1

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

Burial Provision

The Council have a statutory responsibility to provide suitable burial provision which we discharge through the provision of cemeteries in Billingham, Oxbridge, Durham Road, Thornaby and Eaglescliffe.

We are also responsible for the maintenance of 9 closed churchyards within the Borough although these sites are not open for any new interments.

Of the current cemeteries, Eaglescliffe and Oxbridge are closed for new grave purchases although are still used for interments where graves have been purchased for 1 or more people. This leaves the only provision at the remaining 3 sites in Billingham, Thornaby and Durham Road.

Prior to the delivery of an extension in the Durham Road Cemetery in 2015 (with new burials commencing in 2019) there was a significant risk of running out of burial provision in the central Stockton area. However, the new extension has delivered approximately 10 years of additional provision. Figures for all sites will be updated as part of the scrutiny review to determine a more definitive timescale as to when each of our sites will reach maximum burial capacity.

The provision of burial space is clearly a very sensitive issue and the provision of burial space as a borough needs to be considered alongside individual local need and choice of individual communities to be buried either close to existing family members or their place of residence.

Stockton has average 2497 deaths over the past 5 years and around 80% of all deaths registered opt for cremation as opposed to burial, a statistic which mirrors national trends. Prior to the opening of Stockton's Crematorium in September 2019, more than 90% of deaths which would have been cremated would have been carried out at Teesside Crematorium in Middlesbrough. Based upon current levels of cremation numbers at our facility, it is apparent that most Stockton deaths are now being cremated at our own facility.

The provision of this new facility could have an impact upon the balance between cremation vs burial in Stockton and early indications suggest that there has been an 18%decrase in burial numbers in Stockton since the facility was opened.

Members are asked to review the provision of burial space within the borough to ensure that sufficient capacity remains to serve all areas within our borough and to review any links with future demand associated with both the increasing size of the borough and the addition of our new crematorium.

Please be clear about the focus of the review and desired outcome.

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:

The provision of burial provision is one of the most crucial and sensitive services that the Council provides. Whilst we have successfully opened our new Crematorium which has

provided a much-needed facility for our own communities, it is now a timely opportunity to review existing space provision to ensure that we are also able to meet the needs of those residents who still wish to choose burial as opposed to cremation.

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

Given the sensitive nature of the service provided and the impact to families following the loss of the loved one, there can be significant social implications if the Council is unable to achieve sufficient levels of burial provision to ensure that families are able to bury in areas where they have a personal preference or a connection with. There would be minimal economic impacts and the provision of burial space would also need to ensure adherence with statutory guidelines in terms of ground and water contamination.

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

Whilst there has been a reduction in burial demand since the crematorium opened, it is far too early to say whether this trend will continue in the future. It is important to review our existing provision to ensure that we are not left in a position where we are unable to respond to requests for burial provision. Whilst life capacity for all sites will be determined as part of any scrutiny review, the area of greatest pressures is in Durham Road where around 100 years of capacity remains.

Any new site would need to be identified, constructed and be allowed to settle before it is ready for new interments. To provide context, the Durham Road extension required 4 years of settlement following its completion before it was deemed ready for new interments.

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

A previous review was recently completed by Place Committee in 2018 which related to grave personalisation. Whilst this touched upon options for grave types in the new Durham Road extension, including full and partial collar graves and lawn only graves, it did not review the available levels of future burial space across the borough.

How does the topic support delivery of the Council Plan?

Whilst the provision of burial space does not naturally track back to any single area within our Council Plan, it is a service which, at some point, will be accessed by almost every family in the borough.

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

- Recognition of the importance of ensuring that we provide sufficient burial space within the borough
- Understanding of the impact on the Council if we fail to meet the demands required by residents
- The allocation of appropriate resources to ensure that any demand is met and is delivered in a timely manner

Signed: Cllr Mike Smith Date: 3 March 2020

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

How well are we meeting the developmental needs of children and preparing them for school?

This review will follow on from the LGA early years peer review undertaken in February, which recommended the Council work with partners to develop an early years strategy, promote a greater understanding of typical child development, focus on speech, communication and language across communities, and clarify what is available for families and how to access it.

