

EXECUTIVE MEMBER UPDATE TO COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: Councillor Ian Blades - Executive Member for Neighbourhoods

DATE OF MEETING: 15 July 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. I have focused the updates on the 4 Neighbourhood areas North, East, South and West and this report highlights some of the initiatives and success of the past month.

COUNCIL PLAN PRIORITIES

- *Neighbourhoods*
- *Neighbourhood Safety*
- *Community Cohesion*

Update:

1. HIGHLIGHTS

North Middlesbrough

1.1 Seed Library

- 1.1.1 Central Library has a fantastic 'Seed Library'. The seed library was relaunched at Central Library and placed in its new location in the foyer, to attract people as they walk in. It is a free community initiative to encourage gardening – people can take and donate seeds, exchange plant pots, and leave cuttings. There are also seed libraries at Hemlington and Marton Library and Community Hubs.



1.2 Week of Action – Newport

- 1.2.1 Residents, volunteers, local schools and partner organisations came together for a successful Week of Action across the Newport between 15 and 19 June 2026, delivering a range of environmental improvements and community engagement activities aimed at making neighbourhoods cleaner, safer and more connected.
- 1.2.2 Throughout the week, a programme of activities was carried out in response to local priorities and to strengthen relationships with residents. A total of five key unified projects were completed across Newport, focusing on environmental improvements and addressing issues raised by local communities.



1.3 Crime and ASB

- 1.3.1 In relation to crime and antisocial behaviour, the North Neighbourhood Team have been working closely with partners to deliver on the neighbourhood action plan to reduce levels of crime and ASB. Some of the outcomes they have delivered on this year include:
- 5 house closures this year, Neighbourhood Safety Officers are currently joint working on a further 2 closures with Neighbourhood Police Colleagues
 - 14 Criminal Behaviour Orders granted
 - 6 Acceptable Behaviour Contracts issued to young people in partnership with Police
 - 11 Community Protection Notice Warnings and 2 Community Protection Notice (CPNs) issued
 - Business engagement in Town Centre and Linthorpe Ward
 - 4 Civil Injunction breach's, leading on to custodial sentences

East Middlesbrough

1.4 Community Engagement

- 1.4.1 Park End Action and Engagement Day - This estate-based action day delivered in Park End consisted of a multi-agency approach to identify and address local issues as well as engaging the local community. Door knocking was carried out on Royston Avenue and Greencroft Walk to engage residents. Thirteen Housing hosted a mobile touchpoint to support residents with repairs and talk about antisocial behaviour. Target hardening equipment was distributed to residents to improve community safety. A football “kick about” was delivered by the Councils Neighbourhood team who engaged with young people.

- 1.4.2 Corpus Christi Primary School Engagement – A recycling awareness assembly was delivered by the Neighbourhood Community Development team to prepare pupils for new recycling changes. Gardening sessions were held with Neighbourhood Caretakers, involving two groups of students. The children then learned about environmental responsibility and the Caretakers' roles with a view to inspire them to join the team in the future or go on to start their own business.

1.5 Crime and ASB

- 1.5.1 In relation to crime and antisocial behaviour, the East Neighbourhood Team have been working closely with partners to deliver on the neighbourhood action plan to reduce levels of crime and ASB. Some of the outcomes they have delivered on this month include:

- Youths smashing windows on Elkington Walk – Acceptable Behaviour Contracts have been issued and Youth Justice Service Turnaround referrals have been submitted so that we can help these young people to stop this behaviour, prevent them from entering the criminal justice system and stop the harm they are causing to our communities. There will be consequences if this behaviour continues.
- Stagecoach issues – Due to work undertaken by wardens and the Councils Neighbourhood Team, there have not been any recent reported attacks on buses. Work will continue.
- Youths identified climbing on roofs and damaging property - Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABC's) Issued and Turnaround referrals have been submitted.

- 1.5.2 Neighbourhood Caretakers have been tackling weeds in Netherfields.



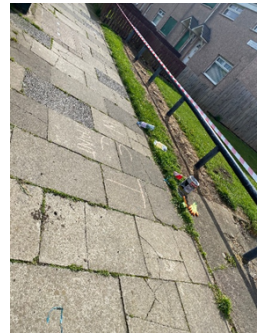
South Middlesbrough

1.6 Neighbourhood Caretakers

- 1.6.1 During May & June the Caretakers continued to work on Coulby Newham's 5k/8k Cycle Route prior to the launch event on 7 June.



1.6.2 They have also cleared some areas in Hemlington, Beckenham Gardens Play Park leading to Aviemore Road.



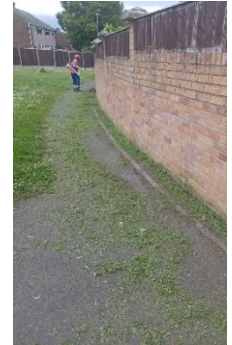
1.6.3 Caretakers have also been replacing the 10 planters across Marton West ready for them to be replanted.



1.6.4 The play park at Hemlington Recreation Centre has also been de-weeded and tidied up



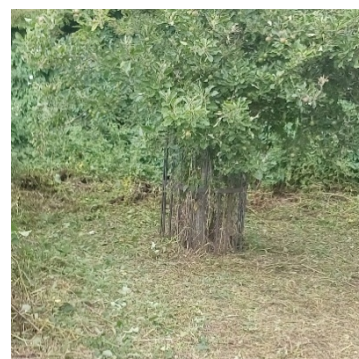
1.6.5 And they have also been scudding and strimming in Marton East



1.6.6 The caretakers have carried out litter picking and some other small projects around Hemlington.



1.6.7 Cleared all the weeds growing around the tree planted by King Charles III, then Prince of Wales, during his visit to Hemlington Lake in May 2010. We are now going to get a plaque to commemorate the visit.



1.6.8 Sprayed 'clean it up' signs at Viewley shops & Hemlington Lake to encourage residents to pick up after their dogs.



Neighbourhood Safety

1.7 Crime and ASB

- 1.7.1 Coulby Newham – there has been a reduction in incidents of throwing missiles at vehicles around the Parkway Centre – Wardens and police patrols continue. A meeting was held with The Parkway Centre and outlying businesses to encourage reporting of crime and antisocial behaviour. An Acceptable Behaviour Contract has been issued to a young person involved in incidents at The Parkway Centre and Hemlington.
- 1.7.2 Three youths have now reached the stage within the ASB process for Civil Injunctions applications to be made. This follows all diversionary works being explored.
- 1.7.3 Following reports of antisocial behaviour on buses Neighbourhood Policing carried out another plain-clothed operation. The operation was carried out with the support of Stagecoach. It saw a police officer travel onboard buses across Coulby Newham, Hemlington and Park End, to identify any antisocial behaviour or criminal activity. The patrols help to gather intelligence, deter offending and ensure public transport remains a safe and welcoming space for everyone in the community.



West Middlesbrough

1.8 Community Development

- 1.8.1 The Neighbourhood Team supported with a coach load of Easterside residents on a trip to Whitby on Tuesday 26th May. It was a fantastic day, the weather was lovely and most people sat on the beach for a couple of hours and had a picnic. Some decided to do a bit of crabbing and others had a wonder around the stalls and in the arcades.



1.8.2 Neighbourhood Caretakers in the West have been working to clear the weeds and make the area cleaner across West Middlesbrough

