

**AGENDA ITEM**

**REPORT TO CABINET**

**15 JULY 2021**

**REPORT OF PEOPLE SELECT  
COMMITTEE**

**CABINET DECISION**

**Lead Cabinet Member – Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Health  
Leisure & Culture - Councillor Jim Beall**

**Additional Cabinet Member - Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Housing – Councillor  
Nigel Cooke**

**SCRUTINY REVIEW OF CARBON MONOXIDE AWARENESS**

**SUMMARY**

The attached report presents the outcomes of the People Select Committee's review of Carbon Monoxide Awareness.

**REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S) / DECISION(S)**

This topic was included in the Scrutiny Work Programme for 2020/21. The review is now complete and the recommendations have been endorsed by the People Select Committee for submission to Cabinet.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. That correspondence is sent to local MPs and the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government urging that legislation is extended to make it a requirement that carbon monoxide alarms are fitted in all properties, and public buildings, such as Community Halls, for gas appliances as well as solid fuel burning appliances. In addition to this, legislation should be extended to make the installation of carbon monoxide alarms in all forms of holiday home, including caravans, with gas and solid fuel burning appliances a legal requirement.
2. That, working with Cleveland Fire Service, information on Carbon Monoxide poisoning be publicised through existing platforms, including Stockton News and through work with schools, to raise awareness as part of carbon monoxide awareness week, including the promotion of mobile 'mini-detectors'.
3. That all Housing Associations are encouraged to follow best practice and to consider using body worn 'mini-detectors' where appropriate when entering other people's homes/dwellings. In addition, the promotion of body worn 'mini-detectors' to Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council employees who regularly enter other people's homes/dwellings, such as registered carers.

## **DETAIL**

1. The attached report outlines the outcomes of the Scrutiny Review of Carbon Monoxide Awareness. The main aim of the review was to gain a wider understanding of the Council's role in raising awareness of Carbon Monoxide (CO) poisoning and the installation of CO alarms.
2. The Committee has taken evidence from Council Officers, Cleveland Fire Service, North East Ambulance Service (NEAS), Accent Housing, North Star Housing, Thirteen Housing Group.

## **COMMUNITY IMPACT IMPLICATIONS**

3. This review has provided the Committee with the opportunity to highlight and promote CO awareness. The Committee concluded that legislation should be extended to ensure that CO alarms are fitted in all properties, including holiday homes, for gas and solid burning fuel appliances. The Committee also supported the continuation of awareness raising through existing platforms. The Committee's findings are reflected in the recommendations.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

1. There are no additional financial implications identified at this stage.

## **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

2. None.

## **RISK ASSESSMENT**

3. This report is categorised as low to medium risk. Existing management systems and daily routine activities are sufficient to control and reduce risk.

## **WARDS AFFECTED AND CONSULTATION WITH WARD/COUNCILLORS**

4. Not applicable.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

5. None.

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