

**SELECT COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME
SUGGESTED REVIEW – PRO FORMA**

Summary of issue you wish to be scrutinised, including key concerns and outcome for scrutinising the topic?

Care Homes for Older People

Key Concerns:

The CQC ratings for Care Homes for Older People in the Borough are lower than the national average.

The review would seek to understand the reasons why Care Homes are not achieving the same level of CQC ratings as the Tees and national average and to identify what activities can take place by the Care Homes, Local Authority and wider stakeholders to improve CQC ratings.

NOTE: ENTRIES BELOW RELATE TO ISSUE CATEGORIES OF THE PICK PROCESS.
PLEASE REFER TO THE EXPLANATION NOTES TO THIS FORM FOR FURTHER
INFORMATION.

Public interest justification:

Care Homes for Older People are an important element of the support options available to the residents of the Borough.

There is a high level of interest in the quality of local provision, including CQC ratings.

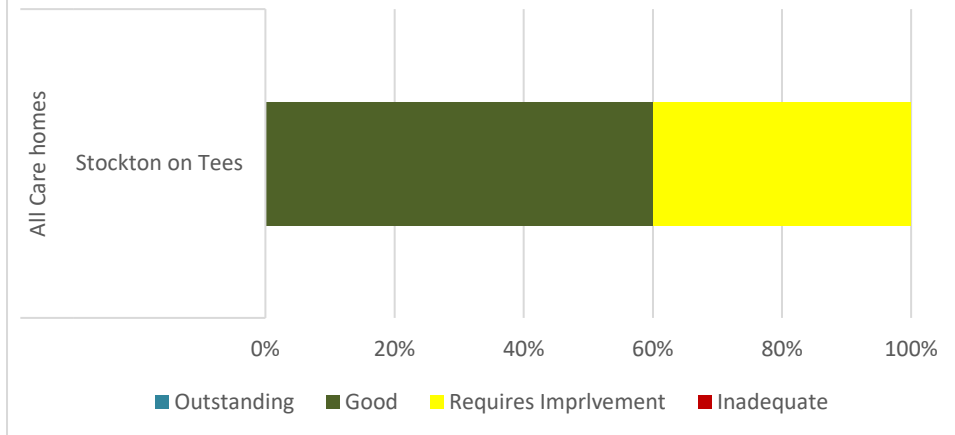
Impact on the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area:

Effective care homes provide quality care for their clients, support for their families and carers, and contribute to the overall provision of local NHS and social care services.

Care Homes form part of the community that they are based within. They operate as independent businesses.

Council performance, efficiency (identification of savings and reducing demand) in this area:

Older People Care Home CQC Quality Assessment January 2019



All Members receive regular updates when inspections reports on locally based services are published, and Adult Social Care and Health Select Committee receives a quarterly round up.

These updates show any changes from the rating achieved previous inspection reports, and highlight consistent themes where improvement is required.

Keep in Context (are other reviews taking place in this area?):

The Integrated Strategy Team and the Procurement Team are planning activity with Care Homes to improve quality of provision. Select Committee involvement will support this process.

Which of the Council's four policy principles does the proposed scrutiny topic support? (see page 3)

Protecting the vulnerable through targeted intervention.

Developing strong and healthy communities.

What would you want the outcome of the review to be?

A plan to improve CQC ratings of Care Homes for Older People.

Signed: Cllr Lisa Grainge

Date: 1 February 2019

**SELECT COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME
SUGGESTED REVIEW – PRO FORMA**

<p>Summary of issue you wish to be scrutinised, including key concerns and outcome for scrutinising the topic?</p> <p>To review careers provision for young people in Stockton.</p> <p>Access to high quality effective support in making career choices is a key element in the new Children and Young People Strategy.</p> <p>There are statutory responsibilities for all schools to have effective provision in place, and the Council provides both a traded service and a specific service for more vulnerable young people.</p> <p>The Tees Valley Combined Authority hosts a number of roles and has links to the Careers and Enterprise Company, and hosts a new careers hub.</p> <p>The overall system then is increasingly complex, and would benefit from a review to be clear on roles and responsibilities; effectiveness of current approaches, the impact of the TVCA plans, and any future actions. Would include a specific focus on vulnerable young people, including those in care, care leavers and those with special educational needs.</p> <p>We would propose to take evidence from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employers • Young people • Schools and colleges • TVCA • SBC services
<p>NOTE: ENTRIES BELOW RELATE TO ISSUE CATEGORIES OF THE PICK PROCESS. PLEASE REFER TO THE EXPLANATION NOTES TO THIS FORM FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.</p>
<p>Public interest justification:</p> <p>Effectiveness of support for young people is an area of great interest for members and was the focus of some work by the Assistant Cabinet members in 2018.</p> <p>There is an anecdotal perception amongst that collective approaches in this area are not sufficient to prepare young people for work.</p>
<p>Impact on the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area:</p> <p>The focus of the review would be to develop a clear and owned approach across Stockton which supports schools in their role, is clear about what the Council's role is, and how the system can work more effectively for young people.</p>
<p>Council performance, efficiency (identification of savings and reducing demand) in this area:</p> <p>The key focus for the Council would be around the role of our Traded service, careers+, and also in the support we provide for more vulnerable young people.</p> <p>We would also focus on NEET and identify any remaining barriers to improving performance.</p>

Keep in Context (are other reviews taking place in this area?):

No other current reviews in this area. Link to the TVCA scrutiny process to be clarified.

Which of the Council's four policy principles does the proposed scrutiny topic support? (see page 3)

The review would have a specific focus on

- **Promoting equality of opportunity through targeted intervention**, specifically in relation to tackling health inequalities, meeting the skills gap and improving access to job opportunities, tackling fuel poverty, improving education and training opportunities, access to affordable housing and financial and digital inclusion.
- **Creating economic prosperity** across the Borough through a focus on bridging the gap, real or perceived, between employers views of careers, current services and support available and young people's views.

