



**Elected Mayor and
Executive Member Reports
and additional Executive
decision information**

Council Meeting: 5 July 2023



INTRODUCTION

This document contains the Elected Mayor and Executive Member reports relevant to the Council meeting to be held on **5 July 2023**.

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 Elected Mayor and 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 – Democratic and Registration Manager - (01642) 729714



THE MAYOR AND EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

COUNCIL MEETING: 5 JULY 2023

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SECTION 2 – Table of Executive decisions taken and that have been through the Call-In period, since the last booklet, published on 29 March 2023.

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.

EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORT TO COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND PUBLIC HEALTH – THE MAYOR

DATE OF MEETING: 05 July 2023

1. 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: *We will work to address the causes of vulnerability and inequalities in Middlesbrough and safeguard and support those made vulnerable.*

Levick Court CQC Result

2. Members will be pleased to know that Levick Court (the Council's only in-house care home for adults) has been rated as good by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) during an inspection in April this year. The inspection considered a number of factors including "is the service safe?" and "Is the Service well-led?" On all assessment criteria the service was rated as "good". This is a great achievement and a testament to the hard work of all involved in the service.
3. About the service: 22 Levick Court is a residential care home providing personal care to up to 16 people. At the time of the inspection 8 people were living at the home. People's experience of using this service and what we found.
4. Right Support: People were supported to have maximum choice and control of their lives and staff supported them in the least restrictive way possible and in their best interests; the policies and systems in the service supported this practice. People benefitted from the interactive and stimulating environment. There was a sensory room available for people to access freely.
5. Staff focused on people's strengths and promoted what they could do, so people had a fulfilling and meaningful everyday life. People had a choice about their living environment and were able to personalise their rooms.
6. The service was registered with CQC prior to the publication of the Right support, right care, right culture guidance. The service was larger than recommended by current best practice guidance. However, the building had been separated into smaller living areas.

7. Right Care: People were supported to make daily living choices. There were positive relationships between people and staff, which meant people were treated with dignity and respect. People's care, treatment and support plans reflected their range of needs, and this promoted their wellbeing and enjoyment of life. Staff understood their safeguarding responsibilities.
8. Right Culture: People were supported by staff who understood best practice in relation to the wide range of strengths, impairments or sensitivities people with a learning disability and autistic people.

HIGHLIGHTS

ADULT SOCIAL CARE



Care Home Visits

9. As part of my portfolio I have started to visit care homes in Middlesbrough to gain a deeper insight into the care that they provide their residents. It is also an excellent chance to meet the residents and pay thanks to the staff who provide their care. The first two I have visited are The Willows and Windemere Grange, who had really interesting but slightly different approaches in regards to residents with dementia. However, the common thread throughout was the importance of understanding everyone as an individual and their history.

Staff Recruitment and retention

10. Middlesbrough, as well as other local authorities, is facing struggles with recruitment and retention especially for social workers. The Council is exploring several initiatives to address this. For example, we're upgrading our recruitment site online and looking to simplify the application process as well as trialling a small number of Social Worker apprenticeships and we're seeking to increase those numbers. We're also working with colleagues from the NHS to look at how we work together on recruitment processes for roles where we overlap with the NHS.

PUBLIC PROTECTION

11. Going forward there will be a particular focus on reducing criminal spending power by disrupting premises such as the two examples below. It is important to stress that the sale of such products is often to fund organised crime rather than help residents get cheaper goods.

Example 1 - The Mixture Shop on Norfolk Place

12. This shop has been banned from trading for three months following an investigation by Middlesbrough Council Trading Standards.
13. Officers began an investigation into suspected sales of illicit tobacco and non-compliant nicotine-containing vapes following complaints of sales to under-age people.
14. Concerns about anti-social behaviour linked to the shop had also been reported to the Council and to Police.
15. Under antisocial behaviour legislation, Middlesbrough Council was granted a closure order at Teesside Magistrates Court, meaning the premises cannot be used for the purposes of any business for the three-month period.
16. Shop owner Talib Taha, who was present at the hearing, was also ordered to pay £951 towards the Council's costs.
17. As part of their investigation officers visited the shop on May 25 during a joint exercise with police and other agencies and seized more than 500 non-compliant nicotine-containing vapes, worth more than £5,000. I was in attendance during the operation and the officers did an amazing job finding a very well concealed hiding place.

Example 2 - Johns News on Linthorpe Road

18. This shop has been banned by Teesside Magistrates Court from trading for three months following a swoop by Middlesbrough Council Trading Standards.
19. The move – under antisocial behaviour legislation – followed the seizure of 1,285 non-compliant vapes worth more than £15,000.
20. Officers visited the shop on April 21 following complaints of vape sales to under-age people and found the substantial haul hidden in crisp boxes, inside a bin, under cardboard and inside a bed frame.
21. All the products contained illegal quantities of nicotine, with some labelled as containing 0% nicotine while others were labelled as containing between four and ten thousand puffs. All failed to comply with product labelling laws including a lack of necessary health warnings.
22. On Tuesday 6 June, District Judge Marie Mallon ordered a three-month closure of the store and ordered the operator Harpreet Singh to pay £1,500 towards the Council's costs.

THE TIME AHEAD

Cumulative Impact Statement

23. This is now being drafted as we have been previously hindered by only being able to reference it. However, there is a clear need for the policy to be in place. Having a Cumulative Impact Statement in place will be a tool to prevent excess alcohol distribution in areas that are heavily impacted by alcohol related ASB and health impacts.

Homelessness

24. I will be undertaking a Deep-Dive into homelessness in order to reduce the levels of rough sleepers in the town but to also improve the move on process to help people find stability.

Health inequalities report

25. It has been clear for some time that health inequalities in Middlesbrough are below national trends. It is important to examine this issue from a Middlesbrough-centric perspective as significant inequalities exist between electoral wards. Doing so will help us understand what actions can be taken to address such inequalities. Addressing Health Inequalities will inform the anti-poverty work being carried out by the Deputy Mayor.

NAME: The Mayor Chris Cooke

DATE: 05 July 2023

EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORT TO COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: EDUCATION AND CULTURE – CLLR PHILIPPA STOREY

DATE OF MEETING: 05 July 2023

1. 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: *Improve Outcomes for Children and Young People*

2. I have had inspirational meetings with Holiday Action Fund (HAF) and the Public Health Teams. and I would like to thank HAF and the Public Health Team for their dedication to helping families and children across Middlesbrough and Redcar Cleveland.

Strategic Priority: *Invest in our existing culture assets, create new spaces and events, and improve access to culture*

3. Improving access to our cultural assets is crucial both in terms of people and physical assets and strengthening Middlesbrough's grassroots music scene was one of the Mayor's election pledges. One example of this is my attendance at Music Inc Amplify and Band Jam seeing first-hand how our young people are creating grass roots music. I'd like to thank both organisations for the amazing work they do.
4. We are investing in our physical cultural assets; a stage has been purchased for our events team and there are already requests coming in from other local authorities to hire it. This initiative will not only see the enhancement of our own events but will generate future income.
5. We are currently experiencing a shortage of events technicians and I plan to approach 50 Futures along with Community Learning to see if any apprenticeships can be established to fill this gap.
6. The Town Hall team are making further links with grass roots music organisers. The BBC *Introducing Komparisson* was held at the Town Hall Crypt and was a brilliant celebration of local music talent.
7. The Museums team have out done themselves with the fantastic Titanic exhibition. Big thank you to JR and his team at the Doorman Museum. The Exhibition has proven to be the highest grossing commercial exhibition to date across the Tees Valley Museums attracting 5630 visitors, generating £29,004 of ticket sales.

