

**EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORT TO COUNCIL
24 MARCH 2021**

ADULT SOCIAL CARE, PUBLIC PROTECTION AND PUBLIC HEALTH

PERFORMANCE

1. Middlesbrough Council is a statutory member of the Tees Safeguarding Adults Board (TSAB). As part of assurance arrangements an annual Quality Assurance Report (QAF) is provided and independently evaluated by other TSAB members. The headline standards are:
 - The organisation has a Safeguarding Adults Policy / Strategy in place and a senior staff member that has the responsibility to 'champion' safeguarding.
 - Safeguarding Practice is safe, effective and person centred.
 - Your organisation has a focus on the need for preventing abuse and neglect.
 - Your organisation has written guidance & procedures for handling complaints and allegations against staff which is clearly accessible to all staff.
 - Your organisation can assure the Board that the learning, recommendations and key findings from SARs and Other Reviews are effectively implemented within your organisation and disseminated to the appropriate staff.
 - The organisation's staff supervision policy and reflective practice supports effective safeguarding. It recognises that skilled and knowledgeable supervisions focused on outcomes for adults is critical in safeguarding work and enable staff to work confidently and competently with difficult and sensitive situations.
 - All staff and elected members (where appropriate) working within the organisation should receive appropriate training and work within an environment to enable them to competently respond to safeguarding concerns and meet the needs of adults at risk.
2. The Department of Adult Social Care submitted its QAF findings and evidence in November 2020 and feedback was provided by the TSAB evaluation group last month. The headline feedback was as follows:
3. **Overall, the evaluation group were impressed with the submission received from Middlesbrough Council as it was complemented with some good supporting evidence for each of the standards.**
4. **Based on the evidence supplied the most appropriate overall RAG rating for your organisation was Green, as some very good evidence was supplied and provided assurance to the evaluation group around the organisations safeguarding practice and procedures.**
5. There are associated action plans as part of the feedback which the Department works on as part of continual improvement plans

Members Attended Dementia Friends Awareness Information Sessions

6. In March this year, Dementia Friends Information sessions were delivered to a total of 24 elected Members, demonstrating their commitment to Middlesbrough being a Dementia Friendly Town.
7. Dementia Friends Information Sessions are part of the Alzheimer's Society's Dementia Friends programme. It is the biggest ever initiative to change people's perceptions of dementia and aims to transform the way the nation thinks, acts and talks about the condition.
8. Sessions currently delivered virtually, are run by trained Dementia Friends Champions. Once completed a Dementia Friend will receive a badge that the public and people living with dementia will recognise.
9. To date a total of 166 Businesses have signed up to the Dementia Friendly Middlesbrough Project, which is commissioned by Public Health and Led by Cleveland Alzheimer's Residential Centre. Businesses need to demonstrate a commitment to working towards becoming dementia friendly, which includes ensuring all Staff attend a dementia friend's information session.
10. To date a total of 723 sessions have been delivered in Middlesbrough, making 11055 dementia friends across the Town.
11. The Dementia Friendly Middlesbrough working Group is meeting in March to discuss roll out of virtual Dementia Friends Information Sessions to all Local Authority Staff and a series of dates will be included on the Staff Intranet.

INVOLVEMENT AND PROMOTION

Middlesbrough's Local Test and Trace Service

12. Middlesbrough has become one of the first local authorities to launch the local Test and Trace Service known as Local0, as part of a national pilot. From 1st March all cases of COVID-19 in Middlesbrough are now being contacted by a locally recruited team of contact tracing officers located in the Public Protection Service. Cases of COVID-19 in Middlesbrough now receive their first contact by telephone within hours of them getting their positive result. The contact officers ask a series of standard questions, identify contacts and use their local knowledge to better understand the information provided by the case. Advice on isolation is provided on a more individual and local basis. Support needs are also identified for those in isolation and arrangements can be put in place quickly to provide assistance. For example those cases requiring support with food are getting food parcels delivered within a short period of time. Several attempts are made to contact cases over a 24 hour period. If a case does not respond after 24 hours, they then receive a socially distanced visit to offer support and to ask them to respond to the calls. To date the Local Test and Trace Service is achieving contact with 94% of cases of COVID-19 and providing isolation advice and offering support to them.

Community LFD Testing Update

13. Testing for covid-19 is one of the key tools we have to contain the spread of coronavirus while the vaccine programme is rolled out nationally. To support this we have opened three asymptomatic lateral flow device (LFD) community testing sites across Middlesbrough:

Venue	Postcode	Days	Appointment Times
Middlesbrough Sports Village	TS4 3AE	Wed-Sun	08:00-14:45
Newport Community Hub	TS1 4EE	Tue-Sat	11:00-17:45
North Ormesby Community Hub	TS3 6JB	Mon-Fri	09:30-16:15

14. In addition to this a growing number of high risk businesses (where staff are unable to work from home) have also been set up as self-serve LFD test sites.
15. To date over 2800 tests have been completed with 26 positive cases detected - who would otherwise have been unknowingly spreading the virus.

Vaccination Centre

16. A mass vaccination centre operated by the NHS is due to open at the Riverside Stadium in late March. At the time of preparing this report final preparations were being made, including arrangements for public transport links to the stadium. It is expected that over-50s will be eligible for their vaccine by the time the site opens.

Community Champions

17. Following an expression of interest The Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) has awarded funding to support those communities in Middlesbrough who have been shown to suffer disproportionately from Covid-19 through a new scheme called 'Community Champions'. The Community Champions scheme will provide targeted help to those areas and communities facing the greatest challenges. This provides the opportunity to build on existing community led work in Middlesbrough as part of the Covid-19 response, such as; Locality Working, our citizen led approach to Covid-19 communications; our nascent Covid community champions network; our embedded community research programme into the manifestation of Covid related harm locally; and our community grants programme to support sustainability of the organisations supporting those most impacted by Covid-19.

The Staying Put Agency unite with charities to help older people through the winter

18. A unique collaborative partnership was formed just before winter to create the new Warm and Well Winter Support Project. Set up by the Staying Put Agency, Ageing Better Middlesbrough and The Teesside Family Foundation the projects aim is to support Middlesbrough residents across the difficult winter period. Through pooling resources and knowledge we have been able to provide older residents who have been hit particularly hard hit by the pandemic with essential supplies to stay safe warm and active across the winter months. We have even been able to deliver items straight to their doors.
19. The project continues to support towards the Middlesbrough Affordable Warmth Strategies aims and objectives. To date Warm and Well has assisted over 80 individual households with winter related support, this has included 16 boiler services and 240 items of winter warmth equipment, all supplied by the Staying Put Agency. In addition 200 wellbeing items, which includes books, puzzles, and crosswords have been supplied by our VCS partners. The Staying Put Agency have also supported additional households with 87 winter related jobs through there wider Winter Warmth Programme.

Councillor Dorothy Davison
Executive Member for Adult Social Care & Public Health