What would you want the outcome of the review to be?

A commitment to a quality standard for all schools
A clear framework for supporting and improving outcomes for young people
Specific commitments for children in care and those with SEN

Signed: Cllr Ann McCoy

Date: January 2019

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**SELECT COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME
SUGGESTED REVIEW – PRO FORMA**

Summary of issue you wish to be scrutinised, including key concerns and outcome for scrutinising the topic?

Roadside Advertising

Over the last couple of years there has been a notable increase in the amount of unauthorised advertising material being placed on, or adjacent to the highway. This varies from fly posting on the back of road signs, to trailers specifically designed to be left on, or adjacent to the roadside and has led to increasing concern within the Council, and from the general public. The removal of unauthorised signing can be controversial as the removal of signs can generate adverse comments from businesses and event's organisers. The organisers of smaller events in particular often feel aggrieved as the display of signs and or flyers in the locality are often the only publicity for their events.

The control of advertising on or adjacent to the highway covers many different service areas (highways, planning, enforcement etc.) and each service tackles the issue as they deem appropriate. The proposed outcome of the review would be for the Council to adopt a coordinated approach to the control of roadside advertising allowing, where appropriate and safe to do so, legitimate roadside advertising while controlling, efficiently and effectively, inappropriate roadside advertising.

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Public interest justification:

Members of the public tend not to be aware of the legal position in regards to advertising signs and can be confused about the process for authorisation and therefore may not be aware they are committing an offence or causing a problem.

In certain circumstances the inappropriate siting of roadside advertising can constitute a safety hazard to pedestrians and /or a distraction to motorists.

Impact on the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area:

One of the Council's four key policy principals is creating economic prosperity and the appropriate advertising of business's and events can assist with achieving this aim.

Promotion of local events can assist with social inclusion however inappropriate roadside advertising can also be harmful to the local street scene environment.

Council performance, efficiency (identification of savings and reducing demand) in this area:

The control of advertising on or adjacent to the highway covers many different service areas (highways, planning, enforcement etc.) and each service tackles the issue as they deem appropriate. This can lead to different departments tackling issues inconsistently and multi handling the same complaint. A coordinated approach should set out clear responsibilities and avoid double handling issues with any complaint being dealt with efficiently using the appropriate control mechanism.

Keep in Context (are other reviews taking place in this area?):

While individual services manage this issue on an individual basis there are no other coordinated reviews currently taking place.

Which of the Council's four policy principles does the proposed scrutiny topic support? (see page 3)

One of the Council's four key policy principles is creating economic prosperity and the appropriate advertising of business's and events can assist with achieving this aim.

What would you want the outcome of the review to be?

The proposed outcome of the review would be for the Council to adopt a coordinated approach to the control of roadside advertising allowing, where appropriate and safe to do so, legitimate roadside advertising while controlling, efficiently and effectively, inappropriate roadside advertising.

Signed: Cllr Jim Beall

Date: Jan 19

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**Select Committee Work Programme
Suggested Review – Tees Credit Union**

Summary of issue you wish to be scrutinised, including key concerns and outcome for scrutinising the topic?

Tees Credit Union

Tees Credit Union merged with Moneywise Credit Union Ltd in September 2017. The aim of this review would be to consider the operation of the Credit Union since the merger to ensure that it is serving the needs of the people of the borough and specifically supporting the vulnerable who rely on it for the provision of loans, banking services and savings accounts at reasonable rates. The review is timely because it would be approximately two years after the merger and this would be a good time to ensure that the changes made to support the merger have been completed successfully.

It should also be noted that in December 2018 Moneywise Credit Union Ltd was appointed to operate the new Community Bank in Middlesbrough and Redcar and Cleveland. The review would provide a good opportunity to consider whether any opportunities for collaboration arise from this new operation which may generate further benefits for the Moneywise customers in Stockton on Tees.

The review would also provide an excellent opportunity to consider whether increased support and collaboration can be achieved with businesses and VCSE organisations in the borough in terms of payroll giving and collaborative working. The opportunity through the scrutiny process to illicit the views of partners and businesses would be valuable.

The review could also consider opportunities for generating greater take up of the Moneywise services with Council employees.

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Public interest justification:

The review has a strong public interest justification as the Credit Union provides an important high street banking service in the borough, but of particular importance is that it offers its services to those in financial hardship who might sometimes be turned away from a traditional bank. The Credit Union is therefore a vital service provided to the vulnerable in the borough.

Impact on the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area:

The Credit Union clearly has an important role to play in making a difference to the social and economic well-being of the area. Money that is repaid to more expensive lenders is money that is not circulating within the local economy thus potentially impacting on the Council's regenerating policies. Importantly this is a review where a Council Scrutiny Committee can realistically expect to influence policy and practice at the Credit Union as a strong collaborative relationship exists between the two organisations, and I am confident that the Credit Union would respond positively to a Scrutiny Review. Joint work is already underway to make use of advice from business expert support provided through Tees Valley Community Foundation. The Council and the Credit Union worked closely on the relocation of the Credit Union to Dovecot Street in 2018 and continues to work together on the promotion and marketing of services to employees, schools and businesses in the borough.

Council performance, efficiency (identification of savings and reducing demand) in this area:

Whilst the Credit Union has performed solidly since the merger there is value in undertaking a review to ensure that all possible opportunities for development are fully explored and exploited. The continued success of high cost lenders in the borough suggest that there is still significant potential for growth and expansion of the Credit Union.

Keep in Context (are other reviews taking place in this area?):

The financial probity and operation of the Credit Union is subject to oversight by the Prudential Regulation Authority for prudential purposes and the Financial Conduct Authority for conduct purposes. It is not proposed that this review would not consider these aspects of the operation of the Credit Union. This review would specifically focus on whether all opportunities are being pursued for the commercial success of the organisation in the borough and therefore the provision of a good service to residents.