8. The Town Hall hosted a Taste of Africa Day organised by Sticks and Stones and supported by the Council's Events Team. It was a privilege to take part in the music and meet members of our black African community, including our first black African councillor, John Kabuye.

HIGHLIGHTS

EDUCATION

9. I have visited several schools and Colleges both in and around Middlesbrough, including Trinity Catholic College, Discovery and Middlesbrough College. I also plan on visiting all secondary schools and primary schools by the end of October to discuss a range of issues and how schools can be supported.
10. Middlesbrough Development Corporation (MDC) has created barriers for Outwood Riverside to extend into another building temporarily this September by denying access. We have been working with the Department for Education and the Mayor and the Council will put pressure on the MDC and to resolve this in the interests of our young people.
11. In June the DfE's Priority Area programme will benefit local primary schools with Local Area Needs Funding for literacy. This includes better teaching of reading, and better use of targeted interventions. The 10 schools which expressed an interest in benefitting from the programme were:
 - Ayresome Primary School
 - Berwick Hills Primary School
 - Breckon Hill Primary School
 - Caldicotes Primary Academy
 - Easterside Academy
 - Newport Primary School
 - North Ormesby Primary Academy
 - Pennyman Primary Academy
 - St Gerard's RC Primary School
 - Thorntree Academy

CULTURE

12. Music events continue to form a crucial part of Middlesbrough's cultural offer, with several high-profile acts visiting us. The Apollo Male Voice performed a concert to raise money to restore the Albert Park Clock. Established 136 years ago the Choir performed an excellent set consisting of a mix of music from well-known musicals to operatic arias.
13. The Riverside Stadium played host to Arctic Monkeys on 5th June who played to over 32,000 fans. The show not only reinforced Middlesbrough as a destination for big acts, it also generated additional economic benefits to the town equating to £978,560 based on STEAM data.
14. Albert Park was also played host to big music names including Madness the Lets Rock event. Both were very well attended and attracted 13,000 people collectively injected

nearly £400,000 into the local economy. Both events received excellent feedback with some saying the Let's Rock event was the best venue the event had played at. Both events were well planned and co-ordinated, and I'd like to express my thanks to our events team, Holly and Adam.

THE TIME AHEAD

15. The Department of Education need to find appropriate space for the temporary extension of Outwood Riverside for next September. Their proposal to use the car park near Cineworld for children is not acceptable.
16. A significant portion of my future work will be to develop a Middlesbrough Poverty Strategy. Naturally this is a very broad, cross cutting piece of work and will involve discussion with both internal and external stakeholders. It is my intention to establish a cross party, cross departmental approach that places struggling families and individuals at the heart of council policy.
17. The levels of child poverty in Middlesbrough are some of the highest in the country. Child poverty has increased to 48.7%. This equates to 13,945 children over the past 13 years. Following the election in May, I have immediately begun to meet experts from across the country to share ideas and begin to review our child poverty strategy.

NAME: Cllr Philippa Storey
DATE: 05.07.2023

EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORT TO COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: CHILDREN'S SERVICES - CLLR ZAFAR UDDIN

DATE OF MEETING: 05 July 2023

1. 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: *We will show Middlesbrough's children that they matter and work to make our town safe and welcoming and to improve outcomes for all children and young people.*

2. First, I would like to bring briefly to everyone's attention that, formal grading of 'Requires Improvement' noting improvements since last Ofsted Inspection in 2019. Areas of good practice were highlighted including.
 - Early Help & MACH (Multi Agency Children's Hub) – thresholds and responses.
 - Work of the virtual schools.
 - The response to children who are missing.
 - Monitoring those children who are electively home educated.
 - The Aspire (Exploitation) Team.
 - Our work with Children with Disabilities.
 - Children Looked After – early permanence and permanence planning – one of the best performing in the region.
3. There remain some partnerships that require strengthening, including health to enable further improvements to take place.
4. Ofsted Identified 6 key areas to improve upon:
 - The consistency of planning for children, including the quality of written children's plans, contingency planning, and evidence of challenge when plans do not progress.
 - Management oversight and the quality of supervision to demonstrate that this is consistently driving plans for children.
 - Stability of the workforce to minimise the number of allocated workers for children.
 - Arrangements for identifying and safeguarding children who are in private fostering arrangements – our numbers are very low.

- The corporate parenting response for ongoing support to care leavers, particularly those aged over 21, when they need it.
- The opportunities for children and young people in care to be involved in the development of services for them.
- This work will be addressed through the post-ILACS action plan. Ofsted are due to visit again in September 2023.

5. As this is a broad issue, I have broken the below into different categories.

Staff Recruitment and Retention

6. The Director of Children's Services (DCS) role & two Heads of Service (HOS) roles are being advertised out this week – There are five HOS roles in total however we are staggering recruitment to manage impact in terms of organisational knowledge and retaining some stability for the staff, who feel well supported by the current leadership team.
7. Social Worker, Team Managers and Service Managers are starting to be advertised too – with adverts being updated and in response to the more positive Ofsted report.
8. We had a target to convert eight agency staff to permanent, seven in progress – three more identified including Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO), Team Managers and Social Workers.
9. Some of the roles are being advertised internally and to existing agency staff before external recruitment to encourage more conversion.
10. Positive to note that recent external adverts have attracted more interest than previously for example one Team Manager post attracted seven applicants and a social work post attracted six applicants.
11. We also have the newly developed academy, a 'grow your own' model, where 1st cohort of 13 NQSW have recently gone into the various service areas.
12. We have a Recruitment and Retention offer in place including a Market Forces Supplement of 15% for social workers, together with the potential of a Re-location Package.

Risks to delivery

13. Lack of Qualified Social Workers nationally.
14. Middlesbrough is a challenging place to work – demand and complexity high, poverty, not easily accessible etc – this could have an impact on permanent Recruitment.

Reduce external residential placements.

15. Continue to recruit more in-house foster carers & reduce need for the use of Independent Fostering Agencies (IFA)'s.
16. This is having positive results. Last year we recruited only 2 in-house foster carers. However, we increased the offer to our foster carers in January 2023, to include remuneration (in-line with IFA carers) along with increased support and training. To date we have assessed and approved 5 new foster carers. There are 10 more who will be approved at panels between now and September 2023 – in total we will have homes for 21 children. We also have 3 additional applications to progress.
17. Reducing use of High-cost external placements and externally commissioned services.
18. Making the best use of our existing of our existing homes in terms of levels of occupancy (matching and staffing).
19. Increasing our internal residential provision by purchasing properties in the local area, which means we can look at bring children closer to home and their families.
20. Reviewing high-cost placements, care packages, exit from care strategies and timescales on a regular and frequent basis.
21. Increased scrutiny around bringing children into care/ request for placements.

Risks to delivery.

22. The purchase/ renovation of properties has not progressed as quickly as had been anticipated in the budget setting/ savings plan.
23. There is a national shortage of placements – residential care, IFA and in-house residential. Placement costs have increased as a result.

HIGHLIGHTS & TIME AHEAD

24. I have recently visited our five lovely children's home, many thanks to Rob Hamer, our Interim Head of Service Residential Supported Accommodation, Resource Care Leavers, who has shown me around some of our children's homes. Had chatted to members of the staff who spoke with pride about their work and enjoy working in Middlesbrough. and many of the children and young people happily living there.
25. I was invited to attend Children's care SMT away day by Claire Sowerby, our Interim Director of Children's Care, where I met several senior managers, team managers and officers of children's services. I was seemingly honoured and privileged to have a lovely welcome by all at the meeting. It was so nice to see every team highlighted relevant issues and shared each team's prepared care plans for our children and young people's needs. I also have had the opportunity of attending my first meeting with Multi Agency Strategy Improvement Board Meeting. I am now in the process of meeting all our other teams i.e., Fostering, Adoption,

Virtual School, Poverty Prevention Strategy, Youth Provisions Providers and Youth Justice team etc.

