

EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORT TO COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: Executive Member for Neighbourhoods

DATE OF MEETING: 9 July 2025

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

COUNCIL PLAN PRIORITIES

Safe and resilient communities - Creating a safer environment where residents can live more independent lives.

1. HIGHLIGHTS

Update:

- 1.1 Neighbourhood Action Partnerships (NAP's) have been introduced across Middlesbrough in the 4 areas i.e. North, East, South and West. These are multi-agency partnership forums aimed at giving elected members a voice in how services are delivered in Middlesbrough. In addition to the NAP's, we also have 4 locality hubs based in each of the areas. This is where multi-agency teams work together on a daily basis to tackle the issue that matter most to local residents and businesses.
- 1.2 This report highlights some of the initiatives and success the past month.
- 1.3 **MHCLG Funding Update**
The Council received £1.9m from Central Government last year to tackle crime and antisocial behaviour. This funding has been utilised on many town-wide capital projects which are now nearing completion;
 - Railings installed outside of Pallister Park Primary School to address illegal parking.
 - 50 cardboard cut-out children & policemen provided to Primary Schools across the town to reduce traffic congestion and improve road safety.
 - Installation of additional litter bins at various locations across the town
 - Portable football goals purchased to be utilised by our local Youth Providers to deter young people from crime and anti-social behaviour.
 - Cameras installed in Newport and North Ormesby back alleys to tackle fly-tipping
 - Target hardening packs - these are currently being distributed to vulnerable, elderly, repeat victims of crime and domestic abuse. The packs contain; video doorbells, security lights, alarms, TV simulators, timers, door restrictors, cactus strips, sash jammers, bolts and window vibration alarms.

- Kick rails/lego blocks to address off-road bikes – work is ongoing at 69 locations
- Galvanised gates installed at 3 locations in East Middlesbrough
- Additional CCTV installed in 13 hotspot areas across the town
- Lighting upgraded in Newport, North Ormesby & all sub-ways
- Signage to be installed on alley gates in Newport, North Ormesby & Linthorpe to tackle fly-tipping
- Purchased mobile boxing gym
- Anti-graffiti coatings to be used in all subways & underpasses
- Upgrade of dual use communal bins in North Ormesby & Newport ongoing
- Upgrading of help points in council car parks
- Purchased litter picking equipment & dog fouling signs
- Additional signage installed around Hemlington Lake



- 1.4 Following the knife crime summit held at the Riverside Stadium earlier this year, a Cleveland wide knife crime action plan was launched recently by Matt Storey, Police and Crime Commissioner. The Knife Crime Action Plan has been developed through in-depth analysis and collaboration with key stakeholders, demonstrating a collective commitment to improving safety. This plan focuses on reducing knife crime through early intervention, community engagement and sustainable support for those at risk
- 1.5 The neighbourhood team also coordinated support for Cleveland Police's Operation Sceptre which took place in May. It is aimed at reducing knife crime by providing educational and engagement resources for both looked after care providers and youth justice professionals.
- 1.6 In June a new campaign has focused on cybercrime and reducing opportunity for those engaged in cyber related offences. The campaign builds professionals awareness and provides resources for professionals working with a variety of vulnerable groups including young people and adults with additional needs to help build their resilience against cybercrime.

North

- 1.7 One of our most prolific beggars in the North breached his Criminal Behaviour Order and was sentenced to a 22-week prison sentence.


- 1.8 Three males causing a nuisance riding off road bikes around Central and Newport areas have had the bikes removed and have been issued with contracts to deter any further behaviour.
- 1.9 There has been a significant reduction in ASB reports after Middlesbrough Council Staff and Police Licencing put new conditions in place at a local off-license shop. This has led to a reduction of issues of drunk people and youths causing issues around the area.
- 1.10 The neighbourhood team has attended Young at Heart 2021 for their stained glass workshop and cultural connection BBQ. It was great to see people from different communities and cultures enjoying time together and learning something new. The team also visited Linthorpe Primary School to monitor the grant funded Story and Studio where workshops are being delivered in many schools to look at identity through art and creative writing. Both projects are funded via the Recovery Grant Fund. #WeAreMiddlesbrough
- 1.11 Over 800 people attended a Community Fun Day event at Newport Community Hub on the May Bank holiday. The event was an opportunity to engage with local residents and discuss local issues as well as build community cohesion with those who attended. The event was supported by the Friends of Newport Settlement.



- 1.12 Myplace held an amazing VE day celebration and the three Ward Councillors joined in the celebrations.