Which of the Council's four policy principles does the proposed scrutiny topic support? (see page 3)

The review would support all four policy principles however it has a direct impact on the policy principle of protecting the vulnerable through targeted intervention, particularly those people in our communities who are subject to, or at risk of harm, people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless and those who are financially excluded or whose circumstances make them vulnerable. The review would also support the promotion of equality of opportunity through targeted intervention, specifically in relation to financial inclusion.

What would you want the outcome of the review to be?

Reassurance that the Credit Union is operating well following the merger in 2017 and that all opportunities associated with the creation of the new Community Bank in Middlesbrough and Redcar and Cleveland have been explored.

Reassurance that the Credit Union business model is clear, robust and future proofed

A consideration as to whether the Credit Union is maximising the opportunities available for advertising its products and that the message being given is clear

Confirmation that the Credit Union is clear about what its customer base is and that the products available are appropriate e.g. for asylum seekers/refugees

Improved connections and connections with businesses and VCSE organisations in the borough.

Confirmation that all opportunities for collaborative working with the Council are being explored.

Signed: Councillor Steve Nelson

Date: 29/01/19

**Select Committee Work Programme
Suggested Review – Pro Forma**

<p>Summary of issue you wish to be scrutinised, including key concerns and outcome for scrutinising the topic?</p> <p>To review OneCall which provides an assistive technology and response services for vulnerable people within Stockton.</p> <p>The OneCall service has been in existence since 1986 and provides a communal alarm system for elderly clients throughout the borough.</p> <p>The service has previously been called Warden Call and Care Call in the past and the aim is to provide a tailored, assistive technology and response services to meet an individual's needs, with the youngest client currently being 5 years old and the oldest 102 years of age.</p> <p>The service currently provides 5082 communal alarms for clients within the borough with the aim of promoting wellbeing and assisting clients to live safely and independently in their own home for longer.</p> <p>The service has been working closely with commissioning and social service teams to develop services, referral pathways and the individual social workers knowledge of the services available.</p> <p>Key areas for consideration are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The growth of the service, including funding, service delivery and staffing levels. • Partnership working with Health and Social Care. • Lack of awareness of the services OneCall provide. <p>Proposed evidence from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OneCall Service. • Commissioning. • Social Services Management.
<p>NOTE: ENTRIES BELOW RELATE TO ISSUE CATEGORIES OF THE PICK PROCESS. PLEASE REFER TO THE EXPLANATION NOTES TO THIS FORM FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.</p>
<p>Public interest justification:</p> <p>Despite best efforts, members of the public tend not to be aware of the services available to them through OneCall and therefore are missing out on the opportunity to have equipment installed that would sustain them living at home for longer.</p>
<p>Impact on the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area:</p> <p>The ability to provide choice and dignity to clients, whilst keeping them living independently at home assists the social and economic impact of placing clients into care homes.</p>

This impact is also reduced by OneCall responding quickly to around 200 clients that have fallen each month, meaning a reduction in ambulance attendance and therefore hospital admittance.

Council performance, efficiency (identification of savings and reducing demand) in this area:

Through joint working with partners in health and social care, OneCall assists in early discharge from hospital and SBC's Rosedale Care Home through the timely installation of equipment. It is also working with 250 clients in care homes to reduce falls and the impact of falls.

OneCall is a registered service with the Care Quality Commission to provide personal care at home and has been working on a pilot to use assistive technology and reactive care to replace some of the 15 minute welfare calls currently provided by care companies throughout the borough.

Keep in Context (are other reviews taking place in this area?):

No reviews of service planned.

Which of the Council's four policy principles does the proposed scrutiny topic support? (see page 3)

Protecting the vulnerable through targeted intervention – making sure that partners in health and social care are utilising the OneCall service to provide services for vulnerable clients.

Developing strong and healthy communities – ensuring that the most vulnerable clients within the borough have the knowledge to make choices around living at home for longer.

What would you want the outcome of the review to be?

A commitment to provide assistive technology and response services to the most vulnerable clients within the borough.

A clear understanding of where the OneCall service fits within SBC and its partner agencies.

Potential suggestions from Members on how the service can target more potential customers, both internal (within the Council) as well as external.

Signed: Councillor Steve Nelson

Date: 29.1.2019

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Select Committee Work Programme Suggested Review – Pro Forma

<p>Summary of issue you wish to be scrutinised, including key concerns and outcome for scrutinising the topic?</p> <p>Area Transport Strategy</p> <p>Area Transport Strategy (ATS) Groups were established to introduce community involvement in the selection of highway and transport schemes and a budget has been identified from the Council's Local Transport Plan allocation to fund schemes on an annual basis.</p> <p>Over time the process has been developed by Officers to try and ensure the most appropriate schemes are selected and funded from a single budget rather than split between areas. However, concerns still exist regarding whether the scheme provides value for money for all especially at a time when there are growing pressures on funding allocations and resources have to be carefully prioritised.</p>
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<p>Public interest justification:</p> <p>The Area Transport Strategy scheme allows the community / public an opportunity to influence where a proportion of our limited funding for improvements to the highway is targeted therefore it is essential that this process is fit for purpose, inclusive, allows the public to have the appropriate level of influence while being efficient and an effective process.</p>
<p>Impact on the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area:</p> <p>Most people use some part of the transport network on a daily basis, whether to get to work, to an educational establishment, for a health appointment, to go shopping, to enjoy leisure pursuits, or to get to a social engagement. Therefore, the impact of any changes to the network will have a social, economic and environmental on large parts of the community.</p>
<p>Council performance, efficiency (identification of savings and reducing demand) in this area:</p> <p>With ever increasing demands on our limited highways budgets it is essential that all expenditure represents value for money and assists in delivering our policies. The Area Transport Strategy scheme allows communities to influence expenditure but can create a demand for services and projects that cannot always be satisfied and can be more a more staff intensive process for the delivery of projects than other expenditure methodologies.</p>
<p>Keep in Context (are other reviews taking place in this area?):</p> <p>There are no other currently proposed reviews in this area.</p>

