

EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORT TO COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: Executive Member for Neighbourhood Safety

DATE OF MEETING: 18 January 2023

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to members on areas of activity within my portfolio including performance against strategic priorities.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Strategic Priority: Reward and champion individuals for being good neighbours

Update:

I'm really happy to let members know that we have had our first winners of the Good Neighbour Award.

The very worthy winners included Freddie and Irene McCormick from Marton Manor. The pair pick litter across south Middlesbrough five times a week as well as volunteer in the local café.

Sarah Golding and Hannah Hawkins were also acknowledged for developing local drop off points for donations and assistance for Ukrainian refugees.

One of the objectives of the Good Neighbour Award is to celebrate good news stories from across Middlesbrough. It is also to highlight the good in the town and shine a light on residents who help make a difference.

I encourage all councillors to nominate residents in their ward who are making a difference. We've had exceptional winners so far, but would like to receive a wide selection of nominations.

Google Middlesbrough Council Good Neighbour Awards or follow this link to nominate someone: [Good Neighbour Awards | Middlesbrough Council](#)

Strategic Priority: More environmental action and punishment for fly tipping

Update: Fly tipping has received a lot of publicity in recent months.

Publicly sharing posts, like the ones included in this report have multiple benefits. They show Middlesbrough residents that the council and police are being proactive and fly tippers are being brought to justice. It also deters future fly tippers from offending as they can also be made 'infamous' due to social media

I ask all councillors to share these social media posts and promote the good work done by the council. Encourage residents to confidentially pass on vehicle registrations to the police or council. With evidence, action can be taken against perpetrators.



Neighbourhood Safety Overview

To support the work of the Neighbourhood Safety wardens we have a team of 6 dedicated Neighbourhood Safety Officers who take positive action against perpetrators, and adopt a problem solving approach to tackle issues that present within their ward areas. Since the last report the Neighbourhood Safety Officers **engaged/ supported 136 victims of Anti-Social Behaviour across the borough**. The team have progressed several actions against perpetrators of Anti-Social Behaviour and some examples of this work can be seen below. In the reporting period the team have carried out in excess of **700 actions** within communities. **This includes 9 cases for the PSPO being progressed to court** for breaches of the order, several successful youth Civil Injunction applications and four applications for adults causing issues in and around the town centre. A persistent beggar appeared at Teesside Crown Court on the 10/01/2022 where he received a two month custodial sentence.

The Neighbourhood Safety Service in the reporting period have **dealt with 2478 service requests**. The leading category for the service area for this month was reports of **ASB at 899 reports**. **Fly tipping/ dumped material with 733 service requests is the second highest demand on the service area**. We dealt with in excess of **200 requests for service relating to untaxed and abandoned vehicles**. We also responded to **120 requests for service relating to stray dogs/ animal related issues**.

The Environmental Wardens have issued a total of 12 fixed penalty notices in the month for environmental related offences. The team have also issued a total of 9 Community Protection Notice warnings and one full Community Protection Notice. Work has commenced to support Teesside University to improve the general environment and take action against private residents who are effecting the general environment close to the university. A new bating programme has commenced in areas where rodents have been prevalent. **The Environmental Wardens also removed a total of 30 vehicles from Middlesbrough roads for them being untaxed or abandoned.** As part of their roles the team also act as the authorities stray dog warden and we responded to in excess of 100 stray dogs and **recovered 9 stray dogs that were taken to our kennel provider.**

The Neighbourhood Safety Wardens issue Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs) to motorists who break the rules. The Council enforces waiting and loading restrictions to:

- Improve road safety
- Reduce congestion
- Support the local economy
- Improve access to public transport
- Reduce commuter parking in residential areas
- Improve accessibility for people with disabilities

PCN's Issued 2022-23	April	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
	1124	764	653	583	694	676	761	699	420				6374

Middlesbrough Council
17 December 2022 at 09:57

The persistence and professionalism of a Middlesbrough street warden has been commended after she saved a stricken elderly woman trapped in her flat.

Responding to a call from a concerned GP after a missed appointment, Liz and colleague Alan Kelly were tasked to a property off Linthorpe Road but quickly found the 89-year-old resident wasn't answering her buzzer.