26. "While the latest inspection found our department is improving in every area, it also sets out that we must continue to improve". As I said previously the new report is a step forward but there is so much still to do, we will support our hardworking, enthusiastic, and dedicated staff and offer appropriate challenge to help secure the changes and improvement we need to make.

NAME: Cllr Zafar Uddin

DATE: 05.07.2023.

EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORT TO COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: COMMUNITY SAFETY – CLLR JANET THOMPSON

DATE OF MEETING: 05 July 2023

1. 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: *We will tackle crime and anti-social behaviour head on, working with our partners to ensure local people feel safer.*

2. Middlesbrough Council Neighbourhood Safety Team have been working closely with Cleveland Police, Thirteen Group, Cleveland Fire Brigade and other partners within the Middlesbrough Community Safety Partnership to tackle the issue of off-road bikes within Middlesbrough. The Council linked in with Cleveland Polices off road bike force to lead and developed a process where the use of Community Protection Notices are being used to support action to prevent this behaviour when perpetrators are identified.
3. The Community Safety team are working with the Road Policing Team to plan regular action days with the use of the off-road bike team attending hot spot areas in Middlesbrough.

Operation Artemis

4. In the last 6 weeks Middlesbrough Council have joined forces with Cleveland Police under Operation Artemis.
5. Operation Artemis kicked off in Middlesbrough on April 22nd, starting with a briefing by District Commander Superintendent Marc Anderson. He said, "Our officers, along with partner agencies, will be out across Middlesbrough today to target those who cause misery to our communities. A man in his thirties has been arrested on suspicion of theft of a motor vehicle after a stolen motorcycle was recovered at a property in Kelfield Avenue".
6. DCS Anderson went on to say "In the last seven days both Cleveland Police, Thirteen Group in partnership with Middlesbrough Council have seized 8 off road bikes from properties across East Middlesbrough".
7. As part of Operation Artemis 11 vehicles were seized from Binks Street, Haywood Street, Parliament Road and Chester Street areas of Middlesbrough. Abandoned

vehicles identified by the Environmental Team at Middlesbrough Council received a warning, with stickers applied to windscreens. Those not removed within a seven-day period were seized. Other untaxed vehicles were also removed from roads, using five vehicle recovery trucks.

Additional Partnership Work

8. A joint exercise was carried out on the 9th June involving a Neighbourhood Safety Officer from Middlesbrough Council, Thirteen Housing Group and the Neighbourhood Policing Team. Having been provided with CCTV footage of an adult male and a youth riding an off-road motorbike on Bamboo Way the Neighbourhood Safety Officer worked with partners and was able to identify the male and youth. As a result they carried out home visits to two addresses in East Middlesbrough where a stolen motorbike was found and seized (image below.) The Council will also be taking formal action against 2 people and Thirteen Housing will also be taking tenancy action.
9. This is a great example of partnership working which highlights to residents what results can be achieved when we are able to identify those responsible for causing motorbike nuisance.

Central Library - Redevelopment

10. Middlesbrough Council received £2.6m from the first round of the Cultural Development Fund to transform Central Library to become a captivating space that children and young people will love to visit. Public Access in Central Library will be extended by transforming large parts of the unoccupied/underused 1970's annex building to create a dedicated events and activities space, IT Suite and Family History Area.
11. Central Library is scheduled to close at the end of October 2023 for approximately 7/9 months and staff are currently working from a temporary base to retain a library presence in the Town Centre during the refurbishment period. Numerous options have been considered with an empty unit in the Cleveland Centre currently the preferred option subject to relevant checks.
12. Central Library will reopen in the Summer 2024 providing a modern and welcoming environment which is accessible to everyone. A new fully accessible fireproof passenger lift will also be installed to facilitate access to all public levels within the building along with much needed public toilets and baby changing facilities and a new shared events space will also be created in partnership with MIMA.

AIM (active intelligence mapping)

13. I am now a regular attendee at our monthly AIM meetings. These meetings are attended by our partner agencies, and we look at analytical data in relation to Anti-Social Behaviour, fires, crime & environmental crime.
14. The information is then plotted onto a map of Middlesbrough which highlights clusters of problematic areas & emerging trends. Services then utilise this data to deploy and/or co-ordinate resources accordingly. If an area becomes extremely

problematic and requires longer term in-depth work, task and finish groups will be developed. We currently have 2, focusing on Hemlington and Norfolk Shops area.

Safer Streets update

15. Members may recall that Community Safety Officers successfully applied for Safer Streets funding last year. Just under £700k was awarded to address antisocial behaviour within Hemlington and Berwick Hills/Pallister Wards. A press release is currently being drafted to demonstrate what the funding has been spent on. Some of the projects include;

- 10 additional CCTV cameras installed in Hemlington & Pallister Park
- 64 lighting columns upgraded around Hemlington Lake & Viewley Centre
- Community Development Worker employed to work with wider community
- Professional Witness Service developed to assist with evidence gathering
- Planters around Viewley Centre removed
- Barriers installed opposite St Timothy's Church in conjunction with demolition
- Closure of Cass House Road underpass – work to commence July 2023
- All shrubbery around underpass & lake has been cut down
- Bins removed opposite underpass
- Floating bedrooms – work underway with Thirteen & Highways to remove problematic alleyways in Hemlington
- 10 dual use bins installed in Hemlington & Pallister
- Kick rails installed at Darras Walk & Ellerby Green to deter motorbikes
- Community newsletter developed for Pallister & Hemlington
- 1000 target hardening packs purchased (includes window/door alarms, sash jammers, plug in timers, dusk till dawn lights etc). Police Crime Prevention fitting in vulnerable properties
- Hemlington Boxing Gym developed
- Youth Focus North-East awarded £9k to deliver outreach within Pallister Park
- Resurfacing work of Hemlington Multi Use Games Area
- Metal shutters for void properties purchased
- Funded Fire Brigade Courses for young people involved in fire setting

Night-time economy funding bid

16. An evaluation has been carried out following the allocation of £61,500, which was provided by the office for the police and crime commissioner (OPCC) to tackle violence within Middlesbrough town centre. Middlesbrough Council have delivered a range of initiatives that included a Night-Time Economy Safety Campaign which involved;

- Licensed Premise staff /door supervisor's awareness messages
- Social media messages / posters displayed in licensed premises
- Bottle stoppers/ Anti spiking cup toppers
- Drink spiking test strips
- Challenge 25 campaign

17. In addition to the safety campaign the funding was spent on;

- £3000 issued to Boro Angels for emergency ponchos, blankets, flip flops, bottles of water, lollipops, first-aid kits, staff clothing, safety and radio equipment. 600 clients engaged with during funding period
- Development and Provision of an E-Learning Training Platform to provide the training for staff, licensees and door staff of all 49 licensed premises (44 received)
- Development of part time Training Coordinator post.
- Additional CCTV operator deployed to work 12 hour shifts Friday and Saturday evenings and Bank Holidays totalling 468 additional hours (Dec-March)
- Multi-agency street audit completed.
- Custody literature - Drug / alcohol and violence specific literature to be used in Police custody suite. 132 interventions carried out
- Teesside University student safety equipment (12,500 testing strips, drink covers, drink spikeys, personal attack alarms, bike locks, window/door locks & small torches)
- 110 knife wands issued to 55 licensed premises (x2 each)
- Evaluation of the project utilising data analysis & street audit results completed (report sent to OPCC)

HIGHLIGHTS

MVDA – Middlesbrough Volunteering Academy

18. I attended an event organised by Middlesbrough Voluntary Development Agency (MVDA) to celebrate their organisation being awarded nearly £314,000 by the National Lottery Community Fund to create a Volunteering Academy in the town, the first of its kind in the North-east. The news was announced at a launch event on Thursday 8th June in which representatives from nearly 50 voluntary organisations learnt of the ambitious plans to make Middlesbrough an 'inclusive volunteering town'.