Which of the Council's four policy principles does the proposed scrutiny topic support? (see page 3)

Improvements to the highway network supports all of the four policy principles

- **Protecting the vulnerable through targeted intervention**, - delivering schemes such as traffic calming to improve road safety help protect the vulnerable such as the elderly, young children and the mobility impaired.
- **Promoting equality of opportunity through targeted intervention**, - delivering improvements to the PROW, footway or cycle networks can encourage people to walk & cycle which in turns improves people's health and can assist people to access jobs and education.
- **Developing strong and healthy communities** – most people use the transport network on a daily basis, whether to get to work, to an educational establishment, for a health appointment, to go shopping, to enjoy leisure pursuits, or to get to a social engagement therefore improvements funded via the ATS process help develop, support and maintain strong & healthy communities.
- **Creating economic prosperity** across the Borough – improvements to the highway network can provide better access for individuals to jobs, education and training opportunities improving people's economic prosperity and opportunities.

What would you want the outcome of the review to be?

That the ATS process is efficient and effective giving the community an opportunity to influence highway improvements and expenditure while representing and ensuring value for money.

Signed: Councillor Mike Smith

Date: January 2019

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**Select Committee Work Programme
Suggested Review – Pro Forma**

<p>Summary of issue you wish to be scrutinised, including key concerns and outcome for scrutinising the topic?</p> <p>Business Support</p> <p>The Council undertakes a number of business support activities across the Borough from advice and guidance to direct financial support. In recent years the focus of this activity has changed with a greater emphasis placed on targeted, evidence led support and creating a single point of contact (“one conversation”) policy for businesses liaising with the Council. There are a number of challenges at present largely around resources and, therefore, a concentration on reactive rather than proactive activity.</p> <p>There is also now a key interface with the Tees Valley Combined Authority both in terms of their business support activity and the funding streams that they either manage or can access.</p>
<p>NOTE: ENTRIES BELOW RELATE TO ISSUE CATEGORIES OF THE PICK PROCESS. PLEASE REFER TO THE EXPLANATION NOTES TO THIS FORM FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.</p>
<p>Public interest justification:</p> <p>There are several thousand businesses registered within the Borough from micro (1-10 employees) through to large multi-national organisations – each important to the economy of the Borough and its residents. The Council plays an important facilitation role in the sustainability and growth of these companies.</p>
<p>Impact on the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area:</p> <p>Businesses and employment have a significant impact on the social, economic and environmental well-being of the Borough.</p>
<p>Council performance, efficiency (identification of savings and reducing demand) in this area:</p> <p>There is increasing demand for business support activity with a reduced resource internally (albeit temporarily).</p>
<p>Keep in Context (are other reviews taking place in this area?):</p> <p>There has been a recent SWIS Review of the Economic Growth area which the Business & Enterprise Team sit within.</p>
<p>Which of the Council’s four policy principles does the proposed scrutiny topic support? (see page 3)</p> <p>Promoting equality of opportunity through targeted intervention</p> <p>Creating economic prosperity</p>

What would you want the outcome of the review to be?

That the business support activity focus of the Council is fit for purpose and resourced accordingly

Signed: Councillor Bob Cook

Date: January 2019

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**Select Committee Work Programme
Suggested Review – Pro Forma**

Summary of issue you wish to be scrutinised, including key concerns and outcome for scrutinising the topic?

Hospital Discharge

Communications between hospitals and adult social care regarding hospital discharge.

Over the past couple of years, elderly family and residents have been discharged from hospital without any support and care, sometimes after months in hospital, and being left with no food in the house and not being able to get upstairs to the bathroom or bed.

This is a widespread social issue which needs investigating. While a patient is in hospital, the council's adult social care team may not be able to get involved, but there needs to be better communication and practices in place so patients get the care they need as soon as they are discharged.

I would also like the council to investigate practices for when someone's main carer goes into hospital. There should be better communications and a duty of care to ensure the person left at home has the support they need and when their carer is discharged and may not be well enough to take care of them properly, adult social care is aware of the situation and put safeguards in place.

Patients are also being discharged believing support will be put in place but adult social care are not aware of the individual. Patients and their families also need better information on how to access adult social care services after being discharged from hospital.

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Public interest justification:

Delivery of local NHS and adult social care services continues to be of high public and media interest.

This also links to wider public concerns regarding 'winter' pressures and general bed availability.

<p>Impact on the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area:</p> <p>This topic impacts across both the social wellbeing of patients, carers and families, and also the economic impact of carers not able to work/having stress (for example), and effective use of NHS and social care resources.</p>	
<p>Council performance, efficiency (identification of savings and reducing demand) in this area:</p> <p>A number of projects have been put in place in recent years to improve discharge arrangements. This includes the Integrated Discharge Team with input from both the Trust and Local Authorities.</p>	
<p>Keep in Context (are other reviews taking place in this area?):</p> <p>Not known.</p>	
<p>Which of the Council's four policy principles does the proposed scrutiny topic support? (see page 3)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Protecting the vulnerable through targeted intervention, particularly those people in our communities who are subject to, or at risk of harm, people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless and those who are financially excluded or whose circumstances make them vulnerable. - Developing strong and healthy communities through the provision of mainstream and preventive services that are available to all those who choose to access them. 	
<p>What would you want the outcome of the review to be?</p> <p>An assessment as to whether local hospital discharge arrangements - and recent initiatives to improve them - are leading to the provision of safe, effective and caring services.</p>	
<p>Signed: Councillor Lauriane Povey</p>	<p>Date: February 2019</p>
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**Select Committee Work Programme
Suggested Review – Pro Forma**

