executive initially approved the Marton West Neighbourhood Plan Forum on the 18<sup>th</sup> June 2013. A revised Neighbourhood Forum incorporating residents and businesses living and working in the De Brus park area, was established by local ward councillors, in January 2019, for the purpose of updating the Neighbourhood Plan, to take account of the characteristics of the enhanced area and reflect the views of the De Brus Park area residents, businesses and local councillors
8. The draft MWMNP has been compiled by the Neighbourhood Forum and supported by the Marton West Community Council and Middlesbrough Council planning officers.

## Aims of the Forum

9. The primary aim of the Marton West Neighbourhood Forum is to:
  - Promote the economic, social, health and environmental well-being of the Community within Marton West;
  - Provide an opportunity for local people to influence local decision making;
  - Encourage openness and transparency amongst statutory agencies and provide opportunities for local people to influence the priorities and services of these agencies;
  - Improve community leadership and democratic participation by local people; within Marton West; and,
  - Develop area plans to benefit the local community and Marton West as a whole.





Head of Service: Paul Clarke  
 Service Area: Planning  
 Created by: John Manders

Ref: UP/J/CG/MWNPA  
 Scale: N.T.S.  
 Date: 4th July 2019

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## Historical Context - Marton West

10. The most southerly road in the area of Marton West has the name of Brass Castle Lane. It is puzzling that there is no Castle in the vicinity and why does Brass feature in the name. The answer is historical and dates back to 1066 A.D. when William the Conqueror defeated King Harold of England at the Battle of Hastings. Following the battle, William divided North East Yorkshire amongst his noblemen, who consolidated their positions by building castles. Robert De Brus built two castles, one at Castleton (North Yorkshire) and another one at Castle Levington near the River Leven.
11. The word Brass has derived from the family name of De Brus over the intervening 1000 years. Historians and archaeologists think that there was a connecting pathway route which linked the De Brus-owned Castles of Levington and Castleton. The present Brass Castle Lane would have been part of this route but as the family's power and existence diminished the De Brus Castle Lane was changed over a period of time to become Brass Castle Lane.
12. The north-west end of the area called Fairy Dell, partly falls within the Marton West Ward boundary. This is a natural woodland which now sits within an urban area totally surrounded by housing and attached to a new town development. However it is also a rare example of a remnant of open countryside including ancient meadows, a 300 year old oak tree and sections of sunken medieval lanes which once criss-crossed the area linking the small hamlets.
13. By 1850 it had become a landscaped Victorian Estate, which included Gunnergate Hall, the home of wealthy iron masters and ship owners. The boating lake and waterfall remain near the site of the now demolished hall. Two of the original Gate Houses are still in existence and are occupied by residents. Gunnergate Lane is an old Scandinavian name, which, according to the Oxford Dictionary of English Place Names, could be derived from 'the road of a woman called Gunavor'. Gunnergate Lane went from Gunners in the Newton Parish, to the Upsall area and then on to Guisborough

## Heritage Assets in Marton West

14. There are seven Grade II <sup>2</sup> designated heritage assets within Marton West, which contribute to the development of the area from a rural to an urban setting.
  - Bonny Grove Farmhouse, Brass Castle Lane, Marton (now known as 8a & 8b Farmside Mews)

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<sup>2</sup> Middlesbrough Council, 2019

- Barn, Horse-Mill, Stable and Cartshed, circa 10m North West of Bonny Grove Farmhouse, Brass Castle Lane, Marton (now known as nos. 8, 8c & 9 Farmside Mews)
- Gunnergate Farmhouse and Farm Cottage, nos. 80 & 82 Gunnergate Lane, Marton (now known as nos. 23 & 24 Rosemoor Close)
- Barn and Stable, 15m East of Gunnergate Farmhouse, Gunnergate Lane, Marton (now known as nos. 20 & 22 Rosemoor Close)
- Newham Hall, Brass Castle Lane, Marton
- Newham Hall Lodge, Brass Castle Lane, Marton
- Gate, Gatepiers and Walls at Entrance to Newham Hall, Brass Castle Lane, Marton

15. Gunnergate Farmhouse (Gunnergate Lane, North Side) is a Grade II listed building originally listed as farmhouse and cottage alongside Gunnergate barn and stable. The character of this group of listed buildings has since been affected by conversion to residential development and by residential development within the vicinity. The special interest of the building is as a range of outbuildings complementing the original historic farmhouse and reflecting the rural origins of the buildings.

16. The farm buildings and barn at Bonnygrove Farm are listed as Grade II. These buildings have also been brought back into beneficial use through refurbishment and conversion to residential use.

17. Other heritage assets are located at Brass Castle Lane and Newham Hall.

18. Newham is recorded in the Domesday Book as Nieweham. The presence of medieval ridge and furrow and a medieval moat supported by documentary evidence, suggests that Newham Hall is on the site of an earlier dwelling of some status.

19. Ironmaster John Mills bought the land in the 1870's and Newham Hall construction was completed in 1880. The parkland associated with the Hall, lies south of the Hall and forms an inherent part of the Hall's significance. A map provided by Historic England details the parkland, on page 10.

20. The significance of Newham Hall and its parkland setting have largely been conserved, surrounded by parkland, agricultural fields and a golf course. The parkland setting is extremely important to the significance of Newham Hall and the open character of the area is fundamental.<sup>3</sup>

21. In 1997, Middlesbrough Council was refused planning permission to build on the parkland setting, following a Public Inquiry in August 1996<sup>4</sup>. The Inspector

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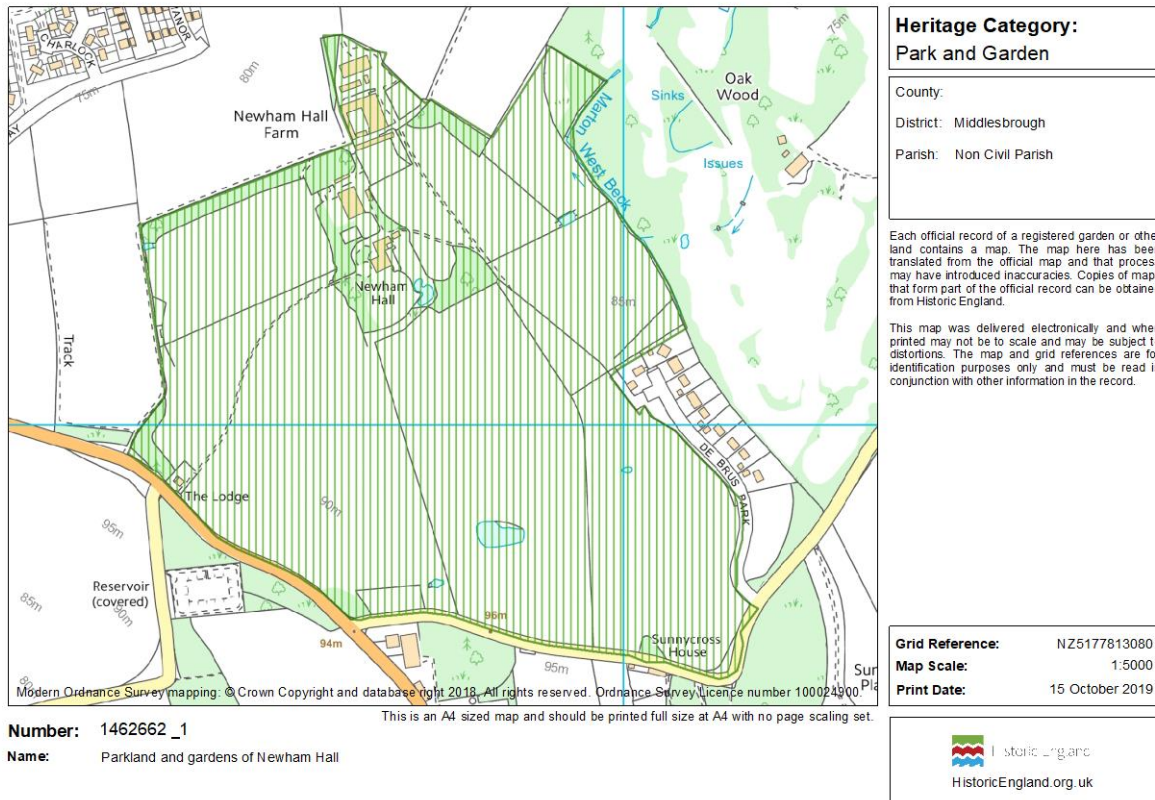
<sup>3</sup> Newham Hall Statement of Significance, Middlesbrough Council, 2014

