

**Place Select Committee
Chair's Update – January 2018**

Scrutiny Review – Asylum Seeker Services	
Achieved since last meeting	The agreed final report was presented to Cabinet in November 2017 where all the recommendations were endorsed.
Problems or concerns	None.
Planned next month	The Action Plan in relation to the agreed recommendations is currently being collated and will be presented to Committee as soon as possible.
On track – yes / no	Yes.

Scrutiny Review – Billingham Event Infrastructure/Billingham International Folklore Festival (BIFF)	
Achieved since last meeting	<p>Committee received evidence from key Billingham International Folklore Festival (BIFF) stakeholders in November 2017 including the Local Authority (involvement in BIFF, associated health and safety observations, potential alternative accommodation sites in Billingham, Local Billingham Councillor views), BIFF Directors (the organisation of BIFF, its funding streams and future challenges), and Billingham Town Council (significance of event, and current/potential future role in the festival).</p> <p>A 'summary of evidence' document for this review was presented to Committee at the December 2017 meeting, accompanied by a summary of estimated infrastructure costs for various accommodation options. Key findings were discussed and draft recommendations were formulated.</p>
Problems or concerns	None.
Planned next month	A draft report will be considered at the next Committee meeting in January 2018, with an agreed final report to be presented to Cabinet in February 2018.
On track – yes / no	Yes.

Scrutiny Review – Disabled Parking (Task & Finish)	
Achieved since last meeting	A decision was taken to initiate this short task and finish review early in the New Year. This topic is part of the Committee's 2017-2018 work programme.
Problems or concerns	None.

**Place Select Committee
Chair's Update – January 2018**

Planned next month	Committee will consider a draft scope and plan for this review at the January 2018 meeting, and initial information outlining the statutory requirements for disabled bays, the process for applying for a blue badge, and the Council's (and other Local Authorities) approach to enforcing this scheme will be presented. Questions for private car parks and the Disability Advisory Group will also be formulated and agreed.
On track – yes / no	Yes.

Overview / Performance and Quality Assurance	
Key Issues / Problems or concerns	None.
Requests for more information	-

Monitoring	
Key Issues / Problems or concerns	<p><u>Flooding (Initial)</u>: An initial progress update was given at the last Committee meeting in December 2017 – one action has been completed, two remain on-track, and one has slipped (further develop expertise of operatives engaged in dealing with flooding issues) due to limited resources (this will be picked up in the New Year).</p> <p><u>Fire Safety of High Rise Residential Buildings (Initial)</u>: An initial progress update was given at the last Committee meeting in December 2017 – two actions have been completed, with the rest on-track. Members asked for an update on Kennedy Gardens (linked to independent review) and further details on why Hanover Point and Rialto Court are not intending to provide sprinklers. It was also queried if Thirteen Group produce an internal report following fire incidents (Melsonby Court fire before Christmas referenced) and consider how this incident was handled?</p> <p>As noted within the review, the Anson House (Thornaby) was discussed, and an update on Thirteen Group's investigations was requested. Thirteen Group subsequently provided the following update:</p> <p><i>'Internal Investigation concluded that cause of the fire was accidental (concluded by Cleveland Fire Brigade's report – ignition source candles).</i></p> <p><i>The communal fire alarm system is separate from the individual flats. The communal system is monitored by the Assistive Technology Team. The smoke detectors within the flats are</i></p>

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Chair's Update – January 2018**

	<p><i>linked to a system that is monitored by the Concierge Team.</i></p> <p><i>Investigation identified that the internal procedure for notifying the fire brigade was not fully followed. This was due to a number of factors that occurred on that evening. This was also reported by the media following the conclusion of the Coroner's inquest.</i></p> <p><i>Immediate refresher training was rolled out to all employees within the monitoring station, with clear emphasis on the action to take following receipt of a smoke detector signal. Fire Action Notices/Procedures state the actions for the tenants to take if the smoke detector within the flat is activated.</i></p> <p><i>Corners Inquest held on 15/09/17 – attended by Thirteen, Cleveland Fire Brigade and the local Press. Thirteen representatives were called to give evidence on actions taken on the 19/04/17. Outcome of the Coroner's inquest was recorded as a tragic accident.'</i></p> <p><u>Countryside Sites</u>: A further progress update was given at the last Committee meeting in December 2017 – most of the outstanding actions remain on-track, though some actions that had slipped previously have yet to be resolved. These include the preparation of an overall strategic plan and updated site management plans for countryside sites (plan being drafted), and the exploration of opportunities for external partners to carry out management functions and associated services.</p>
Requests for more information	-

Next Meetings

Monday 12th February 2018 (2.00pm)