

**STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS**

**PROFORMA**

Cabinet Meeting .....15th September 2022

1. Title of Item/Report

Scrutiny Review of Bonfires on Public Land - Final Report of the Crime and Disorder Select Committee

2. Record of the Decision

Consideration was given to a report that presented the outcomes of the Crime and Disorder Select Committee's review of Bonfires on Public Land.

RESOLVED that:-

1. To supplement Cleveland Fire Brigade's (CFB) annual promotion of fire safety ahead of the bonfire season, Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council (SBC) reviews its own public engagement approach to reinforce this messaging across all available communication mechanisms, emphasising dangers of bonfires and impact on local residents.

2. In terms of communicating to the wider public, SBC considers adopting the Shrewsbury Town Council approach in emphasising a zero tolerance towards unauthorised bonfires (including contact routes for permission to light a bonfire on public land and the potential consequences for failing to seek permission).

3. SBC reinforces existing communication arrangements with both CFB and Cleveland Police for them to report details of dispensed combustible materials for collection (both during and outside the bonfire season).

4. SBC continues to support CFB and Thirteen Housing Group in undertaking leaflet drops to identified bonfire hotspot neighbourhoods within the Borough regarding fire safety and reporting routes for anti-social behaviour / associated disorder.

5. To further deter the construction and lighting of unauthorised bonfires, SBC identifies any alternative sites within the Borough where official bonfires may be able to be facilitated in the future.

3. Reasons for the Decision

This topic was included on the Scrutiny Work Programme for 2021-2022. The review is now complete, and the recommendations have been endorsed by the Crime and Disorder Select Committee for submission to Cabinet.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None.

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

Councillor Norma Stephenson declared an interest in respect of agenda item 8 - Scrutiny Review of Bonfires on Public Land - Final Report of the Crime and Disorder Select Committee as she had proposed the topic for scrutiny.

6. Details of any Dispensations

None.

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

Midnight Monday 26 September 2022

Proper Officer  
20 September 2022