

EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORT TO COUNCIL
20 October 2021

Culture

Strategic Updates

1. Middlesbrough Council is currently leading a bid with Middlesbrough Cultural Partnership to work on the regeneration of our cultural buildings in Middlesbrough, including Middlesbrough Library. The bid is for a total of £5m.

Public Art

2. Working with the local arts organisation Navigator North, Middlesbrough Council has commissioned a series of public art pieces, including light pieces in our restored phone boxes developed by artist Stephen Hurrell.



Sports and Leisure

3. Middlesbrough has launched its Beat the Street programme. Beat the Street is a six week game of physical activity that will challenge the entire population of Middlesbrough to get active and tag in at as many of the 135 Beat Boxes as frequently as possible.

The project is predicting at least 14,000 participants during the six week game. It's likely that most of these will be children who will get their fobs and game cards via their school – but the

rest of the population can collect their game cards from any of the 12 distribution points at our Community Hubs).

Albert Park

4. Following the success of the Holiday Hunger programme at Albert Park through the summer, Albert Park will again be looking to apply to the Holiday Activity Fund to provide a programme in the lead up to Christmas.

A Christmas programme will see collaboration between Albert Park, The Dorman Museum and Music to deliver a rich programme of cultural and physical activity alongside high quality meals for children participating.

5. An application for funding has been submitted to the Lawn Tennis Association to make good the tennis courts at Albert Park. If successful this fund will see the refurbishment of the courts at Albert Park with a view to developing greater opportunities to play tennis in Middlesbrough and progress in the sport at either a recreational or performance level.
6. Work is continuing to deliver capital improvements to Albert Park. This work will see improvements to the visitors centre, park signage and the fishing lake. Part of the funding for these improvements has been committed as match funding to an application to the 'Changing Places' fund, which, if successful, will see the development of new inclusive toilet facilities on Albert Park.

Events

7. September 30 saw the launch of Middlesbrough Arts Weekender. We offered our support for this event over the past few months and played host to a few of their installations.
8. We are carrying out an evaluation of Middlesbrough Mela in partnership with TVCA and looking at ways we can develop it going forward into 2022. We will be undertaking consultation with the public as to what they would like to see at their Mela in an open focus group on October 9 at Dorman Museum.
9. Dino Day plans for Teessaurus Park are coming together with all of our dinosaur based activities now confirmed. Event goers can look forwards to some Jurassic based crafts, dino-story time, walk about characters and a family show.
10. We are very excited to bring a new and exciting event to Centre Square this autumn. Diwali delivered in partnership with Kash Patel Productions will take place on Centre Square on Saturday, November 6. Look out for more details in the coming weeks.
11. Christmas is coming together nicely with lots of schools and community groups from across Middlesbrough showing interest in the participating in the Magical Middlesbrough Parade where they will be partnered up with a carnival artist to create costumes for the procession.

This year's theme is a Dickensian Christmas, following the tale of A Christmas Carol. This theme will be carried across the parade, light switch on and festive window displays.

Archives

12. The move is underway at the archives with removal men working on the decant from Exchange House to the new storage location in Sedgefield. Our engagement officer has been working on new educational resources for the Second World War for use in schools and preparing for more partnership working within the other local authority museums.
13. The work at the Dorman Museum to create a front of house position for Teesside Archives is now due to be complete in 2022 when we look forward to welcoming all of our users and volunteers. In the next few weeks the archives team will take delivery of the Tees Works Archives which we are all looking forward to cataloguing and exploring.

Town Hall

14. After a successful season of socially distanced music and theatre in the Town Hall Courtyard, the doors fully reopened to Middlesbrough Town Hall on August 28, with a full main hall for Jimmy Carr – this was a huge success and a welcome sight to see 1000+ customers through the doors following the closure during Covid-19.
15. We're heading into a very busy Autumn season with a star studded line up including Jason Manford, Paul Weller, Enter Shikari, The Stylistics and Martin Kemp along with providing space for regular engagement classes from Musinc, community hires and wedding ceremonies and receptions.
16. We have submitted our application to Arts council England to extend out NPO status by an additional year we hope to receive a decision on this application in early January 2022.

Middlesbrough Theatre

17. The Autumn season continues to go from strength to strength with almost all programmed shows exceeding their sales targets. We have embarked on a new journey with Less is More Productions to support and cultivate local creative talent and are now running regular cabaret and scratch nights at the theatre on less commercially attractive days. The program has been extremely well received and has allowed the theatre to support in excess of 15 local creatives with freelance work.
18. This year's panto is proving very popular with ticket sales on track to pre pandemic targets. We are looking forward to a laughter filled panto season after last year's darkness.

Communities

Strategic Cohesion and Migration

19. During August and September, the Cohesion Team continued to attend alley clean ups with residents, talking to them about their views of the town. Of interest was the fact that many residents expressed that they would like to have opportunities for their children to become more aware and appreciative of the different cultures and communities in the town.

20. Support for the Amazing Alleys scheme is continuing. One Middlesbrough resident, who is originally from El Salvador, is interested in transforming her alley and is being supported by the team to apply for funding.
21. The cohesion team is also engaging with Barefoot Kitchen and Middlesbrough MELA to develop a “taste of home” cookbook. A number of workshops have been organised to bring community members together and share recipes and skills from their own cultures. The cohesion team has ensured community organisations and people they work with are aware of the events and participate.
22. The team supported the first two “Haircut for Homeless” events, organised by Middlesbrough’s Helping Hands and the Skins and Needles Academy. This was a joint effort by various organisations to offer support to some of the most vulnerable members of the community and was a great success. The event will now take place on the last Sunday of every month, with a wider celebration event at Christmas. The project consists of four volunteers from Helping Hands, six barbers from Skins and Needles, a Community Cohesion Officer and a Tenancy Support Officers. The Neighbourhood Wardens supported by raising awareness.