<sup>4</sup> Secretary of State for the Environment decision letter, 24<sup>th</sup> February 1997



did not consider the benefits would outweigh the harm the proposal would cause to the character, appearance and amenity of the surrounding area and the setting of the listed buildings

#### i) De Brus Park area – Parkland and gardens of Newham Hall



22. In 2013, a study commissioned by the owners of Newham Hall, indicated that the Hall and Parkland was assessed as being of considerable regional significance, with the parkland being identified as an integral part of the principal historical significance<sup>5</sup>

23. A further study, in 2016, for Middlesbrough Council, stated that:  
...Map regression analysis indicates that the 19<sup>th</sup> century landscape structure, developed in parallel with the house, home farm and lodge is virtually intact – meaning that the grade II-listed Hall sits within its original setting. Given that the two assets were designed in parallel, the parkland is indivisible from the hall itself. The significance of the asset group as a whole could be argued to be more than regional, given the rarity of survival of Ironmasters' houses in the region and more generally and the intactness of the house and landscape<sup>6</sup>

<sup>5</sup> Landscape and heritage appraisal, May 2013, Durham University Archaeological Services

<sup>6</sup> Landscape and Heritage Assessment, LUC, Dec 2016

24. A number of the trees on the parkland have been designated, on the Ancient Tree Register, as “Veteran” or “Notable” trees. The Ordnance Survey plan and satellite image, supplied by the Ancient Tree Registry, below, highlights the preponderance of these trees and their location in the parkland

**Location of Veteran and Notable Trees on De Brus Area parkland**

## ii) Ordnance Survey map – De Brus Park Area

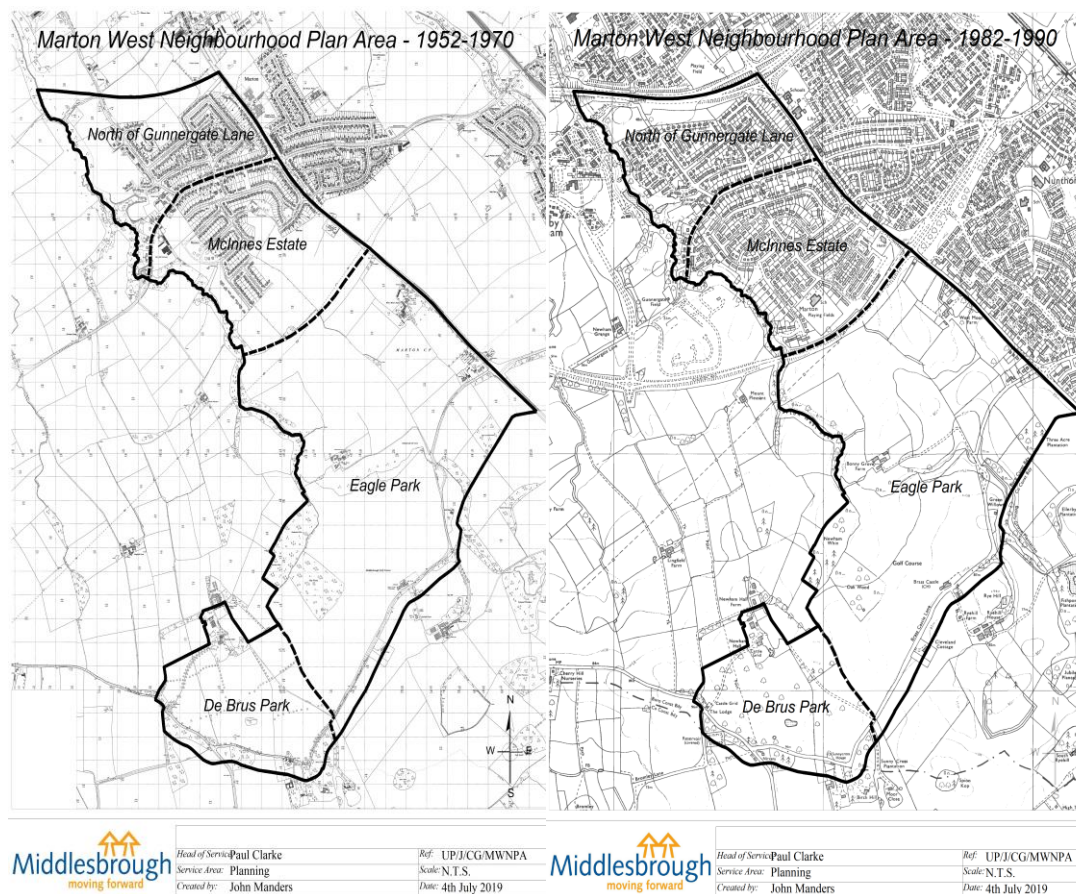
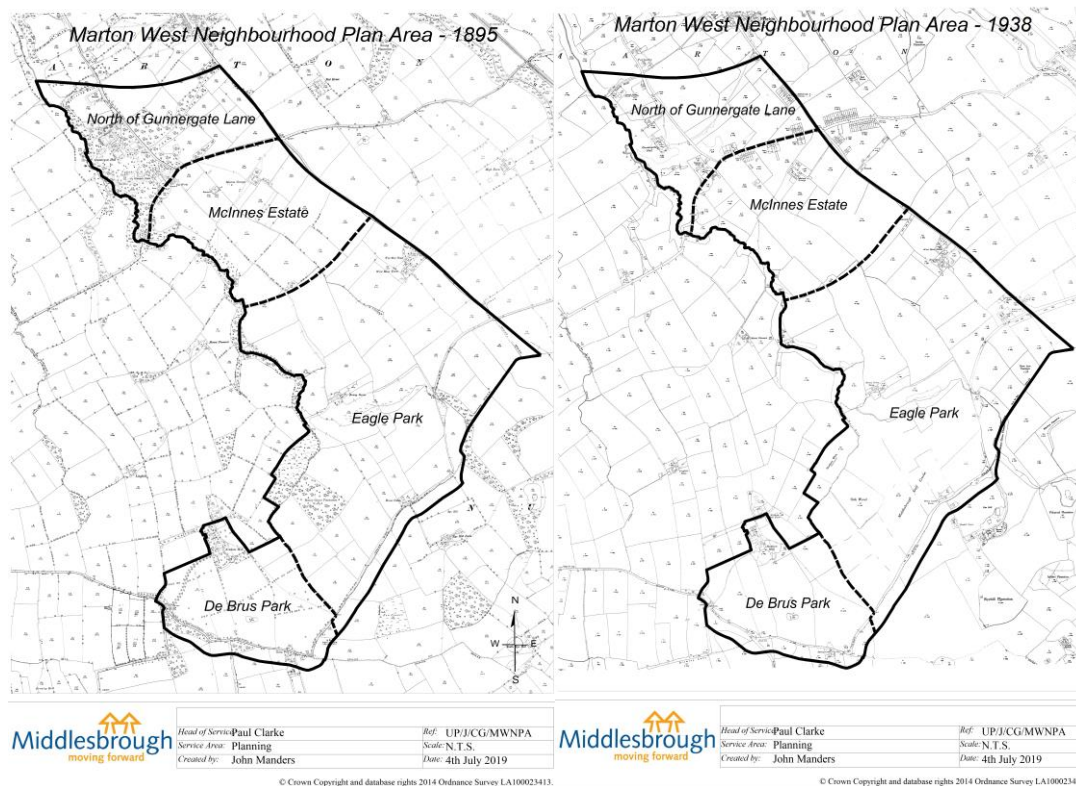