<p>Summary of issue you wish to be scrutinised, including key concerns and outcome for scrutinising the topic?</p> <p>Action Fraud</p> <p>Unlike other crime types such as theft, burglary or assaults, fraud is not reported directly to Cleveland Police but to a National Recording Centre based in the City of London known as Action Fraud.</p> <p>Such offences include cyber-crime, doorstep crime, telephone and postal enabled offences.</p> <p>The vast majority of these offences are perpetrated from outside of the Cleveland area and often from outside of the UK making investigation and detection extremely difficult.</p> <p>Action Fraud collate the information and where appropriate send investigation packages to the force where the offender resides and notifies the force covering the area where the victim resides.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">NOTE: ENTRIES BELOW RELATE TO ISSUE CATEGORIES OF THE PICK PROCESS. PLEASE REFER TO THE EXPLANATION NOTES TO THIS FORM FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.</p>
<p>Public interest justification:</p> <p>The impact upon victims is devastating with people often losing their life savings.</p>
<p>Impact on the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area:</p> <p>Within Cleveland we receive between 150-170 such victims every month, the current thinking is that about 5% of victims actually report meaning that the actual figure will be between 3 and 3.5 thousand victims.</p>
<p>Council performance, efficiency (identification of savings and reducing demand) in this area:</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Keep in Context (are other reviews taking place in this area?):</p> <p>None known</p>
<p>Which of the Council's four policy principles does the proposed scrutiny topic support? (see page 3)</p> <p>➤ Protecting the vulnerable through targeted intervention, particularly those people in our communities who are subject to, or at risk of harm, people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless and those who are financially excluded or whose circumstances make them vulnerable.</p>
<p>What would you want the outcome of the review to be?</p> <p>Increased awareness and report and better support for victims.</p>
<p>Signed: Dave Mead VCAS Date: August 2018</p>

**Select Committee Work Programme
Suggested Review – Pro Forma**

Summary of issue you wish to be scrutinised, including key concerns and outcome for scrutinising the topic?

Domestic Abuse (including impact on children)

Domestic Abuse (DA) has a significant impact on children; they don't just witness DA they are significantly affected by it. This is not just the impact of physical abuse and violence but also the impact of coercive control. DA does not only lead to children and young people referred to safeguarding and some children placed in our care, but also impacts on what we call 'children in need'.

The impact for our children and young people is immense but there is also a significant impact on resources: our own resources, commissioned DA services, health, police etc.

The point of the scrutiny is to determine if our current approach to DA and the impact on children is effective, do we need to do anything differently, are we learning from what works elsewhere?

There are a range of innovative practices across the country and region. This includes Middlesbrough / My Sisters Place, who are doing some impressive work with women who are repeat victims of DA, and Sunderland are one of the pilot sites for the Change that Lasts model.

The scrutiny review should take the opportunity to meet with women who have been victims and children and ask what did / what would have worked for them.

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Public interest justification:

Raising awareness of types of abuse and types of support are major aims of domestic abuse programmes.

Impact on the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area:

It is estimated there are over 3500 unreported incidents in the Borough each year. On average 85% of victims sought help five times in the year before they got effective help to stop the abuse. At least 300 children may go on to become abusive or victims of abuse per year.

DA is a gendered crime, it affects women more than men. Two women a week are killed by men, so there should be no apology for talking about women as victims.

Women say they are given impossible choices, to choose between the child or the man they love. We also focus on what the non abusing parent, mother, can do to protect. Are we getting this approach right?

Council performance, efficiency (identification of savings and reducing demand) in this area:

The Council and partners has a Domestic Abuse Steering Group in place which has overseen a number of initiatives, including the appointment of a Domestic Abuse Co-ordinator.

Local partners have adopted a Strategy, with Action Plans generated on an annual basis.

Keep in Context (are other reviews taking place in this area?):

Not known

The Government has published its response to its domestic abuse consultation, and is proposing to take forward a draft Domestic Abuse Bill.

Which of the Council's four policy principles does the proposed scrutiny topic support? (see page 3)

This review would be relevant to all Policy Principles but in particular:

- Protecting the vulnerable through targeted intervention
- Developing strong and healthy communities through the provision of mainstream and preventive services that are available to all those who choose to access them.

What would you want the outcome of the review to be?

An assessment of current programmes

An assessment of innovative practice across the country

Signed: Children and Young People Select Committee

Date: 23 January 2019

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**SELECT COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME
SUGGESTED REVIEW – PRO FORMA**

<p>Summary of issue you wish to be scrutinised, including key concerns and outcome for scrutinising the topic?</p> <p>Scrutiny of the Council Land Contamination Strategy to be reviewed 2019</p> <p>The current land contamination strategy is due for review in 2019 and as such our position in relation to historically contaminated sites and the Councils position in relation to its remediation strategy requires detailed assessment and updating.</p> <p>Key outcomes will be to develop a robust strategy document which meets with member approval and allows the Council to fulfil its legal obligations.</p> <p>In developing a robust strategy consideration will be needed with regards to the Councils fulfilment of its Part 2A responsibilities, the need to address historic sites via the polluter pays model or through regeneration via the planning mechanism considering cost and local improvement as key themes.</p>
<p>NOTE: ENTRIES BELOW RELATE TO ISSUE CATEGORIES OF THE PICK PROCESS. PLEASE REFER TO THE EXPLANATION NOTES TO THIS FORM FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.</p>
<p>Public interest justification:</p> <p>Remediation of historically contaminated sites allows the Council to fulfil its legal responsibilities while ensuring the protection of human health. In addition to human health protection from potentially harmful soil based pollutants, protection of the environment, water courses and other buildings is achieved.</p>
<p>Impact on the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area:</p> <p>The remediation of contaminated sites provides remediated sites which allows future use by residents or employees as the sites become redeveloped. The remediation of land via the Council's strategy allows for future development to occur, houses to be built on brown field sites and for land which has been historically unused to be brought back into use for business development.</p> <p>The remediation of sites further protects for pollutant migration from contaminated sites into water courses, local aquifers and adjoining land.</p>
<p>Council performance, efficiency (identification of savings and reducing demand) in this area:</p> <p>The Council's Contaminated Land Strategy is a mandatory document which is held along with the Council Land Contamination Register. While reducing demand is not possible for historically contaminated sites, savings can be made by ensuring efficiencies are met and that the remediation of land responsibilities rests with the original polluter or with the land developer during the planning and development stages of redevelopment.</p>
<p>Keep in Context (are other reviews taking place in this area?):</p> <p>No similar review is taking place and no changes in national policy are currently underway.</p>

