

EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORT TO COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: MAYOR CHRIS COOKE

DATE OF MEETING: 27 March 2024

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Strategic Priority: Reducing inequalities in health

Healthy Weight Declaration (HWD)

1. Middlesbrough Council adopted the Healthy Weight Declaration on 20/02/24 to support people to make positive choices around food and drink. The declaration aims to improve the accessibility, availability and affordability of healthier food and drink, as well as creating more opportunities for exercise.
2. The declaration is a council wide commitment to promote healthy weight and improve the health and wellbeing of the local population. It comprises of 16 core commitments that focus on population level interventions to address the social, environmental, economic and legislative factors that affect people's ability to change their behaviour. I am delighted that we have taken such a positive step and excited for the benefit is going to bring to our residents.

HIGHLIGHTS

Sensory Drop In Clinic – 01/03/24

3. I attended the monthly Sensory Drop in Clinic based in the Live Well Centre at Dundas. The popularity of this service has been growing significantly. The service is open to those with for adults who are partially sighted, blind, D/deaf, or hard of hearing along with family/friends and carers. Support offered is incredibly wide ranging from advising on adaptable equipment to assist with independent living all the way to providing Tai Chi through sign language to promote physical and spiritual wellness. It is an opportunity to meet and socialise with others who are facing similar challenges in a welcoming non-judgemental environment.
4. It was important for me to meet attendees and hear first hand the incredible impact the service has had on their daily lives. I would like to express my thanks again for the staff who organise and provide such a valued service to our residents.



Hemlington Boxing Club – 16/02/24

5. When young people were asked what they wanted bringing to their area the most popular proposal was a boxing club. It was therefore a pleasure to attend the opening of Hemlington Boxing Club which is run by the respected amateur boxers John Waldon, John Waldon Snr and Denis Lowe. The tag line for the club is 'knives down, gloves up' which depicts how the club is not only providing an outlet for physical exercise but providing an opportunity to better themselves in every aspect of their life.



EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

Dental Health and Impact of Covid-19 Scrutiny Panel- 13/03/24

6. The Health Scrutiny Panel conducted an examination of the oral health of residents in Middlesbrough. Between 2019- 2022 Middlesbrough had significantly more dental decay than the England average and the highest rate of dental decay in 5-year-olds across the North East. Poor oral health during the early stages of life often continues into adulthood, so it is important that there is effective and targeted intervention to break this cycle.
7. In response, the Executive approved the recommendations from The Health Scrutiny Panel which aim to improve oral health outcomes through increasing access to services and increasing awareness particularly in deprived areas. One of the recommendations is for free toothbrushes and toothpastes to be posted to hard to reach families who choose not to engage with health visitors. The Executive also approved the collaboration between Teesside University and the North East and North Cumbria ICB to increase accessibility for those who face challenges in accessing NHS dental care.

NAME: Chris Cooke

DATE: 27/03/24



Mayor Chris Cooke

Email: mayor@middlesbrough.gov.uk