## iii) Satellite image – De Brus Park Area





# The Historical Development of Marton West



## Marton West Ward Profile<sup>7</sup>

25. Marton West is one of 20 electoral Wards of Middlesbrough, following boundary changes, which took effect in 2015. It has:

- An area of 239 hectares, which represents 4.44% of the total area of Middlesbrough.
- A resident population of 5,235 (51.3% female; 48.7% male) which represents 3.75% of the total Middlesbrough population of 139,505.
- The third highest number of people over both 65 and 85 years of age, across the 20 wards in Middlesbrough, with only Kader and Nunthorpe having higher numbers

### Population breakdown

Population 0-15 year olds	833
Population 16-64 year olds	3,168
Population 65 years and over	1,234
This includes 152 people who are 85 years and over	
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>5235</b>
Ethnic Origin % Non-white	4.1%

### Housing

<b>Total Occupied Households</b>	<b>2,205</b>
Tenure % Owner-occupied	88.7
Tenure % Rent Social Housing	3.4
Tenure % Rent Private	7.9

### Economic Activity

% Employed	71.8
% Unemployed	2.2
% Economically Inactive	26.1

### Health:

2011	% with limiting long term illness	16.2
2011	General Health: Very Bad/Bad	4.0
2006-10	Standard Mortality Rate	86.6

### Poverty:

<b>Index Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 1 equals most deprived</b>		
2015	IMD Ward Rank (out of 20)	19
2015	Overall National IMD Rank (out of 7932)	6310
2012	% Pupils Eligible for Free School Meals	5.4

<sup>7</sup> Source: Middlesbrough Council Ward Profile 2015 Data, ONS Mid 2015 population estimates, Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015

## **Ethos & Character of Marton West**

26. For the purposes of the Neighbourhood Plan, the area of Marton West Ward has been broken down into four distinct sections.

- **North of Gunnergate Lane (Egerton Price Estate)**

- i. This the oldest section in the area consisting mainly of bungalows on the west side and houses to the east. Its southern boundary is Gunnergate Lane with the A174 (Parkway) at the north, Stokesley Road as its eastern and Marton West Beck as the western boundaries.
- ii. This section has four retail outlets, two hairdressers, a newsagent and a general dealer. This section has no doctor's surgery and no church.
- iii. There is a small private community area belonging to Normanby Court, blocks of flats built for ex service personnel as retirement homes.
- iv. Bus Services are on Stokesley Road and Gunnergate Lane.
- v. This section also incorporates two of the Gate Houses built in the 1850's, which were the entrances to the old Gunnergate Hall which is now demolished. The Gate Houses are occupied residentially.

- **McInnes Estate**

- i. This section was built approximately 40 years ago and although there are a few large houses it consists primarily of very distinctive bungalows.
- ii. Its southern boundary starts at Stainton Way and stretches northerly to Gunnergate Lane, with Stokesley Road as the east and Marton West Beck as the western boundaries.
- iii. This section does have a public house (Southern Cross) and a Tesco Express (petrol filling station with shop). Otherwise there are no other retail premises, nor a doctor's surgery, church or community centre.
- iv. Bus services are restricted to Stokesley Road and Gunnergate Lane. This section houses a primary school.

- **Eagle Park**

- i. This area is to the south of the Ward. Its boundaries are Brass Castle Lane, Stokesley Road, Marton West Beck and Stainton Way.
- ii. It is the newest part of the ward where development is still ongoing. The small estates that make up this section were designed and developed by many different builders. The result of this is that houses are slightly different from each other. Mostly they are houses, with very few bungalows.
- iii. The area has Bonny Grove Park in its centre which houses a children's play area, (built with lottery money) goal posts and grassed areas for differing types of recreation.

- iv. Towards the north east of this section, there is a natural wetland situated at Land at West Moor Farm, (previously identified as Sudbury Pond). This is a natural haven for wildlife and birds.
- v. This section is without any school, shops, public house, doctor's surgery, church or community centre and has a very poor bus service. The southernmost section does however feature a premier private members golf course and clubhouse.

- **De Brus Park**

- i. This part of the ward was added in October 2014 following boundary changes between Coulby Newham and Marton West<sup>8</sup>.
- ii. Its boundaries run along the B1365 at Newham Hall, to the northern part of Brass Castle Lane, and to the south of Brass Castle Lane. Newham Hall Farm, located in Coulby Newham, forms the boundary with Newham Hall, as does the Middlesbrough Golf Club to the east
- iii. Newham Hall, Newham Hall Lodge and the former stables and outbuildings are now used as offices, laboratories, workshops and residential accommodation for the staff of a firm of metallurgical analysts and consultants (Ridsdale and Co.)
- iv. Brass Castle Lane is a narrow country lane that is mainly bordered by grass verges and hedgerows or woodland. There are several large detached houses, some of which are screened by dense woodland
- v. The small housing development of De Brus Park runs along the boundary to Middlesbrough Golf Course on its east side and has the boundary of the Newham Hall parkland setting to the west, separated by the access road. Five new Executive houses have been added to De Brus Park since the approval of the current adopted Housing Local Plan. These houses sit on land adjunct to the existing line of ten houses on De Brus Park.
- vi. This part of the ward is the furthest from schools (1.8 miles), shops (2.9miles) and doctors' surgeries (2.9 miles). The nearest bus stop is 1.2 miles away.
- vii. There are no footpaths or street lighting on either Brass Castle Lane, which has a 60mph speed limit, or the B1365, which is a busy link road between Stokesley and Middlesbrough
- viii. Consequently, the only means of accessing work, education, health services, leisure facilities or even to post a letter, is by car.