The review will be key in the development of an early years strategy to support the key priority of ensuring children get the best start in life

Please be clear about the focus of the review and desired outcome.

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:

Best start in life is a key priority for the Council and for the Health and Wellbeing Board. The peer review identified some key actions, which it is proposed to take forward through a new strategic approach which will set out key priorities and expectations and will be designed jointly with families. It will also support work on strategic joint commissioning as part of the response to the 2019 SEND Local Area inspection.

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

The development of a more effective early years system will support long term child development and better outcomes in later life, as well as more immediate priorities to ensure children are school ready.

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

Overall Stockton-on-Tees is performing well in terms of supporting families into high quality education provision in the early years, and outcomes as measured by the Early Years Foundation Stage, where we now perform better than the national average.

However the peer review suggested there is more we can do as a system to: clarify the offer available for families; ensure we are able to identify and target families where children need additional support; ensure we are maximising our available resources through early help, and the connections between the various parts of our system.

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

This review is designed to follow on from the system wider peer review undertaken in February.

How does the topic support delivery of the Council Plan?

It supports the priorities around:

- A place where people are healthy, safe and protected from harm, and
- A place with a thriving economy where everyone has the opportunities to succeed

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

Supporting the development of a new strategic approach to early years for sign off at Cabinet and HWB.

A steer on specific areas of focus, including the development of clear information for parents, and the opportunities for redesign of support for children with speech language and communication needs.

Signed: Cllr Lisa Evans/ CYP Select Committee **Date:** 05/03/20

Please return to:

Judy Trainer
Scrutiny Section
Democratic Services
Municipal Buildings
Church Road
Stockton on Tees
TS18 1LD

Email: judith.trainer@stockton.gov.uk

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

The rationale and opportunity for the Council to increase to open more children's homes

This review will examine the current data around children in our care and the work on placement sufficiency – what forms of provision we need for children who are not able to live at home, or in foster care. It will be specifically focused on the opportunities for the Council to develop its own in house provision further, and the collaborative work across the Tees valley which is being undertaken to examine a potential business case.

Please be clear about the focus of the review and desired outcome.

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:

Providing appropriate homes for children in our care is at the heart of the Corporate Parenting Strategy. Residential children's home provision is the right offer for some children and young people. Whilst the Council provides its own residential homes, it also procures form the private and voluntary sector market. The market is not always able to meet the needs of children, or is able to charge high costs for some placements given the level of demand. A business case is currently being explored to examine the feasibility of the 5 Tees valley Councils collaborating on the development of more in house children's homes. This not only results in high quality care, but can considerable reduce the costs of provision. However, there are also sometimes associated issues about the location of any new provision.

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

Ensuring the majority of children in care are able to be cared for in the borough is a key priority. This enables children and young people to retain family links, and connections to their community. It also ensures that their needs can be reviewed and they can be more effectively safeguarded.

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

The Council's residential children's homes are all good or outstanding. There are currently 54 children placed in externally provided residential care. This continues to be the single biggest financial pressure facing Children's services.

A business case will examine the opportunities associated with expanding in house provision.

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

No other current reviews are taking place.

How does the topic support delivery of the Council Plan?

It supports the priorities around:

• A place where people are healthy, safe and protected from harm.

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

Anticipated that this would be a task and finish review looking at the development of the business case and the opportunities to establish more in house provision, and some of the principles which the Council would wish to see as part of any proposed expansion, including the nature of provision, location and management

Signed: Cllr Lisa Evans/ CYP Select Committee **Date:** 05/03/20

Please return to:

Judy Trainer
Scrutiny Section
Democratic Services
Municipal Buildings
Church Road
Stockton on Tees
TS18 1LD

Email: judith.trainer@stockton.gov.uk

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

Getting more care leavers into education, employment or training

The review will consider the current data and intelligence around our care leavers who are not in education employment or training (NEET), and develop options to improve our performance

It will focus on what support there currently is for this cohort of young people and highlight the gaps in services so that a business plan can be developed to improve multiagency and cross partner agency working.

Please be clear about the focus of the review and desired outcome.

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:

Being aspirational and improving EET opportunities meets our Corporate Parent responsibilities for Care Leavers.

