

EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORT TO COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: Executive Member for Neighbourhoods

DATE OF MEETING: 01 April 2026

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

- Neighbourhoods
- Neighbourhood Safety
- Community Cohesion

Update:

This report highlights some of the initiatives and success of the past month.

1. HIGHLIGHTS

North Middlesbrough

1.1 House Closure

Neighbourhood Team in North and Cleveland Police colleagues successfully applied for a closure order at an Address on North Ormesby Road. The order was made on 10th March after the address had been subject to reports of drug dealing and antisocial behaviour. The property is closed for a period of 3 months providing some much needed relief to local residents.

1.2 Central Library

1.2.1 Central Library - One of the jewels in Middlesbrough's Crown has held a special celebration event to mark its re-opening after a major refurbishment.

1.2.2 The historic Central Library which is 114 years old and a true icon of the town centre, has been given a new lease of life thanks to nearly £2 million of funding from Arts Council England. I was pleased to attend the event with Mayor Chris Cooke and the Arts Council's Libraries Director Luke Burton who formally re-opened the building on 6th March. It was great to see so many other people in attendance to formally reopen this much-loved building and to see it being used by so many people of all ages was heartwarming.

1.2.3 The refurbishments include a full redesign of the main ground floor area to create a children's library with a reading tower and family facilities. A new ICT suite with

a more cohesive layout as well as new public and flexible event spaces. Other key improvements include a new lift and accessible toilets, new public computers and USB connectivity allowing customers to use their own devices. Sensitive upgrades to the reference library include decoration, new lighting and restoration of the floor and tables, while its historic features remain unchanged.

1.3 International Women's Day

Cleveland Police hosted their International Women's Day event at Newport Hub supported by Neighbourhood North Staff on 9th March. There were over 100 people in attendance. The day comprised of various speakers and partner agencies present to give advice and support. This complimented the Neighbourhood North event 11th March. Over 50 people attended and Middlesbrough Environment City presented along with Newport Primary Rights Respecters from Newport Primary School.

East Middlesbrough

1.4 Partnership Working

1.4.1 The Neighbourhood team have been working with trading standards, Police and wider partners to tackle ongoing issues relating to significant shoplifting at Shelton Court in the Thorntree area which has led to the arrest of 4 individuals relating to £500 worth of goods. The businesses are very grateful for the proactive work and engagement of partners.

1.4.2 Pro-active CCTV patrols allowed the Neighbourhood team to identify a male dealing drugs on an Suron bike. He was positively identified on Siddington Walk as the recently installed chicanes forced him to slow down. Joint work in mid-March with the Police drone team and CAT Team has resulted in this same male being arrested and he was remanded in custody.

1.5 Pallister Week of Action

1.5.1 The Neighbourhood Team have been working extremely hard in the area known as the "C's" in Pallister Park as part of a pre-planned week of action to tackle lots of environmental issues. They concentrated on 3 particular streets: Cheriton Green, Chertsey Avenue and Cheam Avenue.

1.5.2 The team were supported by Thirteen Housing, Cleveland Fire, Ward Councillors, The Mayor and local residents. The local residents emailed, called and visited in person to thank staff in their support of the week of action and the work that took place. Here is just a few pictures of the partnership activity and the results from this fantastic piece of work.



Free Boxing sessions provided by Evolve for the children of Pallister. Wardens also helped to pack a few punches.



Fly-tipping to the rear of Chertsey Avenue cleared



Breached empty/Thirteen property (evidence of rough sleeping in the outhouse)



South Middlesbrough

1.6 Enforcement

2 banning letters issued to young people for causing ASB at the Parkway Centre, Coulby Newham. This will be monitored by security and wardens to stop them entering the premise.

1.7 The Great British Spring Clean

1.7.1 Keep Britain Tidy: The Great British Spring Clean is the nation's biggest mass-action environmental campaign. It encourages residents, communities and businesses to work in partnership with organisations and councils to collect and safely dispose of litter from their local area.

1.7.2 The Neighbourhood team arranged a litter pick around Hemlington Lake which was a huge success with a team of 22 volunteers from the local community, youth services and Middlesbrough Council staff as well as the ward Councillor. Despite unpredictable weather, everyone rolled up their sleeves to help make their community cleaner, safer and greener proving small actions really do make a big difference.



- 1.7.3 Also taking part in the campaign was Viewley Hill Primary School who along with 2 teachers, 18 children took part in a litter pick around the school and contributed to the success of the Great British Spring Clean in Hemlington.

West Middlesbrough

1.8 Partnership Action

The Neighbourhood team have been working with partners on community engagement and partnership action activity supporting a wide range of improvements including the full clean-up and securing of the longstanding fly-tipping hotspot at Northern Road/Beadon Road, continued monthly litter picks across Grove Hill, Easterside and Ayresome, and the development of structured school-engagement pathways through parent drop-ins and youth-voice activity. Additional collaboration with local libraries, hubs and volunteers has ensured the delivery of cultural, wellbeing and family activities, further strengthening cohesion and resident involvement.



1.9 Community Action Day – Acklam Shops

- 1.9.1 Community Action Day took place at Acklam Shops on Wednesday 11 February. Following a neighbourhood walk, several issues were identified, including an overall unkept appearance to the area. The rear of the shops had significant amounts of rubbish spilling from bins and scattered across the ground. At the front of the shopping parade, bins were old, dirty, and covered with stickers, and the bollards were stained with flaking paint. The area also had a noticeable amount of litter, cigarette ends and chewing gum across the pavements.
- 1.9.2 On the day, business owners joined our caretakers and community development team and made use of the skip provided. Despite very wet weather conditions, the clean-up was productive. We had two volunteers: Stephanie from Easterside Wellness Group and Harry from Community Champions.
- 1.9.3 Future planned improvements include the creation of a mural, installation of new litter bins, repainting the full shop promenade, and jet washing—delivered in partnership with local Councillors through the priorities fund.