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<sup>8</sup> The Middlesbrough (Electoral Changes) Order 2014



## Ethos & Character of Marton West - Continued



## **Sustainable Development Principles**

27. The draft MWMNP will contribute to achieving the economic, social and environmental aspects of sustainable development by:

- i. Contributing to a strong and competitive economy by supporting the incremental changes that will sustain and enhance Marton West as a place to live, and maintain its economic viability and vitality;
- ii. Planning positively for housing growth to meet the needs of present and future generations and to ensure that any development in and around Marton West is supported by additional infrastructure, where necessary, in order to make it more sustainable;
- iii. Supporting the provision of a mix of housing types and sizes that can meet the needs of a wide range of people, especially older households and thereby promoting a healthy and inclusive community;
- iv. Supporting new development where it relates well to the local area and which helps provide good connectivity with the rest of the town and encourages the use of sustainable transport;
- v. Promoting policies to protect and enhance our culturally important assets, including landscapes and green infrastructure
- vi. Promoting policies to protect and enhance open space, water quality and biodiversity, which contribute to the natural capital, sense of community and quality of life in the area; and
- vii. Promoting policies, which encourage the use of sustainable transport, for the health and well being of the community.

## Vision and Objectives

28. A vision statement was established by the local community as part of the preparation of the original Marton West Neighbourhood Plan i.e.

*“To maintain Marton West with the same Ethos and Character that currently exists, but to welcome incremental changes that will sustain and enhance its facilities and contribute to a greater sense of community and neighbourliness.”*

*This continues to be our vision statement for the modified Neighbourhood Plan*

Specific aims for the four sub-areas in the Plan were defined by residents of Marton West and are set out below:

### **North of Gunnergate Lane (Egerton Price Estate)**

- Maintain and protect the existing characteristics of the Egerton Price Estate.
- Encourage any new housing to be of a density similar to the density of the existing nearby housing.
- Promote a safe highway network, within the area.

### **McInnes Estate:**

- Maintain and protect the existing characteristics of the McInnes Estate.
- Encourage any new housing to reflect the character of the estate by being of a density similar to the density of the existing nearby housing and primarily of bungalows.
- Promote a safe highway network, within the area.

### **Eagle Park:**

- Maintain and protect the existing characteristics of Eagle Park.
- Protection and enhancement of Bonny Grove Park and wetland situated at Land at West Moor Farm (previously identified as Sudbury Pond).
- Encourage any new housing to be of a density similar to the density of the existing nearby housing.
- Promote a safe highway network, within the area.

### **De Brus Park**

- Sustain the character and appearance of the parkland setting of the Grade II listed structures of Newham Hall, Newham Hall Lodge and Newham Hall Gate
- Designate the parkland setting as Local Green Space, due to its historic significance, intrinsic beauty and value to, and access by, the local community
- Promote a safe highway network within the area
- Promote the upgrade and provision of superfast broadband to commercial and residential properties across the De Brus area, to match that across the rest of the ward

## Objectives

29. A set of objectives was established in the original plan, for the plan period 2016 – 2029. These objectives have been reviewed and updated to define the plan policies.

30. The objectives are as follows:

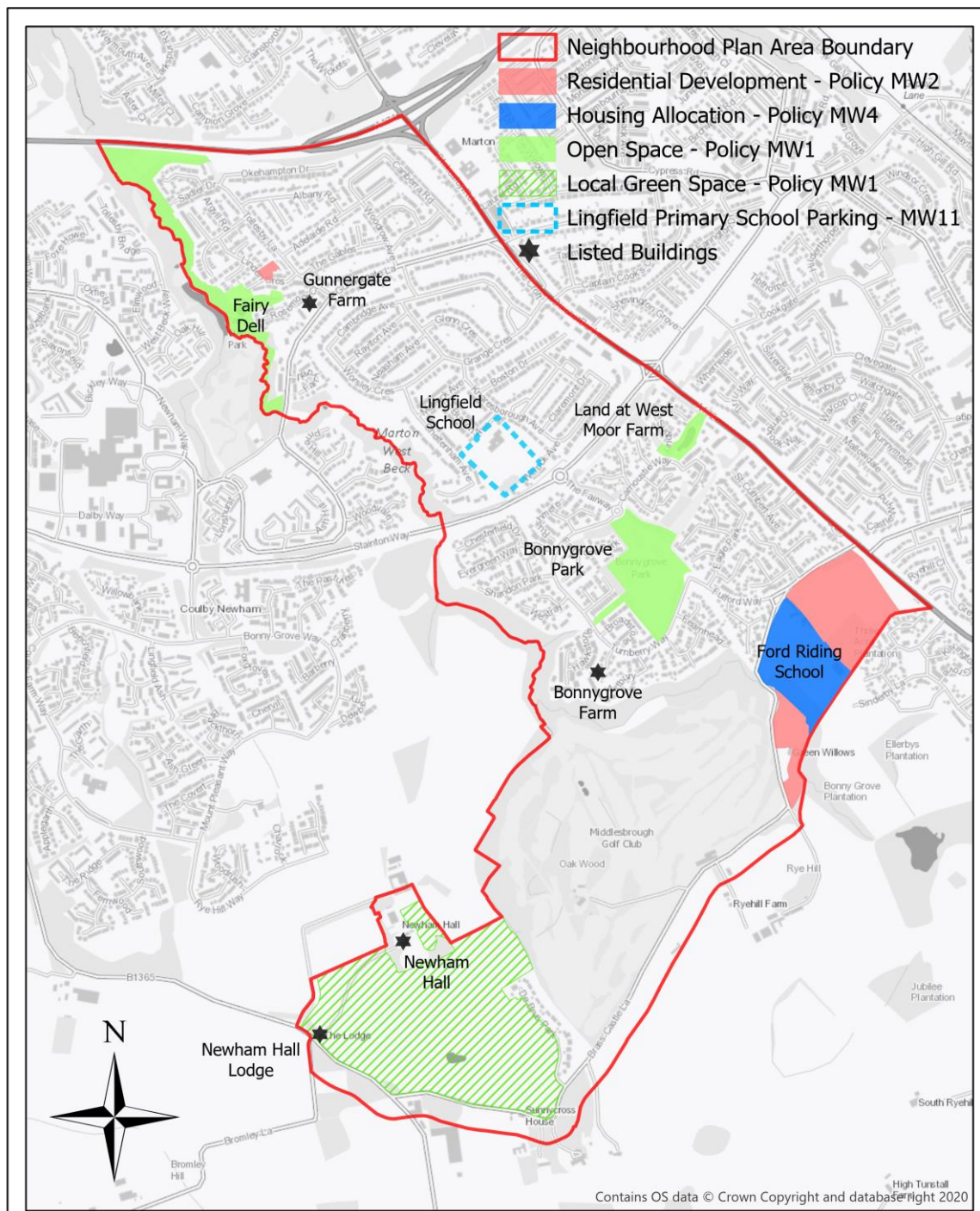
- To promote sustainable housing development through limited and controlled growth on the allocated sites (Ford Riding School and part of the Grey Towers Farm development) in accordance with the Middlesbrough Council Housing Local Plan and the National Planning Policy Framework.
- To ensure that the housing on the allocated site (Ford Riding School) provides an integrated mixture of executive housing and includes bungalows
- To protect and enhance the water quality, landscape, green infrastructure and character of the area
- To ensure that any new housing and/or housing extensions reflect the established vernacular of the area in terms of building styles and materials as defined in this document.
- To ensure that any new housing can demonstrate safe and easy access to public transport, thereby encouraging a reduction in car dependency
- To ensure that the effectiveness of the surface water and sewage provisions are fit for purpose and are up-graded commensurate with any increase in demand.
- To promote superfast broadband for all properties, and to ensure any further development does not downgrade broadband speed for existing properties

Our Policies map, on page 21, helps to illustrate our objectives, which are reflected in the updated Policies contained in the draft MWMNP





## Marton West - Policies Map



# **Marton West Neighbourhood Plan**

## **Equality Impact Assessment**

31. In accordance with the themes of sustainability, one of the aims of this Neighbourhood Plan is to ensure that all residents of Marton West can live work and play in a community without any prejudice in terms of race, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, ethnic origin or religion. To achieve and maintain this objective the Neighbourhood Plan will support those Plans and Policies that ensure that there is no adverse impact on equality for the residents of Marton West.