The Academy aims to fill the gap in the local volunteering support by providing training, ongoing support, good practice advice and guidance for volunteers, community groups and volunteer-involving organisations. Having all things volunteering in one single place and contact point is expected to help remove barriers to volunteering, confusion about where to go and how to get support. The Academy will operate virtually with no physical school of study or central building, however the services available will be both online as well as face-to-face using a range of local community venues giving easy access to local people.

19. The launch is timely, as the number of people volunteering is in decline according to the latest research. This is leaving charities and community groups struggling to provide services which so often rely on volunteers giving up their time.

20. During the pandemic many older volunteers gave up their roles to shielding and haven't returned, whilst charities report a lack of confidence being a major barrier to taking the first steps into volunteering. The cost of living has also had an impact with people taking on extra paid work in their previously spare time or not being able to afford the extra costs associated such as travel. Finally, the rise in long-term health conditions and the mental health crisis means the more typical volunteering role just doesn't suit the modern day needs of people who may require extra support to get involved.
21. MVDA has seen these challenges and developed the concept of the Volunteering Academy, having run the Middlesbrough Volunteer Centre on a shoe-string budget for many years, wanting to do more and change the offer to meet modern demands, but lacking the funding.
22. Thankfully, the award from the National Lottery Community Fund will enable a three-year programme to begin developing the Academy.

Community Safety Partnership

23. I attended my first community safety partnership (CSP) meeting in May and it was great to see how closely our strategic partners are working together to tackle crime and disorder. The CSP are looking to introduce a performance management dashboard to measure month-on-month changes in the identified drivers within the strategic needs assessment and serious violence problem profile.
24. The problem profile identifies and recommends focus on early intervention to prevent serious violence. Based on this recommendation AIM hotspots now track violent themes to identify repeat locations for violence so we do not see these develop into serious violence incidents. Officers have also developed a close working relationship with OPCC's CURV (Cleveland Unit for the Reduction of Violence) who now attend all CSP and AIM meetings.
25. Work is also underway to review the community safety plan priorities for the year ahead and officers will be refreshing the health and crime map with public health to further understand issues within the town around health-related issues.

THE TIME AHEAD

Locality working, Neighbourhood Action Partnership and keeping people updated

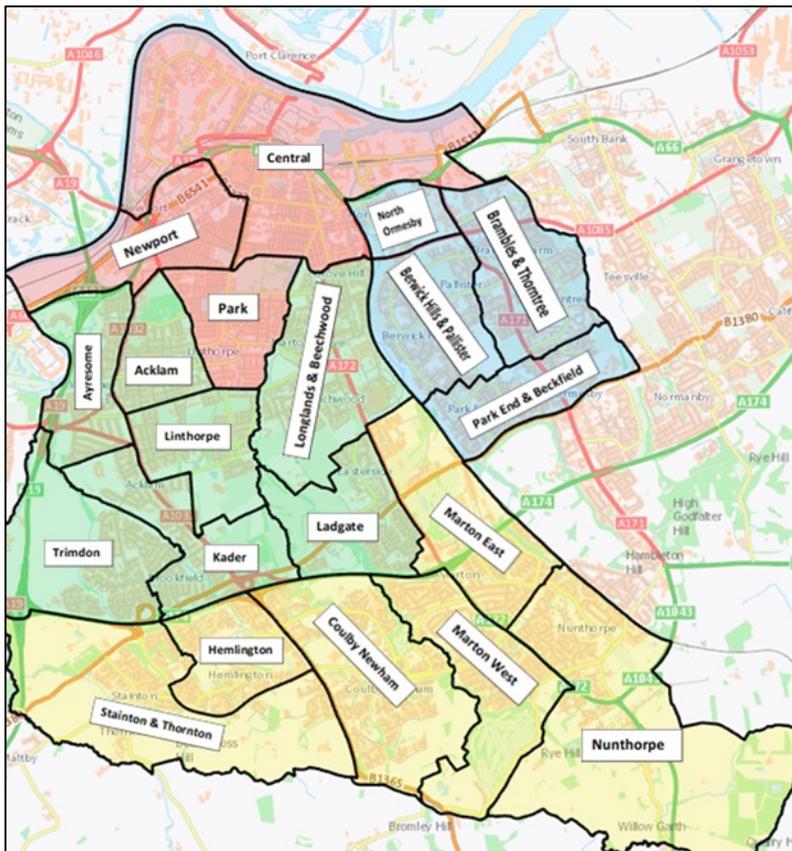
26. As the newly appointed Executive Member I am keen to introduce a system that keeps residents and partners informed and updated about the issues that matter to them. This means letting people know what is happening in their neighbourhood and giving people the opportunity to get involved in activities in their area.
27. I would like to build on the great work that has been achieved through Locality Working, a multi-agency approach at a neighbourhood level. Whilst we are not

complacent and we understand that there is still lots of work to be done, I recognise that there has been some real successes in Newport and Hemlington where this approach is in place. The benefits of having key partners work from one location should not be underestimated, current Locality Hubs have partners such as the Council, Police, Thirteen Housing, Habinteg Housing, Probation, Youth Offending, Early Help, Social Care working together linking in with schools, collages, businesses, charities and community groups as well as the local community.

28. With this in mind, I will be introducing four Neighbourhood Action Partnerships across Middlesbrough i.e.

- North at Newport Hub,
- East (to be confirmed),
- South (Hemlington)
- West.

29. These neighbourhood action partnerships will see multi agency hubs in each area and we will produce an electronic newsletter on a regular basis so that people know what is happening locally. The map below indicates the four areas:



NAME: Cllr Janet Thompson
DATE: 05.07.2023

EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORT TO COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: ENVIRONMENT – CLLR DAVID BRANSON

DATE OF MEETING: 05 July 2023

1. 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 Priorities: *We will work closely with local communities to protect our green spaces and make sure that our roads, streets and open spaces are well-designed, clean and safe.*

Roads and Highways

A66

2. Works are about to commence on replacing the column head and bearing on Column 20B on the A66. In addition, tenders are being prepared for repairs to the A174 Marton Exchange overbridge, the Borough Road flyover and the A66 Newport interchange bridges.

Carriageways

3. The first stages of the 2023/4 carriageway resurfacing programme are underway and by the end of June over 37,000 sqm of road will have been resurfaced. This accounts for about half of the planned work, with the later stages to commence in July 2023.

Bridges

4. A structural analysis of the Transporter Bridge has been carried out and has indicated several areas of overstress which will need further investigation.

Highways

5. The programme of verge replacement and footway improvements for 2023/4 is now well underway with work completed at Alverton Green, Breckon Hill Road and Grantley Avenue. In addition, Zebra Crossings have been installed at St Marys Walk and Glendale Road.

Flood Management

6. A second survey of highway gullies has been carried out which has identified the silt level and condition of each gully. This will be used to develop a risk-based approach to gully cleaning. Highways continue to work with the Environment Agency and Northumbria Water to develop a proactive flood risk management system.

Potholes

7. During 2022/3 the council repaired 5300 potholes at various locations throughout Middlesbrough. Since April of this year, a further 550 potholes have been repaired but it is expected that repairs at 5000 locations will be carried out by the end of the financial year.

Refuse and Recycling

8. The main problem here is the contamination of blue recycling bins which causes problems with the recycling process. The council will continue to remind residents of what can and cannot be recycled. Any bins found to be contaminated will be marked with a sticker and will not be emptied.
9. The Waste Education Officer continues to work with residents, community groups and schools to spread the message about recycling. Recently there were visits to Thorntree Academy, Newport Primary School and Discovery Academy.