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

Improving opportunities for some of the most vulnerable young people in our area. Improving their motivation and self-esteem, mental health and wellbeing and their own economic wellbeing thus improving their life chances.

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

We currently have 229 Care Leavers and this number will continue to rise alongside recent rises in the number of children entering our care.

Of these young people 66% are EET and 34% are NEET

On further breakdown of these figures there are 161 of these young people who are aged 18 yrs. and over and 68 are aged between 16/17 yrs.

The percentage of NEET for 16/17 yr. olds is 9% The percentage of NEET for 18+ is 44%

Whilst any plan to improve services won't necessarily produce direct savings the benefit however will be seen on an individual basis and a reduction in reliance on the wider public services and accessing acute services such as mental health service or antisocial behaviour/police services.

No other reviews are taking place

How does the topic support delivery of the Council Plan?

This review supports the Council Plan priority

• A place where people are healthy, safe and protected from harm.

Supports the vision to ensure children and young people are protected from harm and supported to be the best they can be in life and that as young adults they get the right support at the right time to help prevent, reduce or delay the need for ongoing support and maximise their independence into adulthood.

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

For a joint understanding across partner agencies of who the target group of post 18 NEET are and what needs to be done to work together effectively to improve life chances for this group and consider ways in which opportunities can be created for EET.

Signed: Cllr Lisa Evans/ CYP Select Committee Date: 5 March 2020

Please return to:

Judy Trainer
Scrutiny Section
Democratic Services
Municipal Buildings
Church Road
Stockton on Tees
TS18 1LD

Email: judith.trainer@stockton.gov.uk

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

Care at Home

This review would focus on the provision of care at home for Stockton residents. Currently, there are a range of domiciliary care providers, and CQC ratings vary across the region. Some providers have achieved an 'outstanding' rating or 'good'. However, several providers have received a 'requires improvement' rating.

The following lines of enquiry could be covered by this review:

- Assessment of CQC report for care at home
- Contract enforcement
- Standards set by providers
- Training available to employees

The overall outcome for this review would be to understand the quality of domiciliary care for residents and the value for money from current providers. It will also evaluate if there are any options to offer additional services through Stockton Council.

Please be clear about the focus of the review and desired outcome.

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:

A significant proportion of residents across the Stockton-on-Tees Borough will have or could have a direct experience of domiciliary care during their lifetime. Consequently, this is a highly emotive issue. Members of the public would be interested in uncovering more information on the quality of domiciliary care in this region.

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

Providers who have achieved 'outstanding' ratings may be willing to provide guidance to those who have received 'requires improvements' ratings. The review could influence the future provision of domiciliary care and thereby improving the well-being of residents.

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

The review would determine if this current system is value for money or if SBC have the resources to bring this in-house.

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

Unknown.

5

How does the topic support delivery of the Council Plan?

Adult Services

Our vision is that people get the right level and type of support at the right time to help, prevent, reduce or delay the need for ongoing support and maximise their independence.

Key objectives

- Focus on prevention and early intervention.
- Work in partnership.
- Work individuals, their families and carers.
- Deliver our statutory duties.

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

A full understanding of the care at home system and the quality of care provided. The review would uncover if standards are being met and if the current approach is value for money.

Signed: Luke Frost Date: 25.02.2020

Please return to:

Judy Trainer
Scrutiny Section
Democratic Services
Municipal Buildings
Church Road
Stockton on Tees
TS18 1LD

Email: judith.trainer@stockton.gov.uk

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

Learning Disability Services

 What more needs to be done to ensure people with a Learning Disability from Stocktonon-Tees can remain in the borough to receive the care they need.

Adult social care provides support with everyday living for over 522 people each year who have a learning disability. Support can range from travel/employment skills to 24 hour residential care. Locating 24 hour residential care for people with a learning disability can be difficult.

The outcome from scrutinising this topic will be to identify a way forward to ensure that more people from the borough can receive services in the borough, taking into account quality, cost and location of support, and giving consideration as to whether the Council can provide some of the services it is finding difficult to commission.

Please be clear about the focus of the review and desired outcome.