East

- 1.13 Following reports of youths targeting properties at Shelton Court in Thorntree, Neighbourhood Officers obtained CCTV and identified six youths responsible. All six youths were issued with warnings.
- 1.14 Following complaints from residents regarding youths trespassing and causing a nuisance on the roof and to the rear of Vaughan Shopping Centre. The Neighbourhood team reviewed the CCTV and observed youths climbing on partially built buildings, swinging on scaffolding and throwing missiles. As a result, Officers were able to identify a number of youths which resulted in warnings being issued.
- 1.15 During routine patrols Neighbourhood team observed a vehicle being driven in a suspicious manner and they recognised the individuals inside as being concerned with the supply of drugs throughout the community. Council Officers made Police aware of the vehicle location and Police detained one adult male. The Neighbourhood team then recovered three packages from a garden which contained approximately 100 small grab bags containing what is believed to be crack cocaine. The packages were handed to Police and investigations are ongoing in relation to this matter.
- 1.16 We're delighted to share the news that construction work on East Middlesbrough's new community facility and sporting hub is set to begin in the coming weeks. Middlesbrough Council received planning approval for the development on the former Southlands site last year.
- 1.17 Middlesbrough amateur boxer, Balal Hussain won Tyne, Tees and Wear 60kg elite belt that was vacated by clubmate Haris Zaman at Middlesbrough ABC's home show that took place at No.1 Amalgamated club. Haris also reached the ABA senior finals, where he narrowly missed out on gold. The competition is as prestigious as it gets for Amateur boxing. The local boxers and volunteers are a credit to Middlesbrough.
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- 1.18 The Neighbourhood team has been working with a group of residents to re-establish the long standing North Ormesby History Group. The previous History group had left behind a wealth of information and artifacts in North Ormesby Community Hub when the former group ended. After speaking with residents there was a clear demand for a History Group, given North Ormesby's rich history and heritage. With the power of social media, the group has quickly gained members and has gone from strength to strength.
- 1.19 Thorntree Hub's amazing team of volunteers (FAST Team) hosted accessible community activities during the May half term on Wednesday 28th & Thursday 29th May. The team are a credit to the community at Thorntree, they constantly give up their time to ensure families have events and activities to attend during the half term. They already have 4 days of FAST activity planned for the summer on 23rd & 24th, 30th & 31st July before hosting Thorntree Community Hub's family fun day on Monday 4th August. If you haven't already, get down to the hub on these dates and participate in some family oriented, family fun.

South

- 1.20 Various levels of enforcement action have been taken against 10 young people who have been identified in Hemlington involved in incidents of throwing missiles at passing vehicles and at properties. The police have arrested 2 individuals who have been bailed pending further investigation. The Neighbourhood team, Councillors and Police are working closely with Stagecoach to further identify those responsible.
- 1.21 Residents of Boscombe Gardens, Hemlington were invited to a drop in session to discuss recent incidents of ASB where a number of properties were being targeted by youths throwing missiles at their properties. The Neighbourhood team, Cleveland Police and Thirteen Housing attended and updates were provided to residents. A proposal for a CCTV camera on Boscombe Gardens is being investigated and various crime prevention items were issued to residents, including security lights, window alarms and video doorbells.
- 1.22 A problematic tenant in Marton East has been evicted following a landlord being supported by the Neighbourhood team. A supporting statement was provided to the landlord's solicitor and the officer attended court to support the application. The landlord, his solicitor and the local neighbours are extremely happy with the outcome.
- 1.23 The Neighbourhood team have been supporting Elmstone Gardens Community Group with becoming constituted, applying for funding to celebrate VE Day, planning activities in the community centre coffee mornings and bingo and setting up a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme.



West

- 1.24 Great partnership work has been carried out on Newbury Avenue after the Neighbourhood Team received complaints about drug taking and drug dealing, shouting and fighting in the street and general ASB from the tenant and visitors of a property. Thirteen Housing took immediate action and tenant signed a termination and Police arrested 2 wanted individuals from the address.
- 1.25 The Neighbourhood team have been investigating a group of youths who had been reported for fire setting in the Whinney Banks area. Working alongside youth services, a number of these youths have been identified with all youths receiving home visits from Council and Police with warnings being issued. Those identified are also be encouraged to attend Fire Setters Intervention courses ran by Cleveland Fire Service.

- 1.26 The Neighbourhood team attended ward drop in (Cuppa with a Coppa) alongside local PCSO and Councillors. A number of concerns were raised, which relevant agencies are investigating. We also encourage residents to attend these sessions to express any concerns they may have in the area they live.



- 1.27 Friends of Acklam Library obtained funding for 2 VE Day parties. The children's party was held in the morning, with a rhyme time session, craft session to make red, white & blue pompoms and lots of food to finish off.
- 1.28 The adults were treated to an afternoon tea, with plenty of sandwiches and cakes. There was a quiz and our dementia group led a singalong.