23. The refugee Specialised Training and Employment Programme (STEP) Advisor has continued to support refugees into employment opportunities, working with them on CVs, interview preparation, identifying ESOL and functional skills opportunities, and more. A number of new potential employers, including Greggs, Jury’s Inn, and Premier Inn have been identified. Welcome news was also received in that one of the STEP clients has been offered a position with Amazon, which makes them the first STEP client to find employment.
24. The Afghan ARAP program has continued, with processes being put in place to identify best practice. Yaseen, the integration officer, has built relationships with each of the three families to help them with their wider integration. Through the EMAT team, school places

have been identified for most of the children. Two further properties have also been identified and the Home Office is in the process of allocating families to those.

Furthermore, the team worked on developing an orientation presentation for our new Afghan arrivals. This presentation is based on the highly successful work completed as part of the Controlling Migration Fund and provides people with information on life in Britain and in Middlesbrough in particular.

25. Finally, work has continued with the asylum seeker mother and baby unit. The ladies are supported to access MyPlace, where they can access digital devices, use the gardens and other facilities and more. In partnership with Barefoot Kitchen, the mums are being supported to transform their outdoor space into a growing area for fruits, herbs and vegetables.

Reducing Reoffending

26. The Community Safety Partnership (CSP) in partnership with Middlesbrough’s Retail Crime Partnership (MRCP) and Cleveland Police led on a five day week of action focusing on retail crime and anti-social behaviour. Throughout the week partners worked with individuals identified by the MRCP to address their underlying complex issues. Police and wardens conducted high visibility patrols throughout the week as a deterrent and crime prevention assisted premises with advice on retail crime.
27. The CSP officer, working with Cleveland Police, has developed and launched a public facing council web page for cybercrime, including one for community based awareness and another focusing on increasing business communities’ resilience to the threat of cybercrime. The CSP officer has also co-written a campaign to raise awareness around the growing concern of courier fraud in order to help protect those most vulnerable in our communities whom may fall victim.

Crime and Locality Working

28. The following draft tables have been produced for use at Active Intelligence Mapping (AIM) meetings. The first shows the number arrests captured by CCTV per ward, the second shows per type of reporting category. The third and the most informative table, shows the no. arrests, assaults/fights, begging offences, hospital admissions, knife crime and facials taken/captured by CCTV.

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NUMBER OF INCIDENTS - CAPTURED BY CCTV

Ward	Arrests	Assault/ Fight	Begging	Hospital Admissions	Knife/ Knives	Facials Taken
Central	36	18	47	7	7	18
Newport	6	2	1	1	8	1
North Ormesby	4	3	0	2	2	1
Hemlington	1	0	0	0	0	0
Ayresome	0	0	0	0	0	1
Berwick Hills and Palli...	0	2	0	1	0	2
Brambles and Thorntr...	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ladgate	0	0	0	0	0	0
Linthorpe	0	1	0	0	0	0
Longlands and Beech...	0	0	0	0	0	0
Park	0	1	0	2	1	0
Park End and Beckfield	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	47	27	48	13	18	23

Enforcement Update – Work in Progress

Enforcement Actions Taken

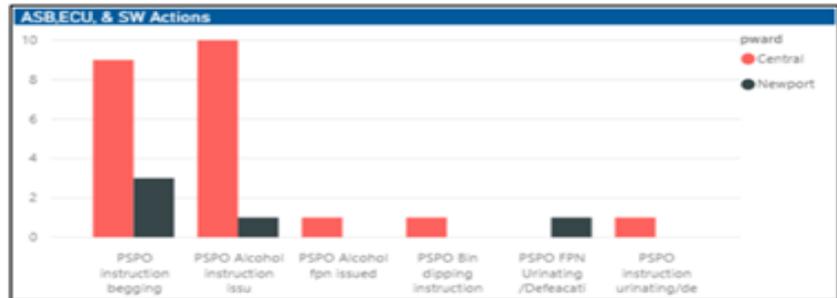
- Total of 2 FPN notices issued (1 Alcohol, 1 Urinating/defecating), 4 last period (3 Begging, 1 Urinating/defecating).
- 12 PSPO begging instructions issued (9 in Central, and 3 in Newport, 11 last period).
- 11 PSPO Alcohol instructions issued (10 in Central, 1 in Newport, 15 last period),

Closures

- 14/09/2021 – 3 month premises closure Bramwith Avenue (Berwick Hills)
- 15/09/2021 – 3 month premises closure Oliver Street (Linthorpe)
- 03/09/2021 – 3 month premises closure Tennyson Street (Newport)

Civil Injunctions

- 10/09/2021 – 12 months against prolific beggar – Jonathan Ambrose (Town center and Linthorpe Road)



29. Also under development for AIM is the enforcement figures per period – i.e. what has been done to tackle crime, ASB, fire, fly-tipping etc. Further AIM slides include:

- The make-up of crime - identifying the most prevalent times and crimes
- Crime & ASB hotspots
- Fire hotspots
- And environmental crime hotspots