## **Habitats Regulations Assessment**

32. This Neighbourhood Plan will encourage sympathetic management of the countryside and natural outdoor environment in and around Marton West to enhance the quality of the landscape, improve local biodiversity and provide other benefits to the community and quality of life. This encompasses all the small green areas within Marton West, which encourage health and wellbeing of the inhabitants of this area.

## **Historic Environment**

33. The Neighbourhood Forum supports the Landscape and Heritage Assessment<sup>9</sup> assertion, in its summary and conclusions, that “the further erosion of the remaining historic environment across Middlesbrough should be resisted”.
34. With seven Grade II listed buildings, together with local listings, it is desirable that these locally valued heritage assets are sustained and enhanced for the benefit of current and future generations. As such, great weight should be given to the conservation of these assets
35. Proposed developments within the neighbourhood area should, where possible, avoid harm to the significance of both designated and undesignated heritage assets, including effects upon their setting (including the landscape).
36. A clear and convincing justification should be provided in order to allow a balanced judgement to be taken on the level of harm against public benefit, as required by the NPPF (paragraphs 192-197).
37. It is desirable that any designated or non designated heritage asset, including its setting, within the neighbourhood area, will be sustained and enhanced for its significance and their contribution to local distinctiveness, character and sense of place.
38. Proposals for development that affect designated or non-designated historic assets should take account of the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage assets in accordance with Council’s existing policy, (the 2014 Middlesbrough Housing Local Plan and other adopted development plan documents) and any superseding documents thereafter, the NPPF

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<sup>9</sup> Landscape and Heritage Assessment, LUC, Dec 2016, (Section 5.15)

requirements and the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.

### **Parks & Green Spaces**

39. In the Eagle Park section of the ward there are two small green spaces.

(1) Bonny Grove Park which incorporates an excellent children's play area, a kick-about area and open space, made possible with funding from the Big Lottery Fund, the Play Builders Scheme and the Healthy Town Initiative.

(2) Wetlands situated at Land at West Moor Farm (previously identified as Sudbury Pond).

40. The Neighbourhood Plan will rigorously defend any attempt to develop these two areas, which are Oases in the middle of housing estates.

41. North of Gunnergate Lane (Egerton Price Estate) Marton West incorporates a small area of Victorian landscaping including a lake, waterfall and woodland called Fairy Dell. Its own Friends group manages it. This area is known for its medieval history, natural habitat and beauty and has won many awards from Northumbria in Bloom and the Green Flag. Once again this must be exempt from any development.

42. Middlesbrough Council has stipulated in its adopted housing policy for Coulby Newham, H26(e), that it requires the development to "deliver a high-quality scheme that preserves the character and appearance of the setting of the Grade II listed structures Newham Hall, Newham Hall Lodge and Newham Hall Gate";

43. In its adopted Proposals Map, the Council identifies the vast majority of the parkland south of Newham Hall as Primary Open Space

44. The Landscape and Heritage Assessment, undertaken on behalf of the Council, has identified that, as a historic environment asset, the significance of the Newham Hall asset group as a whole, including its designed landscape could be argued to be of more than regional importance, given the rarity of survival of Ironmasters' houses in the region and more generally and the intactness of the house and landscape. Likewise, it is recognised that the parkland setting is indivisible from the significance of Newham Hall and the wider Newham Estate, which contains the Grade II Listed Lodge and Gates and, as such the landscape setting goes beyond the plan boundary into the neighbouring ward of Coulby Newham.

45. Subsequently, Historic England<sup>10</sup>, in declining a request from the owners of Newham Hall and local residents for listing of the parkland, indicated that:

*The phenomenal industrial growth of Teesside in the late C19 - for the years around 1880, Middlesbrough was the centre of the world's iron and steel trade - saw a number of industrialists establishing country house estates across the region. The Newham Hall landscape is thought to be the most complete and best surviving example in the area.*

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<sup>10</sup> Historic England Decision Summary, Parkland and Gardens of Newham Hall, Oct 2019

*The loss of some of this parkland to housing (De Brus Park) is unfortunate and this loss has undermined the special interest of the landscape, in terms of registration*

46. However, despite the lack of registration, in terms of the contribution the parkland makes, to the setting of Newham Hall as a Listed Building, Historic England stated in the same response:
- *The strongest claim to special interest is the association between the landscape and the Grade II-listed hall (...) The gardens around the hall thus very significantly contribute to the special interest of the Grade II-listed building. The wider parkland is also a key aspect to the setting of the hall and also significantly contributes to the interest of the listed building...*
47. The Ancient Tree Registry has identified and recorded a significant number of veteran and notable trees on this parkland setting. Tees Valley Wildlife Trust has confirmed that veteran trees are a rarity in Middlesbrough and, as such should be preserved and enhanced
48. The parkland is of great community value. It is in very good condition and accessible to the public, through the use of public rights of way, which link to other footpaths to Marton Beck and beyond into North Yorkshire towards Newby
49. It was identified at community engagement events and through newsletter responses as being of value to the community for walking and providing opportunities for positive mental health, having a tranquil setting, with the grazing sheep, lambs and cattle that have adorned the parkland for many years. It provides easy and safe access to the countryside for the residents of Marton West, adjacent to the largely urban form of Middlesbrough
50. Views towards the town give a unique sense of place to Newham Hall, whilst the panoramic vista from various vantage points serves to highlight the distinct landmarks of Roseberry Topping and the Cleveland and Eston Hills, allowing the visitor to feel “within” the countryside without having to travel in the private vehicle far beyond the large urban area to access it
51. The distinctive character described above is unique in Middlesbrough and considered rare in the north of England. The desire to both preserve and where possible, enhance the distinctive character of Newham Hall and its surrounding parkland by the local community has been evident throughout all community engagement exercises and events.
52. As such, in order to protect and enhance our historic open spaces, designed landscape and veteran trees, the entirety of the parkland setting to the south of Newham Hall is:
- Designated Local Green Space, in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) paragraphs 99-101,
  - Regarded as a valued landscape, NPPF, paragraph 170(a) and
  - Provided with relevant protection of veteran trees, NPPF, para 175(c)
53. Due to the way in which it has historically evolved, Marton West has limited amounts of green space. The existing areas of green space, which add to the

character of the area and contribute to local public amenity, are as important to its residents, as the buildings that surround it.

54. Development proposals should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment in accordance with NPPF paragraph 170.