Which of the Council's four policy principles does the proposed scrutiny topic support? (see page 3)

The proposed scrutiny addresses the principles outlined in:

- Developing strong and healthy communities through the provision of mainstream and preventive services that are available to all those who choose to access them.
- Creating economic prosperity across the Borough

What would you want the outcome of the review to be?

The implementation of a robust Contaminated Land Strategy which meets with member approval and provides a strong framework for addressing historically contaminated sites considering cost and efficiencies as key themes.

The strategy will need to consider the Council forward plan as its implementation will run for the mandatory period of 2019 – 2024.

Signed: Cllr Steve Nelson

Date: January 2019

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**SELECT COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME
SUGGESTED REVIEW – PRO FORMA**

Summary of issue you wish to be scrutinised, including key concerns and outcome for scrutinising the topic?

Fly-Grazed Horses

Stockton-On-Tees Council's role and responsibility for fly-grazed horses on both Council and non-Council land.

Whilst the Council currently deals with incidents for which it is responsible in a responsive and effective manner there is currently no formal policy regarding fly-grazed horses.

There is currently no dedicated budget provision for responding to such horse issues which has implications both for responding to incidents and developing a formal policy.

A number of questions arise about the roles and legal responsibility of various individuals/organisations e.g. the Council, Police, RSPCA, landowners, horse owners depending upon various factors such as the condition of the horses, where they are grazing and when they get loose.

Outcomes will include conclusions and recommendations that will inform the creation of a formal policy, clarity as to the costs involved and potential sources of funding and clarification of the roles and responsibilities of the various individuals/organisations involved.

For which it is responsible in NOTE: ENTRIES BELOW RELATE TO ISSUE CATEGORIES
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INFORMATION.

Public interest justification:

There are potentially very serious community safety issues involved resulting from fly-grazing of horses both when they are on the land they have been placed upon and also when they escape from that land onto the public highway.

The public understandably has concerns about the welfare of horses they see tethered e.g. on the sides of roads and a review will help to clarify/alleviate those concerns and clarify legal responsibility.

Impact on the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area:

The local environment is impacted by the poor public perception of illegally fly-grazed horses which may deter individuals from such areas. In addition there is the cost for restoration of Council land and structures which are damaged while horses are present.

There are also financial and staff resource implications for the Council if others with responsibility do not fulfil their legal obligations.

Council performance, efficiency (identification of savings and reducing demand) in this area:

Savings and reducing demand on service will be achieved by considering the Council's policy position and clarifying the legal responsibility of others involved.

There is a risk of reputational damage to the Council as there is a perception held by many that the Council is responsible regardless of where the horses are being fly-grazed.

Potential means of reducing demand will be considered including more proactive means of addressing fly-grazed horses and education or enforcement options which may be used with the animal owners.

There is currently no ring-fenced budget allocation for this work area.

Keep in Context (are other reviews taking place in this area?):

There is no other review of a similar nature being undertaken though both the Council and Police are looking at this issue internally.

Which of the Council's four policy principles does the proposed scrutiny topic support? (see page 3)

Developing strong and healthy communities.

What would you want the outcome of the review to be?

In-depth understanding of the Council's position regarding fly-grazed horses and the means to deter such activity.

Clarification of the roles and responsibilities of all parties.

Confirmation of the costs involved in the Council undertaking its statutory responsibilities.

A basis for the development of a formal Council policy in this area.

Signed: Cllr Steve Nelson

Date: January 2019

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**Select Committee Work Programme
Suggested Review – Pro Forma**

<p>Summary of issue you wish to be scrutinised, including key concerns and outcome for scrutinising the topic?</p> <p>Local Council Tax Support Scheme</p> <p>Review of the current scheme and consideration whether the current discount of 80% should be revised, and consideration of the impact on claimants and the Council.</p>	
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<p>Public interest justification:</p> <p>This is considered to be of medium public interest. It will affect those individual in receipt of discount.</p>	
<p>Impact on the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area:</p> <p>There will be some impact on Council finances if changes are made and some impact on the individual claimants.</p>	
<p>Council performance, efficiency (identification of savings and reducing demand) in this area:</p> <p>The review will assess the current level of collection for Council Tax paid where discount is made and the impact of any changes.</p>	
<p>Keep in Context (are other reviews taking place in this area?):</p> <p>No other reviews planned.</p>	
<p>Which of the Council's four policy principles does the proposed scrutiny topic support? (see page 3)</p> <p>Protecting the vulnerable</p>	
<p>What would you want the outcome of the review to be?</p> <p>Recommendation to Council on the performance of the current scheme and impact of any changes</p>	
<p>Signed Councillor Bob Cook</p>	<p>Date January 2019</p>