Green Spaces

10. The council continues to promote the Urban Meadow project with seed sowing now approximately 60% complete. The summer bedding programme will commence w/c 19th June, and town centre hanging baskets will be installed in that month.
11. Walk the Ward meetings have now commenced and will run on through the year. They give councillors a chance to meet the Area Care management team so as to deal with pressing issues in their ward.

The Green Strategy

12. We have completed Year 2 of the Green Strategy and Year 3 is underway. Action plans for Year 3 have been drawn up to be delivered by nine action groups.
13. The key achievements from Year 2 included
 - Developing four new community growing gardens
 - Installing new vehicle charging points in various locations across the town
 - Holding an ECO festival with over 5,000 attendees
14. The aims for year 3 include
 - Developing decarbonisation plans for Middlesbrough Leisure Centres
 - Piloting the use of clean air monitors in four schools

- Working with the TVCA to promote the Net Zero Tees Valley Strategy
- Developing a long-term food strategy for Middlesbrough

Asset Management

15. Property & Commercial Services are completing a new Asset Management Framework that will help to protect property in the borough in line with the council strategic priorities. To effect this, the department is completing a 3-year rolling maintenance programme in respect of service area facilities. All council buildings are being assessed to ensure that they are fit for occupation. In addition, energy audits have been carried out in order to see how carbon emissions and overall energy consumption can be better controlled. This will also fit into the Green Agenda.

Cleaning and Commercial Services

16. The council continues to provide cleaning services to 28 Schools, but it is becoming a fiercely competitive market. Apart from this, the council continues to provide a cleaning service for its own buildings council buildings and manages the Middlesbrough Bus Station.

17. The North Ormesby market is being expanded to include extra stalls so as to improve the shopping experience. A local fete is being organised for the 30th July with the local councillor and local organisations involved.

Bereavement Services

18. The council operates five cemeteries in the town and provides a burials and cremation service. The number of cremations in 2022/3 is slightly down on the previous year from 2144 to 1925 but burials were up slightly from 412 to 434. The service also caters for the needs of a direct creation service which is increasingly in demand in the UK.

HIGHLIGHTS

Community Gardens

19. The council continues to develop the number of Community Gardens in the borough. Recently a team from Tees Valley Wildlife helped to clear the overgrown orchard at the side of Lingfield Farm in Coulby Newham, providing a location for a new Community Garden. In addition, the overgrown pond was drained making it better able to sustain a wider range of aquatic life.



THE TIME AHEAD

Use of Pesticides

20. I am also keen to see a reduction in the use of pesticides to control grassed areas in the town. The overuse of pesticides does not encourage biodiversity and instead creates an environmental hazard. This would also link into the Green Agenda presently being pursued by the council. The aim would be to provide a more sustainable grassland system such as presently is to be found in areas such as on the verges at Stainton Way.

NAME: Cllr David J Branson
DATE: 05.07.2023

EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORT TO COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: FINANCE & GOVERNANCE – CLLR NICKY WALKER

DATE OF MEETING: 05 July 2023

1. 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: *We will ensure that we place communities at the heart of what we do, continue to deliver value for money and enhance the reputation of Middlesbrough*

2. Much of my time during my first few weeks on the Executive has been spent understanding the financial position that has been inherited by this new administration, and I felt it important that I share the stark reality of that position with all members, especially for the benefit of new members.

Financial position at 31 March 2023

3. The information set out below has been taken mainly from Year End Outturn Reports, the budget reports for the 2023/24 Revenue Budget of 27.02.23 (particularly the report of the s151 officer), the Annual Audit Report for 2020/21 of June 2023 and the findings of CIPFA in their independent review.

Level of Reserves

a) General Fund Reserves

4. The General Fund Reserve is the fund of last resort and should only be used in exceptional circumstances to address matters that arise due to external factors and are largely beyond the council's control.
5. The then Section 151 Officer's report to Council which accompanied the reports on the 2023/24 Budget of 27.02.23 stated that the level of the General Fund Reserve of £12million set for 2023/24 was considered to represent, following the appropriate risk assessments, the minimum level of general balances.

b) Usable Earmarked Reserves

6. Earmarked reserves are held to cover known specific risks internal to the Council and should be used for one-off purposes. However, they have been drawn on to fund overspends in recent years. Usable earmarked reserves have reduced from a level of £16.2million at 31 March 2019 to £4.2million at 31 March 2023.
7. The previous s151 Officer said:
8. *'Reserves are adequate insofar as the minimum level of general balance is set at £12m, based on risk assessment; there are currently no plans for its use being the fund of last resort. However, there is little resilience in earmarked reserves, and these are at a critical level. The lack of substantial earmarked reserves means the overall reserves position, whilst adequate, is fragile and may require a reliance on cost control or the delivery of additional savings in the event of any unplanned costs'*
9. It is therefore most important to ensure that expenditure is brought back within budget during 2023/24 and to start to rebuild these reserves to provide greater financial resilience for the Council for 2024/25 and the medium term.
10. Explanatory note: The Section 151 Officer, usually the Chief Financial Officer, is appointed under section 151 of the Local Government Act 1988, and is responsible for the proper administration of the local authority's financial affairs. There is a requirement as part of setting the budget each year for the Section 151 Officer to provide a statutory report to the Council under s25 of the Act, providing assurance as to the robustness of the budget to be approved and adequacy of reserves

Delivery of Savings for 2023/24

11. The Council's 2023/24 Revenue Budget included £9.4 million of savings, necessary in order to deliver a balanced budget. An independent review of these savings by CIPFA (Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy) concluded that there is a high risk of the Council not delivering all of these planned savings and further savings are likely to be necessary.

Children's Social Care

12. There was a reported £8.3million overspend in Children's Care for the financial year 2021/2022, prior to the application of the Flexible Use of Capital Receipts.
13. The Children's Care budget was increased by £5.7million to £45.4million during 2022/23. The budget for 2023/24 was increased to £54.6m as a result of a fundamental review of the adequacy of the budget provision during the year and following successive overspends in previous years. The year-end outturn report for 2022/23, presented to the Executive on 20.07.23 reports an outturn of £54.8m, a £9.4million overspend on that £45.4million budget, after the total revenue expenditure was reduced by £0.777million through the ability to capitalise

transformation expenditure under the 'Flexible Use of Capital Receipts' policy. This overspend represents over 20% of the total Children's care budget.

14. The levels and rate of increase of overspends in Children's Services present a critical risk to the Council and expenditure must be brought under control whilst continuing to meet the statutory responsibilities with respect to Children's Social Care.
15. Explanatory note: Members may be aware that capital receipts are the money councils receive from asset sales, such as land, the use of which is normally restricted to funding other capital expenditure or paying off debt. However currently the Government allows local authorities to use the proceeds from asset sales to fund the revenue costs of projects that will reduce costs, increase revenue or support a more efficient provision of services. It is important to note that there are strict criteria from the Government around this, reflected in the Council's own Flexible Use of Capital Receipts policy and any capital receipts can only be used once.

2022/23 Year-end Outturns

16. At final pre-audited outturn for 2022/23 of £121.084million against a budget of £118.329million which represents an overspend of £2.755million.

Key external pressures

17. In common with other local authorities the Council is also faced with:
 - Persistently high inflation
 - Economic climate continues to be challenging
 - Uncertainty of medium-term position due to the one year only finance settlement from Government

Need for Strict Financial Control

18. It is essential that stricter financial control is exercised during 2023/24 to contain overall expenditure within the approved budget and to start to rebuild reserves. There is a need for both members and officers to work together to this end.