#### **MW1: Parks & Green Spaces**

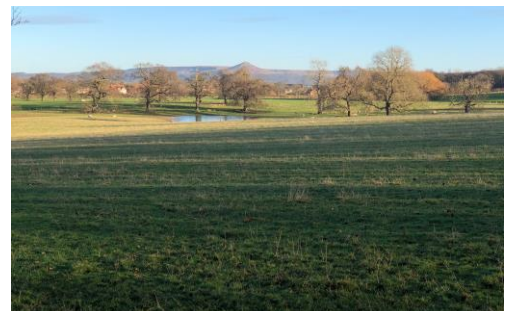
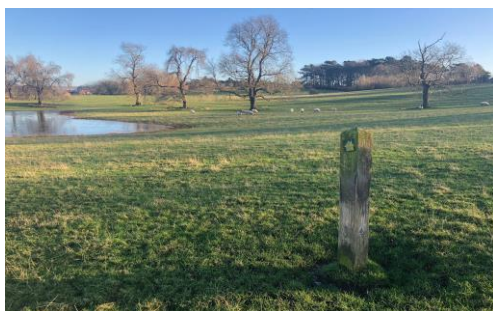
Development proposals should not have an adverse effect on the use, management, amenity or enjoyment of Bonny Grove Park, Wetlands situated at Land at West Moor Farm (previously identified as Sudbury Pond) and that part of Fairy Dell, which falls within Marton West. Opportunities to enhance their public accessibility and continued maintenance as valued local facilities will be supported.

Parkland to the south of, and indivisible from, Newham Hall is designated as **Local Green Space** due to its historic and considerable regional significance; important value to the health and well being of local communities: the need to protect veteran and notable trees and tranquil local landscape.

Inappropriate development that would be harmful to the Local Green Space should not be approved except in very special circumstances. The valued parkland setting of the Grade II listed Newham Hall, Newham Hall Lodge and Newham Hall Gate should be preserved and enhanced, where appropriate, in a manner compatible with its historic landscape design.

Development should not result in the loss of green space, veteran, notable and mature trees, and local valued landscapes which make a positive contribution to the character of the area and local amenity.

Local Green Space photographs show the public right of way across the parkland, together with views to Roseberry Topping from Newham Lodge



#### **Housing Requirement and Allocation**

55. The adopted Housing Local Plan sets out a minimum housing requirement of 410 dwellings per year for Middlesbrough, between 2014 and 2029. The

Council's five-year housing land supply assessment<sup>11</sup> identifies that after taking account of dwellings delivered to date, there is a remaining minimum housing requirement of 301 dwellings per year needed between 2019 and 2024. The five-year land supply demonstrates that approximately 2280 dwellings are expected to be delivered between 2019 and 2024, giving a deliverable supply of 7.59 years

56. Likewise, the introduction of a standard method to determine Housing Need indicates that the Council now has a minimum housing need of 259 dwellings per annum, based on 2014 household projections.
57. As a result, it is evident, at this point in time, that there is no requirement for additional housing allocations in the Marton West ward, up to 2024, over and above those already allocated in the adopted 2014 Housing Local Plan, whilst providing sufficient flexibility as required to do so by the NPPF.
58. A Housing site is allocated at Ford Riding School for a maximum of 50 high quality executive homes
59. A small part of the Grey Towers Farm site lies within the plan area (originally 60 dwellings); development has commenced on this site. The developer has subsequently obtained an amended planning permission to reduce the number of 5-bedroom homes and replace them with 3- and 4-bedroom properties including semi-detached properties. This has resulted in the original approval for 60 dwellings being increased to 102 dwellings (19/0458/FUL December 2019)
60. The change in the mix and type of houses is welcomed, as it better reflects the needs of the local population
61. Two windfall sites delivering 10 high quality bespoke executive houses have been approved, with 5 executive homes at De Brus Park, being delivered in 2017. Development of 5 executive homes at Green Willows has commenced with initial completions anticipated in 2020-21
62. It is recognised that Marton West should support sustainable growth in order to remain vibrant and to meet local needs for housing and community facilities, providing that the growth is sustainable in accordance with the NPPF and that the Ethos and Character of the area is maintained.

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<sup>11</sup> Middlesbrough Council 5-year Housing Land Supply Assessment 2019-24, Dec 2019



63. Any new development will lead to increased surface water run-off and therefore all new developments are encouraged to incorporate surface water mitigation techniques into their design.

64. All development should avoid putting any additional pollution pressures on Marton West Beck.

#### **MW2: Housing Allocations**

To support the sustainable growth of Marton West, housing development shall be carried out on sites allocated in the Middlesbrough Housing Local Plan in policies H30 and H31 and on small unallocated windfall sites.



#### **MW3: Small Unallocated Sites**

Development proposals on small unallocated sites for residential use will be supported if they are judged appropriate in relation to the following criteria:

1. That the location, scale, density and pattern of the development is appropriate to the existing design characteristics within Marton West and the street scene;
2. The capacity of the existing infrastructure, including broadband capacity, and the potential to improve it, to meet the increased demands likely to result from the development;
3. The development should not result in the loss of existing amenity open space unless it is replaced by open space of a similar or improved area and quality within the development;
4. Have high standards of quality and design, access, parking and amenity space; and,
5. The development would not have an unacceptable adverse impact on the local highway network.

#### **Site Assessment and Allocation of Site Policy**

65. The individual site (Ford Riding School) assessment was based on local knowledge and the Middlesbrough Borough Council Strategic Land Housing Availability Assessment (SHLAA).

66. Marton West residents recognise the need for more housing but would suggest that this site has at least 40% of the development built as bungalows

as a way of partly meeting the shortfall of this type of housing in South Middlesbrough.

67. It is acknowledged that the figure of 40% is an aspiration and that the proportion of bungalows on the site will be a matter to be considered in the context of the overall deliverability of the development.

68. As Section 106 Agreements are negotiable a proportion of the developer contribution should go towards local traffic calming measures within the vicinity and a donation made for the upkeep of Bonny Grove Park, wetlands at land at West Moor Farm (previously identified as Sudbury Pond) and Fairy Dell.

**MW4: Land at the Ford Riding School – Brass Castle Lane**

Proposals for a high-quality residential development at Ford Riding School will be supported where an element of the dwellings provided should be bungalows. Subject to negotiation, a proportion of the developer contributions should be made towards traffic calming measures within the vicinity and a donation made for the long term maintenance of Bonny Grove Park, wetlands at land at West Moor Farm (previously identified as Sudbury Pond) and Fairy Dell.



**Built Environment**

69. The Neighbourhood Plan will ensure that all new houses built in Marton West reflect the general theme expressed in building styles and materials used over many years.

70. Where possible house heights should be restricted to 2-2½ storeys and the number of dormer windows should be kept to minimum to ensure they do not over dominate or overtake the roofscape.

71. All development should be enhanced by landscaping and planting and where appropriate and feasible to do so existing trees and hedges should be incorporated into development schemes.

72. The Neighbourhood Plan seeks to ensure that all extensions or modifications (subject to permitted development rights) to existing premises whether to



increase their accommodation, provide extra facilities from out buildings, or add extra luxury to their living space, will continue to reflect the building style and materials that have presided over many years.

73. It will ensure that additions to premises will reflect the style and vernacular of the original building and temper the proportional increase in the bulk of the building. The combined building of the original and the extension should not significantly change the form bulk and general design of the original building or harm its landscape character or setting.

74. The permitted increase in ground footprint of any extension should be not more than 50% of the original building and should be sympathetic to the original building. It is also important that any changes do not detract from surrounding properties in style and materials.