Trying neighbours and the building management, Liz managed to gain entry to the building and persevered at the w... See more



Middlesbrough Council
11 December 2022 at 09:11

Idiotic fly-tippers who were caught red-handed dumping rubbish in Middlesbrough have received £400 fines.

The brazen law-breakers were either caught on camera or left their details in the goods they dumped in separate incidents at Ayresome Park Road and Exchange Walk.

This allowed investigators to track them down... See more



Middlesbrough Council
19 December 2022 at 13:50

The seizure of an untaxed vehicle in Middlesbrough has led to a haul of illicit tobacco being seized by Middlesbrough Trading Standards.

The untaxed vehicle, a Volkswagen Passat, was discovered on Acton Street in Middlesbrough town centre by Neighbourhood Safety Wardens last month.

After being removed, the vehicle was inspected and found to contain more than 5,600 illicit cigarettes and 1.5kg of illicit hand rolling tobacco.... See more



Middlesbrough Council
17 December 2022 at 18:04

A house has been closed down in relation to alleged drug dealing and disorder after partnership work between the council, Cleveland Police and the local community.

Officers had received 38 reports since September regarding incidents at a property on Meath Street and two occupants have now left.

It follows a successful application at Teesside Crown Court this week. ... See more



DIRECTORATE PRIORITIES Town Centre Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Action Plan

Town Centre ASB & Crime Action Plan

- Funding secured to deliver ASB & Crime Action Plan approved (£1,962,000)
- New dedicated Town Centre Enforcement Team will be live February 2023:
- 12 Town Centre Enforcement Officers
- 1 x Town Centre Enforcement Manager
- 3 x Police Officers (3x pairs of boots on the ground, paid for when they are there only) by April 2023
- Working 8am – 8pm Monday to Sunday
- 8 staff out every day: 4 Officers between 8 am – 11 am, 8 Officers between 11 am – 5 pm and 4 Officers between 5 pm – 8 pm
- PSPO in TS1 is now extended for 3 years and includes bin rummaging and 'chugging' - when those without a proper licence ask people to donate money or sign up to charitable schemes
- Funding will cover the cost of 2 years membership of the Middlesbrough Retail Crime Partnership (MRCP) for 100 town centre businesses

Town Centre ASB & Crime Action Plan

- 'Make your spare change count' campaign relaunched – aimed at encouraging the public to give directly to local organisations and charities that support homeless people in Middlesbrough ([Small Change | Middlesbrough Council](#))
- Investigating the availability of cheap alcohol:
 - Visits have been made to 36 off licence premises in the town centre
 - A Cumulative Impact Policy (CIP) has been in place for off licence premises in the town centre since 2015 – all new

premises have conditions on their licences which prohibit the sale of high strength products with an ABV above 6.5%.

- Proposal to continue with the CIP policy – consultation to start in February 2023.
- Review of the licence for 22-24 Princes Road which resulted in the revocation of their licence.
- Objections to an application to extend the opening hours for Morrison’s Local, Corporation Road. Hearing on 10th Jan.
- Successful funding bid for a street audit to be carried out to identify rough sleeping locations, types of alcohol products consumed (through litter and visuals) and potentially the off licences which are selling them.

Town Centre ASB & Crime Action Plan

- New CCTV installed in the town centre and Middlesbrough Council has been successful in securing funding to provide an additional CCTV Operative for the nighttime economy. This is in place until the end of March 2023 and covers from 6pm to 6am Thursday through to Sunday/ Early hours of Monday morning
- Town Centre ASB & Crime Grant Fund launched: businesses can apply for up to £2,000 to put new initiatives in place to tackle causes of anti-social behaviour
- Establishing a new NTE Board and appointing a Place Management Specialist to carry out NTE audit
- New marketing and communications plan for town centre (launching January 23 – December 24) to:
 - Change perceptions - alter the conversation - disrupt the narrative
 - Support new and established businesses through increased footfall and spend
 - Attract more investment

THE TIME AHEAD

Neighbourhood Watch. As a council we are linking with Neighbourhood Watch nationally. There are neighbourhood watches running across Middlesbrough at present and we are hoping to introduce more across the town. Further details will be given at the next meeting. There are existing Neighbourhood Watch schemes across Middlesbrough and councillors are encouraged to join a local neighbourhood watch and to promote it. Councillors are also encouraged to find suitable residents who may wish to start a neighbourhood watch scheme.

Cllr Tony Grainge

18/1/23