

**COUNCIL**

<b>Report title</b>	Scrutiny Progress Report
<b>Chief Executive or Director</b>	Director of Legal and Governance Services
<b>Date</b>	20 October 2021

**Summary**

<b>Proposed decision(s)</b>
To update the position in respect of the Council’s Overview and Scrutiny Board and scrutiny panels. The current position regarding progress made by the Board and each of the panels is set out below.

<b>Report for:</b>	<b>Key decision:</b>	<b>Confidential/Exempt:</b>	<b>Is the report urgent?</b>
To be noted	No	No	Non-urgent report

<b>Contribution to delivery of the 2021-24 Strategic Plan</b>		
<b>People</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Business</b>
N/A	N/A	Members will be able to keep abreast of the work carried out through the Scrutiny Process
<b>Ward(s) affected</b>		
No wards in Middlesbrough are directly affected.		

**What is the purpose of this report?**

1. To update the position in respect of the Council’s Overview and Scrutiny Board and scrutiny panels.

**Why is this report necessary?**

2. The report is necessary so that Members are aware of the work being carried out by the individual Scrutiny Panels and the Overview and Scrutiny Board.

**What decision(s) are being asked for?**

3. That Council note the report.
4. The current position regarding progress made by the Board and each of the panels is set out below.

## **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD**

The Overview and Scrutiny Board are scheduled to meet on 20 October 2021.

At the 20 October 2021 meeting, the Board will consider / receive information in respect of the following:

- Executive Forward Work Programme;
- Executive Member for Regeneration Update;
- Chief Executive's Update;
- Scrutiny Chairs Updates;
- Culture and Communities Scrutiny Panel – Final Report – Cultural Events in Middlesbrough;
- Revenue and Capital Budget – Projected Outturn position as at Quarter Two 2021/2022;
- Strategic Plan 2021-2024 – Progress at Quarter Two 2021/2022.

## **SCRUTINY PANEL UPDATES**

The updated position in respect of the work of each of the Council's scrutiny panels is shown below.

### **Adult Social Care and Services Scrutiny Panel**

The Adult Social Care and Services Scrutiny Panel will meet on 13 October 2021.

The Panel will receive an update regarding the Integration of Health and Social Care from the Director of Adult Social Care and Health Integration. Members will also receive information from Ageing Better Middlesbrough's Chief Executive and Programme Manager regarding work undertaken to date, and next steps for the future / legacy planning. The Council's Head of Strategic Commissioning and Procurement will provide an update in respect of Aster Care Home.

The following meeting is scheduled to be held on 10 November 2021; the Panel will commence its review in respect of 'Adult Social Care Finance – Residential Care and Ensuring Value for Money'.

### **Children and Young People's Learning Scrutiny Panel**

At the last meeting held on 4 October 2021, in respect of the review of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), the Scrutiny Panel agreed its Terms of Reference and continued gathering evidence.

A number of officers were in attendance, who worked across Education, Social Care and Health. Those officers provided the Scrutiny Panel with:

- key data in respect of special educational needs and disabilities in Middlesbrough, specifically data on type of needs and pupil characteristics and how those compared regionally and nationally; and
- a detailed overview of how Education, Social Care and Health worked collectively to deliver SEND provision at a local level, including information on the SEND Strategy and the SEND Strategic Group.

The Scrutiny Panel also received an update on education and COVID-19 recovery.

### **Children and Young People's Social Care and Services Scrutiny Panel**

The Children and Young People's Social Care and Services Scrutiny Panel last met on 21 September 2021. The Director of Environment and Community Services and the Executive Director of Children's Services provided the Panel with an introduction to its new scrutiny topic 'Locality Working from a Children's Services Perspective'.

The Panel is scheduled to meet on 25 October at 4.00pm and will receive further details in relation to how Children's Services plans to deliver its services within the two locality working pilot areas.

### **Culture and Communities Scrutiny Panel**

The Culture and Communities Panel met on 23 September 2021 and received a presentation from the Selective Landlord Licensing Manager with regard to the roll out in Newport and re designation in North Ormesby. The Panel were pleased to see the results of the scheme and the positive impact it has had on residents.