#### **MW5: Built Environment**

Alterations and extensions to residential property should reflect the scale, detailing and materials of the parent building. Proposals should also:

- Not detract from the character of the property itself, or with neighbouring properties;
- Not cause significant harm to the amenities of nearby properties through overlooking, and/or overshadowing;
- Respect the existing building, both in detailing and character in the design of conservatories or sunrooms;
- Stagger or set back the extension to avoid lineation or a terracing effect so that it sits sub-servient to the host property;
- Avoid flat roofs for extensions and consider hipped roofs to soften the effect on the skyline and minimise the effect of visual terracing and loss of light;
- Use matching bricks, render or appropriate materials for extensions; and,
- In the case of dormers, be set below the ridge line, do not dominate or overtake the roofscape, be pitched, and be set back from the eaves line by an appropriate dimension sufficient to achieve a subordinate appearance, the number of dormer windows per dwelling should be kept to a minimum. Velux or similar type windows should be used as a preference.

#### **Public realm improvements and advertisement boards:**

- Improvements to the public realm should ensure that street furniture is of a high standard; and,
- Advertising boards should not be located on footways where this will cause an obstruction for partially sighted and disabled residents and also for parents with prams/buggies and they should be displayed in accordance with the Middlesbrough Urban Design Supplementary Planning Guidance.



## Design

75. The design of new buildings and their location, scale, massing and materials in relation their surroundings are of vital importance in maintaining the character and image of an area. It is therefore important to establish a policy framework, which seeks to achieve the objective of maintaining a high-quality environment within Marton West.

76. There may also be opportunities to further enhance the character and local distinctiveness of the natural environment and encourage biodiversity, through the incorporation of bat roosts or bird boxes in new developments.

### MW6: Design

New development in Marton West should be designed to:

- Reflect and enhance the character of the area in terms of its scale, massing, proportion, form and materials;
- Be similar in scale and proportion to existing buildings and will have a garden that is similar in size and sits comfortably with the gardens of adjacent properties;
- If it faces a street or is visible from a street reflect the rhythm, scale and proportion of the street scene;
- Not have an overbearing or a detrimental impact on the privacy and amenity of proposed or existing properties; and,
- Provide opportunities to enhance wildlife within and around the development.

In the case of design aspects, reference should be made to Middlesbrough Council's adopted Core Strategy Design Policy CS5 and the Middlesbrough Urban Design Supplementary Planning Document (SPD).

## Backland Development

77. Backland development comprises development to the rear of existing houses, usually in large back gardens or open space used, for example, as vegetable plots or for vehicle parking.

78. It is however, considered that through successive developments the character of an area, like Marton West, can be radically altered and may eventually result in cramped forms of development which greatly reduce the outlook and landscape amenity currently afforded to existing dwellings.

79. The insertion of narrow or awkward access drives to serve land to the rear can greatly disrupt a street scene or affect adjoining properties through noise or visual intrusion of traffic movements.

80. Where there is sufficient land to provide development to the rear of properties care should be taken in the design and layout to avoid any overlooking of existing properties or their gardens. 'Tandem' development, involving the placing of one dwelling immediately behind another and sharing the same drive, will not be acceptable.

#### **MW7: Backland Development**

Backland or tandem development should:

- Incorporate separate and satisfactory access and parking provision;
- Provide an acceptable standard of residential amenity for the new dwelling and its development would not have an unacceptable adverse impact on the amenity of adjacent dwellings;
- Provide an adequate open area within the curtilage of the new and existing dwellings commensurate with the size of each dwelling and the character of the area; and,
- Reflect the scale and character of the surrounding area.

#### **Surface Water Drainage**

81. Marton West does not currently have a significant problem with flooding. In order not to exacerbate any potential impacts from new development, proposals should aim to reduce the overall level of flood risk in the area and beyond through the layout and form of the development, and the appropriate application of sustainable drainage techniques, which also make a contribution towards nature recovery networks and help to mitigate against climate change

#### **MW8: Design to Reduce Surface Water Run-Off**

New development within Marton West should be designed to maximise the retention of surface water on the development site and to minimise run-off. Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) should be implemented wherever possible.

## Public Transport

82. Most journeys by residents of Marton West area are made by either private car or public transport, mainly buses. As there is a need to encourage more journeys by sustainable public transport, it is important that a reliable and regular service is provided. This is especially important for those older residents of Marton West who rely on public transport who do not drive or have a car.

83. Opportunities should be taken within the planning process to make cycling, walking and public transport the modes of choice. These modes should be made more convenient for the majority of journeys than car usage, in order to promote sustainable transport. This is supported by the Council's existing transport policies, i.e. CS 18 – Demand Management and CS 19 – Road Safety

84. Any new housing development should demonstrate safe and easy access to public transport, thereby encouraging a reduction in car dependency

### MW9: Public Transport

To support, where appropriate, initiatives by relevant public transport operators that are brought forward to maintain and enhance existing public transport provision, within the area, together with other forms of sustainable transport, i.e. cycling, walking



## Parking

85. Cars littering residential areas can have a negative impact on the local environment, and create problems for residents accessing or egressing their drives. In addition, inconsiderate and sometimes dangerous parking blights those residents living adjacent to Lingfield Primary School and other sensitive areas within Marton West.

86. Grass verge and pavement parking is becoming increasingly frustrating for residents within the area. Inconsiderate parking on footways and grass verges causes obstructions to pedestrians particularly to those with special needs and mobility problems. It can also damage the utility piping under the ground and damages the grass making it look unsightly and costs money to make repairs, which can be recouped from those causing the damage.

**MW10: Parking**

Adequate off-road parking provision shall be provided within new developments in accordance with the Council's parking standards. Particular attention should be given to extensions to dwellings that entail modifications to driveways or the loss of garage space.

**Education**

87. Marton West has only one school, i.e. Lingfield Primary School. This school has always had a very good reputation and its pupil intake is at capacity. There is however, an issue of on street parking particularly when parents drop-off and pick-up their children to and from school. This has a major impact on adjacent residents due to the level of traffic. At times residents cannot enter and exit drives because of this inconsiderate parking. The road infrastructure surrounding the school cannot accommodate any further traffic at school times.

**MW11: Lingfield Primary School Parking**

To support through developer contributions, traffic calming and parking measures, which seek to ease traffic congestion around Lingfield Primary School.