**SELECT COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME
SUGGESTED REVIEW – PRO FORMA**

<p>Summary of issue you wish to be scrutinised, including key concerns and outcome for scrutinising the topic?</p> <p>Bereavement Fees – Child Burial</p> <p>The sensitive issue of child burial fees has long been debated in terms of its ethical justification and financial impact on parents at a time of maximum grief. Worrying about what type of funeral they can give their child, parents are faced with decisions that can, and have, pushed some into taking out loans to cover such costs.</p> <p>On the 31st March 2018, the Prime Minister announced that the costs of child burials and cremations were to be waived in England to bring them in line with Wales, and that fees would be met by a new Children's Funeral Fund to help parents struggling to pay for funerals for children aged under 18. This followed a campaign by an MP who had to take out a loan to bury her son.</p> <p>Whilst a number of Local Authorities across the UK subsequently pledged to abolish child burial fees, there has been a reported lack of further information regarding implementation of the Children's Funeral Fund, and how Council's apply to reclaim costs. As such, Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council (SBC) continues to charge for the interment of a child.</p> <p>The Council's Bereavement Services team are currently reviewing all fees, including a fee structure for the new Stockton-on-Tees Crematorium – this will include a full cost comparison exercise with other Local Authorities, part of which will look at not charging for children. The scrutiny review would seek to influence this decision.</p>
<p align="center">NOTE: ENTRIES BELOW RELATE TO ISSUE CATEGORIES OF THE PICK PROCESS. PLEASE REFER TO THE EXPLANATION NOTES TO THIS FORM FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.</p>
<p>Public interest justification:</p> <p>Supporting parents / families who are facing the raw and immediate pain of suffering the loss of their child.</p>
<p>Impact on the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area:</p> <p>As above.</p>
<p>Council performance, efficiency (identification of savings and reducing demand) in this area:</p> <p>SBC currently charge for child interment as part of an extensive menu of fees in respect of grave rights and burial. It also promotes the possibility of a Funeral Payment from the Social Fund (via Department of Work and Pensions) for those on a low income and needing help to pay for a funeral they are arranging (though notes that applicants may have to repay some or all of it from the estate of the person who died).</p> <p>Without the ability to reclaim costs via the Children's Funeral Fund, any decision to waive child burial fees would have a financial impact upon the Council.</p>

Keep in Context (are other reviews taking place in this area?):

As noted previously, the Council's Bereavement Services team are currently reviewing all fees, including a fee structure for the new Stockton-on-Tees Crematorium (current fee chart on the Council website is up to the 31st March 2019).

Which of the Council's four policy principles does the proposed scrutiny topic support? (see page 3)

- Protect the vulnerable
 - supporting people who are financially excluded
 - assisting people whose circumstances make them vulnerable
- Tackle inequality through improving
 - financial inclusion

What would you want the outcome of the review to be?

Fully informed decision on whether the Council should abolish future child burial fees.

Signed: Executive Scrutiny Committee

Date: 28/01/2019

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**Select Committee Work Programme
Suggested Review – Pro Forma**

<p>Summary of issue you wish to be scrutinised, including key concerns and outcome for scrutinising the topic?</p> <p>School Uniform</p> <p>Concerns have been raised with my office in relation to the cost of school uniforms.</p> <p>It appears that there is a small number of suppliers hold a monopoly of the local market and parents are finding it difficult to meet the requirements of their children's schools.</p> <p>Nationally, the Government state that this is a matter for schools and so a local approach may be better.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">NOTE: ENTRIES BELOW RELATE TO ISSUE CATEGORIES OF THE PICK PROCESS. PLEASE REFER TO THE EXPLANATION NOTES TO THIS FORM FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.</p>
<p>Public interest justification:</p> <p>This is a key issue for many local parents across the Borough.</p>
<p>Impact on the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area:</p> <p>The costs of school uniform may impact on the social and economic wellbeing of the Borough where they become unaffordable.</p>
<p>Council performance, efficiency (identification of savings and reducing demand) in this area:</p> <p>School uniform is a matter for individual schools</p> <p>The Council supports a range of measures to improve financial inclusion. Parents who cannot afford school uniforms may be referred to local support schemes.</p>
<p>Keep in Context (are other reviews taking place in this area?):</p> <p>None identified</p>
<p>Which of the Council's four policy principles does the proposed scrutiny topic support? (see page 3)</p>

Protecting the vulnerable through targeted intervention

Promoting equality of opportunity through targeted intervention

What would you want the outcome of the review to be?

Overview of the local situation with regard to school uniforms

Development of value for money options for local parents

Signed: Alex Cunningham MP

Date: 1 February 2019

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Select Committee Work Programme Suggested Review – Public Consultation

Summary of issue you wish to be scrutinised, including key concerns and outcome for scrutinising the topic?

Public Consultation

Effective consultation with the public is an essential part of ensuring that the Council is able to serve the people of the borough to the best of its abilities. Effective consultation on policy changes, service delivery and issues of importance to the people of the borough is critical to the development and delivery of all aspects of the Council Plan. Therefore, it is essential to ensure that the way we consult with the public is subject to regular review and scrutiny to ensure that it is working well. In addition, this is a period of great change, both in technology and service delivery, and the review would provide a timely opportunity to ensure that all innovations and developments in consultation platforms and channels are being considered and where appropriate adopted.

It is recognised that individual departments/service areas in the Council decide on what they wish to consult on. This review considers the various options that are available to them when undertaking said consultation and that the effectiveness of these various options is maximised. .

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Public interest justification:

The ongoing challenge of handling the financial cuts faced by the Council means that it is likely that the programme of Service Reviews will continue for the foreseeable future. Changes to policies and service delivery are therefore likely and an effective consultation mechanism is essential to ensure that these changes are informed by the views of residents, partners and stakeholders.

Impact on the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area:

The Council carried out consultation activity for all Council Services and therefore the impact on the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area is broad. In addition, a Scrutiny review of consultation in 2019/20 would be especially valuable as there are a number of important changes due to happen in the coming year that would benefit from Scrutiny involvement.

