

Template for Impact Assessment Level 1: Initial screening assessment
Appendix 3

Subject of assessment:	Making Middlesbrough Town Centre Safer for People & Business			
Coverage:	Time limited project to cover the geographical area of Middlesbrough Town Centre. Multi agency working project involving Neighbourhoods Department, Cleveland Police and Homeless team.			
This is a decision relating to:	<input type="checkbox"/> Strategy	<input type="checkbox"/> Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Service	<input type="checkbox"/> Function
	<input type="checkbox"/> Process/procedure	<input type="checkbox"/> Programme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Review
	<input type="checkbox"/> Organisational change	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (please state)		
It is a:	New approach:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> x	Revision of an existing approach:	<input type="checkbox"/>
It is driven by:	Legislation:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Local or corporate requirements:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> x

Description:

The Investment Zone funded Making Middlesbrough Town Centre Safer for People & Business is a three-year pilot scheme to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB) in Middlesbrough town centre. The aim of the project is to create a safer, more welcoming town centre through a coordinated, holistic and sustainable multi-agency approach that prioritises **protection**, strengthens **prevention** and enhances **provision** of effective support. This approach will reduce crime and anti-social behaviour, improve public confidence and perceptions of safety, support business vitality, and harness the growth of all town centre businesses, enhancing the town's reputation as a vibrant, innovative and secure destination.

The objectives are to:

- Reduce crime and ASB
- Improve perceptions of safety and public confidence
- Increase footfall in the town centre
- Retain and attract businesses to reduce vacant units
- Stimulate private investment and positive economic activity

The project will build on the existing night-time economy project with extended operation of the existing hub at Middlesbrough Bus Station. There will be a multi-agency presence within the hub, together with dedicated provision for more intensive support for top repeat offenders such as through a dual diagnosis team which sit outside of enforcement. This will enable those individuals who are the most vulnerable and with the most complex needs immediate and direct access to the necessary support services such as drug and alcohol support.

Accessing Change Together (ACT) services will form part of the support offer linked to the hub, providing tailored interventions for people experiencing domestic abuse, homelessness or substance misuse. This will strengthen the project's prevention and provision approach by helping vulnerable individuals access the right support at the right time, reducing escalation, improving personal outcomes and supporting longer-term change.

There will also be additional 2 PCSOs and the introduction of 4 dedicated town centre Neighbourhood Safety Wardens with enhanced powers via the Community Safety Accreditation Scheme (CSAS). 2 new Neighbourhood Navigators will also be employed to provide 1-1 intense support to those with the most complex needs.

There will also be a new CCTV Operator which will proactively monitor town centre cameras, gather evidence and support teams on the ground.

Key Outcomes will be – Reduction in retail crime, increased perception of safety, increase in referrals to support services.

The pilot scheme will be funded from the Tees Valley Investment Zone programme, and will operate until March 2029.

Live date:	September 2026
Lifespan:	September 2026 – March 2029
Date of next review:	September 2027

Screening questions	Response			Evidence
	No	Yes	Uncertain	
<p>Human Rights Could the decision impact negatively on individual Human Rights as enshrined in UK legislation?*</p>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Increased support and enforcement services in a town centre can have a positive impact on the human rights of visitors by helping to ensure that people are able to safely access and enjoy public spaces without fear of crime, anti-social behaviour, harassment, or intimidation. Evidence is based on planned approach analysis and analysis of schemes elsewhere.

* Consult the Impact Assessment further guidance for details on the issues covered by each of these broad questions prior to completion.

Screening questions	Response			Evidence
<p>Equality Could the decision result in adverse differential impacts on groups or individuals with characteristics protected in UK equality law? Could the decision impact differently on other commonly disadvantaged groups?*</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>The Equality Act 2010 requires that the impact of recommendations is considered as part of the decision-making process. The Act requires that the Council must have due regard to the need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act. • Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. • Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. <p>Having due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it involves having due regard, in particular the need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • remove or minimise disadvantages • take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic. • encourage persons who share a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life. <p>Increased support and enforcement services in a town centre can have a positive impact on this by helping to ensure that people are able to safely access and enjoy public spaces without fear of crime, anti-social behaviour, harassment, or intimidation. Evidence is based on planned approach analysis and analysis of schemes elsewhere.</p>

Screening questions	Response			Evidence
<p>Community cohesion Could the decision impact negatively on relationships between different groups, communities of interest or neighbourhoods within the town?*</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Providing additional visible deterrent, support and enforcement capabilities within the area to raise public confidence and lower fear of crime and increase feelings of safety will positively effect Community cohesion. Evidence is based on planned approach analysis and analysis of schemes elsewhere.</p>
<p>Armed Forces Could the decision impact negatively on those who are currently members of the armed forces of former members in the areas of Council delivered healthcare, compulsory education and housing policies?*</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Increased support and enforcement services in a town centre can have a positive impact on visitors including serving or former armed forces members by helping to ensure that people are able to safely access and enjoy public spaces without fear of crime, anti-social behaviour, harassment, or intimidation. Evidence is based on planned approach analysis and analysis of schemes elsewhere.</p>

Screening questions	Response			Evidence
<p>Care leavers Could the decision impact negatively on those who are care experienced?*</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Increased support and enforcement services in a town centre can have a positive impact on care leavers by helping to ensure that people are able to safely access and enjoy public spaces without fear of crime, anti-social behaviour, harassment, or intimidation. Data shows that care leavers are at greater risk of being the victims of crime. Evidence is based on planned approach analysis and analysis of schemes elsewhere.</p>
<p>Reducing Poverty Could the decision impact negatively on the Council's ambitions to reduce poverty in the town?</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Providing additional visible deterrent, support and enforcement capabilities within the area to raise public confidence and lower fear of crime and increase feelings of safety will positively effect efforts to reduce poverty. It is hoped that the approach will increase business and partner organisation confidence assisting the Councils aims to reduce poverty in the Town. Evidence is based on planned approach analysis and analysis of schemes elsewhere.</p>
<p>Next steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ If the answer to all of the above screening questions is No then the process is completed. ➤ If the answer of any of the questions is Yes or Uncertain, then a Level 2 Full Impact Assessment must be completed. 				

Assessment completed by:	Adam Parkinson	Head of Service:	Marion Walker
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Date:

18/06/2026

Date

18/06/2026