Budgetary control and management arrangements 2023/24

19. Members of LMT and the Executive have agreed a robust approach to monthly budget monitoring, control and proactive management that will include forecast of spend against budget and challenge, with early intervention and actions agreed for financial recovery.
20. The aims are to recover the Council's financial position in 2023/24 and re-build its resilience in the medium term. This will also serve to demonstrate value for money in decision making, the proactive management of risk, compliance with governance policies and procedures.

21. The Council faces a significant challenge to deliver within the approved budget in 2023/24 to avoid exhausting reserves and also to establish plans to rebuild the financial reserves of the Council to a more sustainable level from 2024 onwards.

Officer responsibility

22. Officers of LMT have agreed to implement the following key actions:

- Director Accountability Agreements
 - Leadership – to demonstrate positive commitment to managing within budget and compliance with financial and contract procedure rules.
- Monthly budget monitoring and reporting
 - Finance will issue standard monthly monitoring report to all Directors, Heads of Service and Budget holders for information and action
 - Directorates with finance support will undertake review, analysis and produce financial forecast and produce plans as required to maintain control
 - Budget review meetings – chaired by Interim Director of Finance, attended by Directors, Heads of Service, Head of Financial Planning, Finance Business Partner, Procurement and Performance colleagues as required.
- Chief Executive will hold Directors to account through monthly budget monitoring report to LMT considering:
 - Executive summary per directorate
 - Risks, opportunities, cost pressures, income optimisation
 - Underlying operational data – volume, unit costs, unit income, cost and income drivers
 - Benchmarking, service review and challenge
 - Directorate financial recovery plan

Executive responsibility:

23. All Executive Members have agreed to:

- Quarterly budget reporting to Executive to continue (no change)
- Prior to Budget report being considered by Executive
 - Member led Budget challenge sessions for each directorate
 - Chaired by Executive Member for Finance & Governance
 - Supported by Interim Director of Finance & Head of Financial Strategy & Support

Attended by:

- Director and Heads of Service as required
- Executive Member(s) for relevant Directorate/service area
- Finance Business Partner
- Procurement/ Performance colleagues as required
- Scope:

- Overview of financial position
- Scrutiny of significant variances on an exception basis
- Briefing on management actions, recovery plans,
- Frequency of member led challenge
 - Quarterly as standard
 - High risk areas arising from monthly LMT monitoring to be briefed to Mayor/ Executive Member for Finance and Governance and informal Executive as required
- Accountability and ownership
 - Executive Members to own and be accountable to the Mayor for financial performance

24. As highlighted above it is essential that officers and members worked together to address the financial challenges that currently face the Council. These arrangements for budget control and challenge are similar to those which operated up to 2019 and which I chaired at that time. Whilst I was keen for such arrangements to be reintroduced, officers had also independently drawn up proposals along similar lines for Executive Member involvement and ownership of these processes which have been welcomed by all concerned.

HIGHLIGHTS

25. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the officers who designed and have been delivering the members induction and training programme, and also those members who have attended

26. I attended sessions myself when free to do so, particularly those most closely relating to my portfolio.

27. The interactive elements of the sessions not only promoted understanding of the subject in hand but also facilitated members working collaboratively, and the setting, when utilising the Collaboration Zone in Fountain Court, enabled members across the various political groupings to meet and engage with each other.

THE TIME AHEAD

Mayor's Priorities and development of the new Council Plan 2024/25+

28. Work is underway to develop and engage with the wider public on the Mayor's priorities, to initiate the development of the new Council Plan for 2024/25-27 which will outline the ambitions and aspiration for the organisation and town.

29. The plan will include service specific plans, aligned to Council priorities, supported by detailed delivery plans which will be governed, monitored, and reported using

the established corporate programme / project methodologies, documentation and structures, in line with the Council's Programme and Project Management Policy.

Financial and Strategic Planning

30. Previous planning cycles of the Medium-Term Financial Plan and the Strategic Plan and associated delivery workplan of initiatives has seen some coordination in approach though no direct correlation and with budget planning preceding development of strategic priorities. The planning cycle for the development of the new Council Plan and budget setting for the medium term over 2024/25 to 2026/27, will be developed in a much more coordinated to approach to ensure that priorities for both the organisation and town can be delivered in line with our financial envelope.

NAME Cllr Nicky Walker
DATE 05 July 2023

EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORT TO COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: REGENERATION – CLLR THEO FURNESS

DATE OF MEETING: 05 July 2023

1. 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: *We will transform our town centre, improving accessibility, revitalising unused assets, developing iconic new spaces and building more town centre homes.*

Mayoral Development Corporation (MDC)

2. The corporation was created in February and took on planning powers on June 1st. The Council is however working with the MDC to provide planning services for three months until they are in a position to take it on fully.
3. Officers are working to secure assurance that the appropriate guiding principles for the MDC are robust, including arrangements around governance, master planning and discharging powers relating to Business Rates. Negotiations are also continuing about the transfer of assets, and the mechanisms that need to be in place to retain the value within Middlesbrough. Once assurance has been secured on all these issues, we will be able to confirm full support for the MDC.

Bus Services

4. Following the implementation of nationwide principles around the funding of concessionary fares, the majority of bus operators have confirmed that service provision will largely be unaffected. Arriva have however taken steps to significantly reduce services across Tees Valley. Negotiations are therefore continuing with Arriva to temporarily retain some of these services and explore whether they can be made more commercially attractive. The five Councils, and Tees Valley Combined Authority are seeking to utilise recently awarded transport funding to retain some of these services where possible and look at other routes that could potentially be introduced on a longer-term commercial basis.

House Building

5. One of the sites contained within the Local Plan has been put out to market for the development of affordable housing. Tenders have been returned and the site at Hemlington North will be coming to Executive in August to agree the winning bidder. The site will increase the town's options around affordable houses for families.



Larger sites will also be coming forward later in the year as the Council looks to balance the need to grow the market housing offer with affordable options for families and individuals. The Council also has aspirations around Eco homes and widening the types of homes available in the town, and these will be set out to developers and housebuilders at a housing conference to be held in the coming months.

Train Station

6. Work is progressing at pace on the development of the Station undercroft (former nightclub) and has seen a significant amount of internal demolition, ready for the steelwork supports to be brought to site. These will be installed ahead of the more detailed construction elements of creating new commercial units and reinstating the historic underpass from Zetland Road to Bridge Street West. This will open up the area through the station building, creating pedestrian throughput and reanimating an underused area.
7. This work complements the recent platform extension for the LNER trains, with creating the improved physical environment and streetscape for the impending Zetland Road public realm work. This will result in creating wider pedestrian footways and improved accessibility and connectivity between the Station and the town centre, along with new outdoor trading spaces for adjacent businesses; enabling people to enjoy the public areas in between journeys – building on the Heritage Action Zone (HAZ) funded Zetland Square scheme, creating an improved experience for both station users and people that live and work in the near area.

8. There will be future ticket office upgrades and a new platform in coming years, bringing the station into the 21st century, without forgetting its historic past and importance to the town. This will total a circa £40m investment in building facilities, resulting in a gateway to Middlesbrough for future generations.

Historic Quarter

9. Critical works to the A66 columns and power supplies are progressing to enable the installation of a temporary STACK attraction on the former SLAM nightclub site. Installation of the STACK facility should commence in the autumn with an aim to open for a full festive programme.
10. The £2.3m High Street Heritage Action Zone (HSHAZ) programme is transforming Middlesbrough's Historic Quarter by reinvigorating the area and helping to attract additional investment. With the help of a HSHAZ grant, three historic properties - 2-3 Exchange Place (former Kalinka), 2-6 Albert Road (Chequer's Nightclub) and 1 Albert Road (Bloom) have been repaired, resulting in Middlesbrough's heritage being preserved for years to come. Works are also underway at the final grant aided property, Zetland Hotel.
11. Exchange Square has been brought back to life and improvements are planned for Zetland Road to complement the £32m investment in the railway station. The HSHAZ is helping to attract additional private sector investment by Christie's Brasserie, Bloom, Muddler restaurant, Commerce House and STACK. Physical developments are complemented by community and cultural activities where the public can learn more about Middlesbrough's heritage and get involved in guided walks, visit exhibitions and learn new skills.