## **References:**

The following documentation has been used to provide background and/or helped to formulate the policies within this Neighbourhood Plan:

- National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012 / July 2018
- Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA), 2012.
- Tees Valley Sub-Regional Housing Strategy – Tees Valley Living, 2007.
- Middlesbrough's Housing Local Plan adopted 2014, Middlesbrough Council
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- Green Spaces Public Places – A Strategy for Public Open Space in Middlesbrough 2007 – 2012, Middlesbrough Council, 2007.
- Middlesbrough Sustainable Community Strategy 2008 – 2023, Middlesbrough partnership, 2008.
- Middlesbrough 2020 Vision, Middlesbrough Council, 2012.
- Middlesbrough Local Transport Plan 3 2011 – 2016, Middlesbrough Council, 2011.
- Listed Buildings and Local List Index, Middlesbrough Council 2011 / 2019
- Newham Hall Landscape and Heritage Appraisal Reports 2013 – Ridsdale and Co.
  - Heritage Assessment Archaeological Services, Durham University, 2013
  - Appraisal of the designed landscape at Newham Hall, Fiona Green, Garden Historian, 2013
  - Landscape and visual appraisal of housing proposals for land adjacent to Newham hall Southern Green Chartered Landscape Architects, 2013
- Landscape and Heritage Assessment, LUC, December 2016
- Newham Hall Statement of Significance, Middlesbrough Council, 2014
- Inspector's Report - Town and Country Planning Act 1990 – Section 77 – Application by Middlesbrough Council for permission to develop land to the north and west of Brass Castle
- Middlesbrough Council 5-year Housing Land Supply Assessment 2019-24, December 2019
- Middlesbrough Council – Historic Environment Record – Newham Hall, Conservation and Development Control reports for the enlarged area
- Middlesbrough Council - Planning policy evidence base
- Tees Valley Wildlife Trust - Local Wildlife Sites and Local Nature Reserves in Middlesbrough December 2018

- Tees Valley Wildlife Trust - Ecological Assessment of Housing Sites – September 2018
- The Ancient Tree Registry - working with local residents, has identified a number of Ancient Trees, both veteran and notable, on land at Newham Hall
- Ridsdale and Co, owners of Newham Hall – provision of detailed historical information associated with their listed buildings and associated parkland setting.
- Historic England - Parkland and gardens of Newham Hall: Notification of Designation Decision [WH-WH. FID2539865]

### **Acknowledgements**

The reconstituted Neighbourhood Forum, with the support of Marton West Community Council and Middlesbrough Council, has undertaken the updates to the Plan

The Team would like to thank the following in the preparation of this Plan and associated documentation:

Marton West Community Council Executive  
 Marton West Councillors  
 Marton West residents  
 KVA Planning Consultancy  
 Middlesbrough Council Planning Department  
 Tees Wildlife Trust  
 Ancient Trees Registry  
 Historic England  
 Ridsdale and Co  
 Groundworks UK

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## Equality Impact Assessment

<b>Subject of assessment:</b>	Marton West Neighbourhood Plan 2021-2029 – Adoption			
<b>Coverage:</b>	Marton West Neighbourhood Area & Ward only.			
<b>This is a decision relating to:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Strategy</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Policy</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Service</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Function</b>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Process/procedure</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Programme</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Project</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Review</b>
	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Organisational change</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Other (please state)</b>		
<b>It is a:</b>	<b>New approach:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Revision of an existing approach:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>It is driven by:</b>	<b>Legislation:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Local or corporate requirements:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Description:</b>	<p><b>Key aims, objectives and activities</b></p> <p>To enable town councils, parish councils and designated neighbourhood forums to prepare Neighbourhood Plans, that puts in place a vision and general planning policies for the development, and use of land in their designated neighbourhood area.</p> <p><b>Statutory drivers</b></p> <p>Neighbourhood Planning forms part of the statutory process under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011) and the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended).</p> <p><b>Differences from any previous approach</b></p> <p>The attached report recommends adoption the Marton West Neighbourhood Plan 2021-2029, as part of the Council's Policy Framework, so that the Plan can be used in the determination of future planning applications, within the designated Marton West Neighbourhood Area, in accordance with the above Regulations.</p> <p><b>Key stakeholders and intended beneficiaries (internal and external as appropriate)</b></p> <p>The key stakeholders are local communities.</p> <p><b>Intended outcomes.</b></p> <p>To allow local communities to shape new development and improving the social, economic and environmental well-being of their neighbourhood.</p>			
<b>Live date:</b>	Upon approval			
<b>Lifespan:</b>	2021-2029			
<b>Date of next review:</b>	2029			

Screening questions	Response			Evidence
	No	Yes	Uncertain	
<b>Human Rights</b> Could the decision impact negatively on individual Human Rights as enshrined in UK legislation? *	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The recommendations set-out in the attached Council report accord with procedural guidelines of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, to assist Local Authorities in the adoption of Neighbourhood Plans, submitted by and in consultation with local communities, and therefore will not have any implications on human rights.
<b>Equality</b> Could the decision result in adverse differential impacts on groups or individuals with characteristics protected in UK equality law? Could the decision impact differently on other commonly disadvantaged groups? *	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The recommendations set-out in the attached Executive report accord with procedural guidelines of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, to assist Local Authorities in the adoption of Neighbourhood Plans, submitted by and in consultation with local communities, and therefore will not have any implications on equality.
<b>Community cohesion</b> Could the decision impact negatively on relationships between different groups, communities of interest or neighbourhoods within the town? *	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The recommendations set-out in the attached Executive report accord with procedural guidelines of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, to assist Local Authorities in the adoption of Neighbourhood Plans, submitted by and in consultation with local communities, and therefore will not have any implications on community cohesion.
<b>Next steps:</b> ➡ If the answer to all of the above screening questions is No then the process is completed. ➡ If the answer of any of the questions is Yes or Uncertain, then a Level 2 Full Impact Assessment must be completed.				

<b>Assessment completed by:</b>	Charlton Gibben	<b>Head of Service:</b>	Paul Clarke
<b>Date:</b>	28/07/2021	<b>Date:</b>	28/07/2021

\* Consult the Impact Assessment further guidance appendix for details on the issues covered by each of these broad questions prior to completion.



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**COUNCIL MEETING – 20 OCTOBER 2021**

**QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS**

**COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 28 - 33**

QUESTION NO.	QUESTION FROM	QUESTION TO	QUESTION
8/21	Councillor Thompson	Councillor Smiles	“Could the Executive Member update the council about the progress to date of the Middlesbrough Lottery? What has been the uptake and ticket sales? What benefits have the organisations signed up seen so far?”

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**COUNCIL MEETING – 20 OCTOBER 2021  
NOTICE OF MOTION**

**COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NOS. 53-60**

MOTION NO.	PROPOSER	SECONDER	MOTION
150	Councillor M Storey	Councillor Branson	<p>Motion: ‘Fire and Rehire’</p> <p>Middlesbrough Council notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 in 10 workers have experienced ‘fire and rehire’ – told to reapply for their jobs on worse pay, terms and conditions or face the sack, with BME workers facing this at twice the rate of white workers, since March 2020(TUC research, January 2021). A quarter of all workers have experienced a worsening of their terms and conditions – including a cut to their pay – since the pandemic began.</li> <li>• That while the prime minister has called the practice unacceptable he has continually refused to take action to outlaw the practice, raising concerns that he will not intervene in this race to the bottom as an escalating number of employers across all sectors using our weak employment protections to force their staff to accept worse terms and conditions, leaving many having to work longer hours and for lower pay, with what can be devastating consequences for workers and their families.</li> <li>• Even before the pandemic, 1 in 9 workers – 3.8 million people – were already ‘insecure’ meaning they did not have access to basic rights at work and could be dismissed at will, including those on zero hour contracts and agency workers.</li> </ul> <p>Middlesbrough Council therefore resolves to;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure local residents are protected against such unscrupulous employers and will write to the Prime Minister demanding he outlaw fire and rehire and act now to keep his promise to local residents to protect their employment terms and conditions.</li> <li>• Promote the increasing number of progressive local employers prioritising their employees’ standard of living and their wellbeing, work with our anchor institutions and key partners to bring forward</li> </ul>

			<p>plans to ensure all have best practice employment and to work with recognised trade unions on this.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Write to the TUC to indicate support for the campaign for a 'New Deal for Working People'.</li></ul>
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