The Panel also agreed the terms of reference for their review on Tough enough? Enforcement in Middlesbrough and its impact on crime and anti-social behaviour.

The next meeting is scheduled for 21 October 2021.

### **Economic Development, Environment and Infrastructure Scrutiny Panel**

The Economic Development, Environment and Infrastructure (EDEI) Scrutiny Panel met on 6 October 2021.

The Panel received a presentation from the Head of Transport and the Transport Planning Officer at the Tees Valley Combined Authority in relation to the Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Project as part of its scrutiny review of Middlesbrough Council's Green Strategy.

The draft Final Report on Middlesbrough Regeneration Post Covid-19 Scrutiny Review was presented and the Panel agreed conclusions and recommendations. The Final Report will now be submitted to the Overview and Scrutiny Board for consideration.

The next meeting is scheduled to be held on 3 November 2021 and the Panel is scheduled to receive an update on Fly Tipping and the Bulky Waste Collection Service from the Director of Environment and Community Services.

### **Health Scrutiny Panel**

The Health Scrutiny Panel met on 5 October 2021 where it received information from representatives of Prospect GP surgery. Following a CQC inspection in July 2021 the practice was found to be in inadequate and placed into special measures. Representatives from the practice advised the panel they were disappointed with the report but were working at pace to remedy the identified failings.

The panel was advised there had been mitigating circumstances that had led to the outcome of the inspection, which had been compounded by the Covid-19 pandemic. Those difficulties included recruiting Nurse Practitioners and challenges brought by not being able to meeting face to face. The panel was advised, however, that a stringent action plan had been put in place to improve processes and practices. As part of that action plan Prospect was being assisted by other GP practices in the Central Middlesbrough Primary Care Network, as well as the CCG, to meet their targets. The panel was assured that despite the disappointing results of the CQC inspection patient safety was still being held at a premium.

The Panel also received an update in respect of COVID-19 from the Director of Public Health (South Tees). During that update the panel discussed current Covid-19 infection rates and were advised that rates were falling in Middlesbrough albeit slowly. Demographically, there was a decline in Covid-19 rates across all age groups. The panel was advised that schools were maintaining many social distancing practices (such as the bubble system) and that only one school had required onsite testing to be mobilised. The panel also heard that while Covid-19 related hospital statistics were low, and falling slowly, the hospital system as a whole was still stressed and this needed to be borne in mind.

At its next meeting on 2 November the Panel will hear evidence into how economic and regeneration initiatives can help to close gaps in health inequalities from the Council's Director of Regeneration and representatives of the Tees Valley LEP and TVCA.

### **Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Joint Committee**

The Tees Valley Health Scrutiny Joint Committee met on 24 September 2021 and considered the following:-

- Election of Chair and Vice Chair;
- CNTW/TEWV Updates;
- Local NHS / Public Health response to COVID-19.

### **Tees Valley Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

The Tees Valley Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee are scheduled to meet on 14 October 2021 and will consider the following:

- Chief Executive's Update;
- Transport Portfolio Update;
- Delegated Decisions;
- Meetings and Forward Plan;
- Teesside International Airport Update.

### **SCRUTINY REPORTS SUBMITTED TO EXECUTIVE**

Since the last update to Council there have been no Scrutiny Panel reports submitted to Executive.

## **Other potential decisions and why these have not been recommended**

5. No other options were considered.

## **Impact(s) of recommended decision(s)**

### **Legal**

6. There are no legal implications as a result of the proposed appointments.

### **Financial**

7. There are no financial implications arising from this report.

## **The Mayor's Vision for Middlesbrough**

8. The report is line with the Mayor's vision for Middlesbrough.

## **Policy Framework**

9. The report does not impact on the overall budget and policy framework.

## **Wards**

10. The report does not impact on wards.

## **Risk**

11. Not applicable.

## **Equality and Diversity**

12. An Impact Assessment has not been completed, as it is not applicable.

## **Actions to be taken to implement the decision(s)**

13. Not applicable.

## **Background papers**

14. No unpublished background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

**COUNCILLOR M SAUNDERS  
CHAIR OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD**

### **Contact Officer:**

Caroline Breheny

Democratic Services

Telephone: 01642 729752 (direct line)

Email: caroline\_breheny@middlesbrough.gov.uk