Captain Cook Square

12. Future High Street Fund investment in Captain Cook Square is making major progress. Landlord works have progressed in preparation for contracted tenants to take over and commence their fit outs. An excellent response has been received in response to the artwork (BobZilla) along the walkway from the car park to the main Plaza. This work has been developed in consultation with the Council's Disability Access Officer and in consultation with the Accessibility Forum.
13. Level X (brand of Lane7) opened in February 2023, is 50,000sqft of leisure and family entertainment, with the first indoor racing track (of its size and scale) in the UK, with cutting edge technology to support this.
14. Other agreed tenants include a local successful company, Dovecot, to bring a new food/drink and leisure offer, an Esports facility with interactive gaming offer and radio station. Both are proposed to open by the end of the year.



Projects are also progressing with a boutique cinema, another local tenant offering a high end food and beverage market – with host of delicacies made on site – both are heavily invested and have project teams in place to commence fit out works. Works on site (subject to planning) are scheduled to start this summer, with openings staggered between Dec 23 – February 24.

HIGHLIGHTS

BOHO site visits

15. Along with the Mayor, Cllr Matt Storey and Council officers I visited the Boho X building to have a good look around. It's going to be an amazing space for Double Eleven and will free up space for new start-ups in our other digital sector buildings so the sector can continue to grow.



Visit to the Stack at Seaburn with the Mayor

16. Along with the Mayor, I visited the Stack at Seaburn to have a look and get an idea of how it operates. We met Stack's owner, Neil Winch, to talk about how it works for the different vendors who occupy the units, the wider economic impact it's had on the surrounding area, how they manage the facilities (waste, security, Health and safety etc...) and the entertainment they put on for customers which varies greatly (paid singers, pantos, family and child friendly entertainers, seasonal events for Halloween, Christmas and easter).



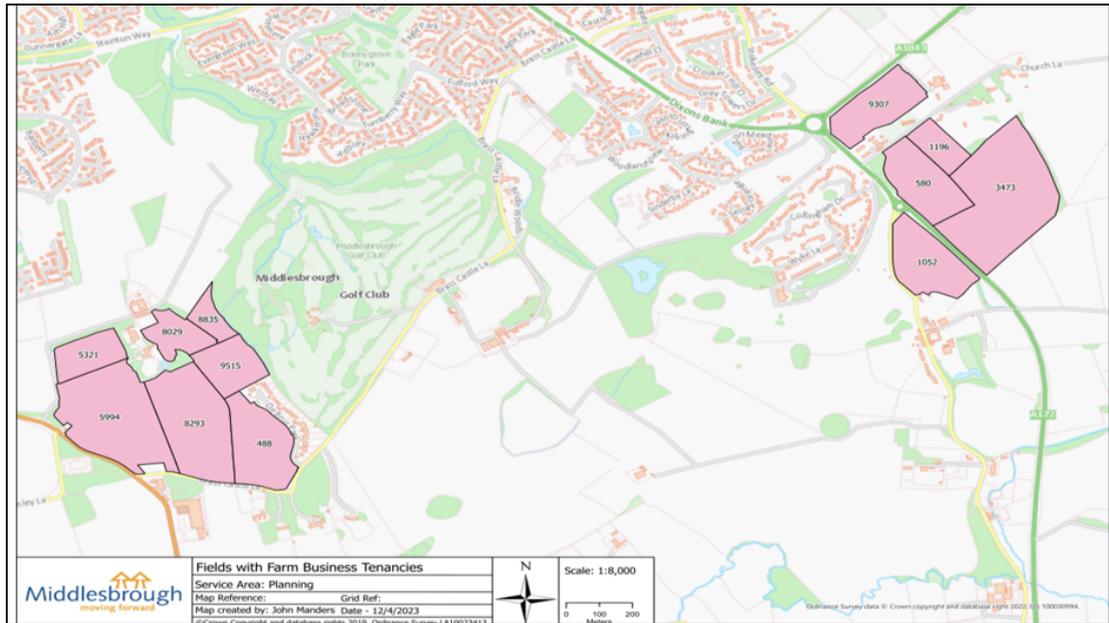
We witnessed open mic night, with people singing and playing instruments to the few hundred that were in the venue.

Repair works are currently being undertaken to the columns under the A66 following the demolition of the Slam nightclub and should hopefully be complete in September. The works to put in the infrastructure (power

etc.) for Stack will commence in late June, with their containers starting to arrive on site in the autumn.

Nutrient Neutrality Executive decision

17. Nutrient Neutrality became an issue for Middlesbrough Council in March 2022, when Natural England advised that planning proposals should not be granted permission unless 'Nutrient Neutrality' is achieved. It is an issue because the level of nitrogen in the River Tees is too high.
18. Put simply, Nutrient Neutrality means that that the amount of nitrogen discharged from a development site must be equal or lower than the amount prior to development.
19. To grant planning permission for developments affected by Nutrient Neutrality, the Council must be satisfied there is appropriate mitigation in place. Natural England have a mitigation system in place, that allows developers to buy credits from them. However, the number of credits is limited and insufficient to unlock affected development in the Tees Catchment.
20. The Council has a substantial agricultural land holding (12 fields / 60.3 hectares) that has been identified as possible Nutrient Neutrality mitigation. The report approved by Executive seeks approval to take these out of agricultural use to offset new housing development on Council-owned land.
21. A future report will be brought to Executive to consider alternative uses for the sites taken out of agricultural use. There are opportunities to extend the green infrastructure network or find compatible economic uses (such as solar farm), subject to gaining planning approvals.
22. Map of the different parcels of farmland in question is below:



THE TIME AHEAD

Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTNs)

23. I'm looking to explore the possibility of Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTNs) throughout in the Town and I would like to work with elected members and the public to do this.
24. LTNs are areas where you can effectively cul-de-sac parts of high residential areas to stop so called "rat running" and short cuts through high residential areas by cars and larger vehicles. This will allow for a safer environment and hopefully increase more active travel for the residents of these areas.

Parks Investments

25. One of the things I want to achieve is an increase in people using the parks and improve the quality of facilities that are on offer. Some of that will be through our investment, and some through external funding but I want to set out investment plans for our award-winning parks and green areas in Middlesbrough so that the public can see how we want them to develop.

Cycling/Pedestrian networks

26. The Linthorpe road cycle lanes have been controversial, and we are considering its future use. The Council is determined to improve the options for people seeking to use sustainable travel methods and make them as safe as possible. I will be bringing forward an overall plan to set out how we will engage with people and communities to grow the number of people cycling and how we can develop the infrastructure to support them.

Article 4 Permitted development

27. Officers are working on the preparation of an Article 4 Direction to seek to control Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) within the town. This will be brought before Executive for consideration at the earliest opportunity.

Local Plan

32. We intend to propose a new Local Plan that will be transparent for elected members and the public. I will have updates on this to full council every month.

Below is a proposed timetable for the Local Plan.