The Viewpoint panel is the Council's voluntary consultation panel made up of a cross section of adults from across the borough. Membership of the panel has not been subject to a comprehensive update for a number of years. It is intended to undertake the refresh in 2019 and Scrutiny of the approach, process and outcome would be helpful.

The "My Views" on-line consultation platform is due for review in 2019 and Scrutiny input to the specification of the new/upgraded system would be helpful.

The 4 yearly major Residents' Survey (last undertaken by MORI in 2015) is due to be undertaken in 2019. Scrutiny of the process would be helpful and the use of a professional research company to undertake the survey provides an ideal opportunity for the Committee to have access to an expert organisation to take evidence of best practice and industry developments.

The “Bright Minds Big Future” consultation with young people in the borough began in 2018 and a Scrutiny Review of this new approach would provide an opportunity to review performance and to consider whether any lessons can be learned for general consultation activity.

The Council is increasingly using a range of Social Media platforms for consultation activity. Scrutiny review of best practice in this area and of the further development of the policy and strategy in this area would be welcomed.

Council performance, efficiency (identification of savings and reducing demand) in this area:

Scrutiny of the Council’s approach to consultation could lead to improved performance of the consultation activity itself and also of all Council activities that use the results of the consultations. There is potential for making savings or meeting growing demand from existing resources through the introduction of new approaches.

Keep in Context (are other reviews taking place in this area?):

I am not aware of any other reviews of his area.

Which of the Council’s four policy principles does the proposed scrutiny topic support? (see page 3)

A review of consultation activity would support all four policy principles as the consultation approach is an important part of the delivery of all Council services.

What would you want the outcome of the review to be?

Confirmation that the refreshed approach to consultation activity in the Council makes use of best practice learning and the latest approaches and technological developments.

Signed: Councillor Steve Nelson

Date: 29/01/19

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**SELECT COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME
SUGGESTED REVIEW – PRO FORMA**

<p>Summary of issue you wish to be scrutinised, including key concerns and outcome for scrutinising the topic?</p> <p>Planters in Residential Streets</p> <p>Whether there should be a planned, scheduled and budgeted removal of planters in residential streets.</p> <p>There is currently no budget set aside in Care For Your Area's budget for the maintenance of street planters, with the result that they have been left to grow unchecked. Many attract antisocial behaviour such as rubbish dumping and vandalism. Some ward councillors are using CPB to fund the removal of these at the request of residents, however many are finding that there are higher priority needs that take up the CPB and the cost of removing these planters can represent a significant proportion of the budget.</p> <p>Key concerns are :</p> <p>Residents' viewpoints on planters in their area.</p> <p>Are any planters being maintained by residents and/or community groups?</p> <p>Is there any community schemes that could help maintain these planters, rather than removing them?</p> <p>How many of the unmaintained planters are in need of removal?</p> <p>What is the economic and social impact of the antisocial behaviour around these planters?</p> <p>What costs are involved in removing the planters?</p> <p>What are the potential impacts of removal?</p> <p>This review would aim to see whether there is an economic and social benefit in removing some of these planters and to give guidance to councillors wanting to see the rest maintained.</p>
<p>NOTE: ENTRIES BELOW RELATE TO ISSUE CATEGORIES OF THE PICK PROCESS. PLEASE REFER TO THE EXPLANATION NOTES TO THIS FORM FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.</p>
<p>Public interest justification:</p> <p>Some of the planters are very overgrown with weeds, some with nettles and thorny plants, which could create a risk of injury to children playing nearby. They are often used to dump rubbish, dog faeces and more sinister items, such as needles. Bricks have been removed from the planters and thrown at properties and vehicles in the street. Some residents have complained they make their street untidy due to the lack of maintenance. When they were regularly maintained with flowering plants they presented a very attractive feature. However in many cases now, they present the opposite effect.</p> <p>In some streets, the areas where the planters are could potentially be turned into parking to ease congestion.</p>
<p>Impact on the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area:</p> <p>The removal of some planters may cause a reduction in antisocial behaviour.</p>
<p>Council performance, efficiency (identification of savings and reducing demand) in this area:</p> <p>CFYA are required to intervene to do some maintenance on these planters if they become damaged in a way that makes them unsafe to members of the public. They also have to deal with the fall out due to anti-social behaviour, for example an increase in litter on the public highway, possibility of vermin being attracted to overgrown planters, which requires funding from their already restricted maintenance budget.</p>

**Select Committee Work Programme
Suggested Review – Pro Forma**

<p>Summary of issue you wish to be scrutinised, including key concerns and outcome for scrutinising the topic?</p> <p>Businesses operating from residential premises without necessary permission</p> <p>Investigate if this is an issue that is causing harm to neighbourhoods particularly in light of recent changes to licensing arrangements</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">NOTE: ENTRIES BELOW RELATE TO ISSUE CATEGORIES OF THE PICK PROCESS. PLEASE REFER TO THE EXPLANATION NOTES TO THIS FORM FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.</p>
<p>Public interest justification:</p> <p>Businesses operating from residential premises without necessary permission can cause harm and nuisance</p>
<p>Impact on the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area:</p> <p>Can cause a detrimental impact to the environment in a residential setting</p>
<p>Council performance, efficiency (identification of savings and reducing demand) in this area:</p> <p>Limited Planning Enforcement resource</p>
<p>Keep in Context (are other reviews taking place in this area?):</p> <p>There has been a recent SWIS Review in this area</p>
<p>Which of the Council's four policy principles does the proposed scrutiny topic support? (see page 3)</p> <p>Developing strong and healthy communities</p>
<p>What would you want the outcome of the review to be?</p> <p>A better understanding of if the issue is a particular problem in the Borough</p>
<p>Signed: Councillor Jim Beall Date: January 2019</p>