

## Middlesbrough Community Safety Plan 2024-26

### Foreword by Geoff Field, Chair of Middlesbrough Community Safety Plan

I am very pleased to present Middlesbrough Council's Community Safety Plan 2024. The Local Authority has a statutory requirement under the 1998 Crime and Disorder Act to develop and deliver a Partnership Plan which contains community safety priorities based on the current evidence base across the communities of Middlesbrough.

**Mission Statement** '*... working with partners in our Neighbourhoods to ensure our residents "feel safe, be safe and stay safe".*

Middlesbrough's Community Safety Partnership (CSP) brings together the responsible authorities of Police, Local Authority, Fire and Rescue, Health and Probation to work in collaboration with other statutory and voluntary services and local people to reduce crime and make people feel safer by dealing with issues such as anti-social behaviour, drug and alcohol misuse, deliver the Prevent duty (Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015) and ensure specific obligations such as public engagement and delivery of an action plan are met.

The priorities and key objectives set out in this plan are based upon an assessment of crime and disorder issues across the Borough and reflect the views of the community on matters that are important to them to collectively implement and deliver initiatives that will help all areas of Middlesbrough become a safe place to live, work and visit.

#### **Priority 1 Feel safe (perceptions)**

##### **Objectives**

- Reducing crime and anti-social behaviour (Inc. environmental crime)
- Improving community cohesion and resilience
- Delivering the prevent agenda

#### **Priority 2 – Be Safe (reducing violence)**

##### **Objectives**

- Improve mental health
- Reduce exploitation
- Reduce substance misuse
- Reduce domestic violence
- Tackling serious violence

#### **Priority 3 – Stay Safe (Neighbourhoods)**

##### **Objectives**

- Working with communities (doing 'with' not 'to')
- Improving environmental cleanliness
- Addressing underlying community issues

## About Middlesbrough

Our people are warm, friendly and extremely proud of their town, its industrial heritage and location close to the natural beauty of surrounding countryside and stunning North-East coast. With a vibrant leisure and cultural scene, Middlesbrough likes to work hard and play hard. Middlesbrough is an evolving town, perfectly positioned in the heart of the Tees Valley. In addition to our population of 143,924 we attract over 700,000 regular visitors from the surrounding areas of Tees Valley, North Yorkshire and County Durham who shop, work and enjoy the leisure attractions Middlesbrough has to offer.

Significant changes in the population demographics of Middlesbrough since the 2001 Census highlight an increasingly diverse and ageing population in the town.

Middlesbrough has a total population of 143,924, 60,300 households and 20 electoral wards. Key census 2021 figures for Middlesbrough are:

- 50.7% of the population are female, 49.3% are male (England comparison - 51% female/49% male).
- 12.3% of the population were born outside of the UK (England comparison - 17.4%).
- 17.6% of the population are BAME (England comparison - 19%).
- 61.01% are 'working age' between 18 and 65 years.
- 15.73% are 'older people' aged over 66 years.
- 23.99% of people have at least 2 or more relevant deprivation factors (this can be employment, education, health, housing etc).
- 7.3% of the population have bad or very bad health (England comparison - 5.2%).
- 20.5% of the population are disabled under the Equality Act (England comparison - 17.3%).
- 57.7% of households are deprived in at least one dimension (England comparison - 51.6%).
- 3.4% of households are overcrowded (England comparison - 4.3%).
- 44.4% of households are in rented accommodation (England comparison - 37.7%).
- 4.1% of households have a second address in the UK (England comparison - 4.1%).

- 45.4% of people aged 16 years and over are economically inactive (England comparison - 39.1%).
- 15.3% of people aged 16 years and over have never worked or are long-term unemployed (England comparison - 8.5%).
- 10.1% of people aged 16 years and over are full-time students (England comparison - 7.7%).
- 33.7% of people aged 16 and over in employment work 30 hours or less (England comparison - 29.8%).
- 23.9% of people aged 16 and over have no qualifications (England comparison - 18.1%).
- 23.26% of Middlesbrough's resident population are Children and Young People aged below 18 years old.

### **Overview of crime and ASB levels across Middlesbrough**

Cleveland had the highest crime rate in all of England and Wales at the end of financial year 2022-23. Middlesbrough's total recorded crime was 26,450 with the highest rate of violent crime out of the four local authorities Cleveland Police covers.

Anti-social behaviour is more than 3 times the national average at 38 occurrences per 1000 head of population compared to the England and Wales's 16 per 1000. However, we saw a reduction of just under 23% from 2022 to 2023 whereas the national average only reduced by 12%.

#### **On average per day in Middlesbrough:**

- There are 11 incidents of Domestic Abuse.
- There are 10 incidents of Criminal Damage or Arson.

#### **On average per month:**

- There are 2204 criminal offences.

#### **In the previous financial year:**

- There were 12411 violent crimes against a person.
- 5680 total reports of theft and handling stolen goods.
- 1659 deliberate fire incidents recorded.
- 5201 environmental issues reported to the Local Authority (Littering/Rubbish/Waste).

### **How our plan fits into other local plans**

- Cleveland Police & Crime Plan (currently being revised)
- Arson Reduction Strategy
- Youth Justice Plan
- Tees-wide Safeguarding Strategy

- Children and Young People's Plan
- Health and Wellbeing Plan

### **Middlesbrough Mayoral Priorities:**

Each of the CSP priorities directly link to one of the four over-arching Middlesbrough Mayoral priorities:

- **A successful and ambitious town** – Maximising economic growth, employment and prosperity in an inclusive and environmentally sustainable way.
- **A healthy place** – Helping our residents to live longer, healthier lives.
- **Safe and resilient communities** – creating a safer environment where residents can live more independent lives.
- **Delivering best value** – Changing how we operate, to deliver affordable and cost-effective outcomes for residents and businesses.

### **Our approach**

Building on our partnership approach to working in Middlesbrough we will continue to be creative and develop new ways of working, employing the Active Intelligence Mapping (AIM) model, providing an opportunity to improve service delivery by strengthening a collaborative approach to addressing crime, environmental crime, fires and anti-social behaviour across the town and ensuring greater accountability to the public.

We will also introduce a new Neighbourhood model ensuring our communities are at the heart of what we do. Four co-located multi-agency teams will be developed to cover East, North, West and South of the town, focussing on improving our neighbourhoods.

### **Delivering the plan**

Delivery will be via an Action Plan developed through the Community Safety Partnership which will set out what each of the partner agencies will do to achieve the objectives identified under the 3 priorities.

A key action of the Partnership is to co-ordinate delivery, bring partners together and identify resources and skills in order to achieve the best possible outcomes.

The action plan will be built around a robust outcome-based performance management framework to review and monitor progress. The plan will be reviewed and refreshed annually.