Stage	Timescale	Description
Scoping Report - COMPLETED	Consultation - December 2022 – January 2023	Formal commencement of the new Local Plan (Regulation 18) - Complete
Draft Local Plan (Preferred Options)	October 2023 Consultation October - Dec 2023	A non-statutory stage that provides the opportunity for the Council to set out its preferred approach and to engage with the community on the emerging policies
Publication Local Plan	May 2024 Consultation June/July 2024	Regulation 19 - Statutory stage, seeking formal representations on the Local Plan that the Council wishes to adopt (Regulation 19)
Submission	September 2024	Formal submission to the Secretary of State (Regulation 22).
Public Examination	September-January 2025	Independent Examination of the Plan to determine legal compliance and soundness. Can only be adopted if found to be sound (Regulation 24)
Adoption	April 2025	Formal adoption of the new Local Plan by the Council (Regulation 26)

NAME: Cllr Theo Furness
DATE: 05.07.2023



EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

SECTION 2 – DECISIONS TAKEN

DATE	DECISION MAKER	ISSUE	PURPOSE OF REPORT	KEY DECISION
6 Mar 2023	Executive	Asset Disposal Business Case for Special Free School for Neurodiverse Children	Business Case to be presented to seek decision on proposal to lease land on Stainsby Road to the Department for Education to build a Special Free School	No
7 Mar 2023	Executive	Adult Social Care: Respite Charging	Review of the charging policy for respite care services	Yes
7 Mar 2023	Executive	Selective Landlord Licensing - Consultation Responses and Approval to designate the Newport 2 area	This report provides a summary of the responses to the consultation for Executive to consider and to seek their approval for the Selective Landlord Licensing Scheme to go ahead in the Newport 2 area	Yes
7 Mar 2023	Executive	Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Local Government Peer Review	Request to have a Local Government Association SEND Peer Review	No
7 Mar 2023	Executive	Highways Capital	Approve the revised prioritisation process undertaken to address the approach to Red / Amber carriageway defects and the capital spend of £7.5m	Yes

DATE	DECISION MAKER	ISSUE	PURPOSE OF REPORT	KEY DECISION
7 Mar 2023	Executive	Nunthorpe Community Centre	Approval required to spend over 150k developing a new asset at Nunthorpe.	Yes
8 Mar 2023	Executive Member for Finance and Governance	Extension of Transitional Relief and Supporting Small Business – Non-Domestic Rates	That the Executive Member for Finance and Governance approves the adoption of a scheme based on the central government guidance dated 20 December 2021 for the year commencing 01 April 2022 and of any subsequent successor scheme(s) similarly whilst section 31 funding continues and there is no financial impact to the Council.	No
4 Apr 2023	Executive	Schools Capital Programme Report 2023	The report sets out new school capital schemes and investments to be added to the Schools Capital Programme for delivery in 2023 and beyond.	Yes
20 Apr 2023	Executive Member for Finance and Governance	Household Support Fund 2023/24	This report outlines the basis on which the Council should adopt a new scheme for the Household Support Fund. Funding of £3.3 million has been provided by Central Government, the funds are to be distributed to Residents of the town between April 23 and March 24.	Yes
20 Jun 2023	The Mayor and Executive Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health	Corporate Performance Update: Quarter Four 2022/23	To review the Corporate Performance ar Q4 2022/23	Yes
20 Jun 2023	Executive	Proposal to bring Substance Misuse Clinical Prescribing Service In-house	The current clinical service provider has served notice on their contract, which has reduced the timescales for having a new service by six months. The tender process did not result in any bids being submitted when it closed on Fri 12th May 23. As there is no option to have any break in service, we need certainty around provision for 1st October 23 onwards. In the current circumstances, the only feasible option to meet these timescales is to bring the service in-house, alongside the current Recovery Solutions Team.	Yes

DATE	DECISION MAKER	ISSUE	PURPOSE OF REPORT	KEY DECISION
20 Jun 2023	Executive	Children and Young People's Learning Scrutiny Panel Service Response: Youth Offending and Partnership Working with Schools	Children and Young People's Learning Scrutiny Panel Service Response	No
20 Jun 2023	Executive	Children and Young People's Social Care & Services Scrutiny Panel Service Response: Supporting Young People to Prepare for Adulthood and Independence	Scrutiny Response	No
20 Jun 2023	Executive	Revenue and Capital Budget – Year end Outturn position 2022/23	The report advises the Executive of the Council's financial position as at Year-End 2022/23.	Yes
20 Jun 2023	Executive	Approach to Nutrient Neutrality and delivery of Middlesbrough Council housing schemes	To discuss the approach to Nutrient Neutrality and delivery of Middlesbrough Council housing schemes. The proposals will meet financial thresholds.	No



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

There are no decisions to be taken during this time period



EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

SECTION 4 – DECISIONS TO BE TAKEN FOLLOWING THE COUNCIL MEETING

DATE	DECISION MAKER	ISSUE	PURPOSE OF REPORT	KEY DECISION
18 Jul 2023	Executive	Breastfeeding Borough Declaration	to outline summary of a proposed local authority declaration on breastfeeding also known as 'Breastfeeding Boroughs'.	Yes
18 Jul 2023	Executive	Healthy Weight Declaration Adoption	This report outlines the purpose and process of signing up to the Healthy Weight Declaration in Middlesbrough.	Yes
18 Jul 2023	Executive	Refugee Resettlement	To seek agreement to resettle 5 families per year, being a mixture of ARAP/ACRS and UKRS.	Yes
18 Jul 2023	Executive	Anti-Social Behaviour and Crime Action Plan - Review Report	The report outlines suggested adaptations to the approved Anti Social Behaviour and Crime Action Plan, to amend the scope of intervention and approve funding allocations.	Yes
18 Jul 2023	Executive	Final Report of the Culture and Communities Scrutiny Panel - Off Road Bikes	The aim of the panel's investigation was to consider Middlesbrough Council's and Cleveland Police's approach to Off road bikes, following concerns within the community and recent media attention.	No

DATE	DECISION MAKER	ISSUE	PURPOSE OF REPORT	KEY DECISION
18 Jul 2023	Executive	Discretionary Rate Relief Policy	Update to the Discretionary Rate Relief Policy - covering mandatory and charitable rate relief, part occupation and hardship relief	Yes
18 Jul 2023	Executive	Hemlington North - Disposal Part A	This report advises on the proposal to dispose of the Council's freehold interest in land situated at Hemlington North.	Yes
18 Jul 2023	Executive	Exempt - Hemlington North - Disposal Part B	This report advises on the proposal to dispose of the Council's freehold interest in land situated at Hemlington North.	Yes
15 Aug 2023	Executive	Digiwise Project - Foster Care and Supported Lodgings Wifi and Internet Use Policy	Adoption of council wide policy and approval of recommendations to be agreed for all residential and foster care settings.	No
15 Aug 2023	Executive	EXEMPT - Captain Cook Square - Business Case	Requirement for update on current position, along with options for maximising the commercial options for the strategic viability of a key Council asset.	Yes
15 Aug 2023	Executive	Newham Hall - Collaboration with Homes England - Part A	To seek Executive approval to enter into a Collaboration Agreement with Homes England to develop the Newham Hall housing site.	Yes
15 Aug 2023	Executive	EXEMPT - Newham Hall - Collaboration with Homes England - Part B	To seek Executive approval to enter into a Collaboration Agreement with Homes England to develop the Newham Hall housing site.	Yes
5 Sep 2023	Executive	Tees Advanced Manufacturing Park – Phase 2 Funding Agreement	Executive to approval an additional 1.5 million pounds of capital which will be repaired through retention through business rates of the enterprize zones site.	Yes
13 Feb 2024	Executive	Tees Valley Waste Report	To seek approval for MBC to enter with seven other councils a Special Purpose Vehicle company in order to manage the Tees Valley energy recovery facility that will be responsible for the disposal of	Yes

DATE	DECISION MAKER	ISSUE	PURPOSE OF REPORT	KEY DECISION
			Middlesbrough municipal waste.	