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:

This is of interest to any family in the borough with a family member who has a learning disability.

It is also of interest to residents of the borough regarding the Council's spend on services to support people.

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

Ensuring more people have access to services within the borough could result in improved wellbeing for those individuals and their families as closer links would be maintained.

Provision of more services within the borough would increase the employment market and associated spend within the borough.

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

Statistical information regarding numbers of people accessing services outside of the borough, types of services purchased, location of services and associated cost will be collated should this topic be progressed.

Adult social care is currently progressing a strategic learning disability review. This review is looking at all aspects of care provided for people with a learning disability.

How does the topic support delivery of the Council Plan?

Protecting the vulnerable. Improving health and wellbeing.

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

Identification of a way forward for provision of more services for people with a learning disability to be provided in the borough.

Identification of the reasons why this is not possible if it is not possible.

Signed: Cllr Ann McCoy Date: 5 March 2020

Please return to:

Judy Trainer
Scrutiny Section
Democratic Services
Municipal Buildings
Church Road
Stockton on Tees
TS18 1LD

Email: judith.trainer@stockton.gov.uk

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

Potholes

Potholes are present on roads across the Borough. The increasing number of potholes which are not being repaired is causing concern. It has been recognised that some potholes are getting deeper and are a real hazard to road users, vehicles, and pedestrians. A review is needed to ascertain the extent of the problems caused by potholes and how this is to be tackled.

Please be clear about the focus of the review and desired outcome.

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:

There is a national outcry about the state of our roads and the lack of upkeep and repair. This is a public concern as well as a concern voiced by motoring organisations.

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

This review would hugely impact on the public's perception of how Stockton Borough Council takes its responsibility for the upkeep of its road systems. There would also be an economic impact on the vehicle owners who use the Borough's road system.

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

This review would document the response of Stockton Council to the ever growing impact of potholes. An early response would cut the long term impact of neglect.

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

Not known.

How does the topic support delivery of the Council Plan?

Economic Regeneration and Transport

 Our vision of the Borough is of an economically prosperous Borough that is dynamic, exciting and inviting with infrastructure to support the development of business startups, business growth, new jobs and skills.

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

To reassure the public that this extensive problem is being reviewed and tackled.

7

Signed: Ken Dixon **Date:** 27.01.2020

Please return to:

Judy Trainer Scrutiny Section Democratic Services Municipal Buildings Church Road Stockton on Tees TS18 1LD

Email: <u>judith.trainer@stockton.gov.uk</u> Tel: 01642 528158

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

Highway Asset Management

The highway infrastructure asset (roads, footways, bridges, traffic signals, street lights, signs, etc.) is the most valuable single asset the Council is responsible for which is currently valued in excess of £1.6bn. It is vital for local economic prosperity and our residents' quality of life and the significant levels of funding necessary for the management and maintenance of these assets is under continuous scrutiny. It is imperative that the management of such a vital and valuable asset is undertaken in a systematic and considered manner, which takes in to account the Councils objectives, service user's expectations, maintenance needs and the available financial resources.

Nationally there is a perception that budget allocation is insufficient to maintain our highway infrastructure assets to satisfactory standards and this is borne out in recent residents surveys which show declining satisfaction with these assets despite Stockton being above the national average in how it manages our assets. Over time it is becoming ever more challenging to maintain the infrastructure assets in their current state and as such it is now a case of managing their gradual depreciation as efficiently as possible, within the resources at our disposal.

Please be clear about the focus of the review and desired outcome.

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:

The local Highways Infrastructure Assets are the most valuable single asset owned by the authority and is vital to national economic prosperity. Practically all residents, businesses and visitors to the borough at some time will come in contact and have to use the assets to move around the borough and beyond. The comfort and safety in which people can move from place to place and the appearance of local streets are also important contributors to quality of life.

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

Well maintained highway infrastructure assets will also support the Councils vision of having an economically prosperous borough that is dynamic, exciting and inviting with infrastructure to support the development of businesses, new jobs and skills. A well-maintained highway asset plays a vital role in supporting the key objectives by supporting regeneration, helping to keep Stockton moving, providing safer and stronger communities and tackling the impact of climate change.

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

With ever increasing demands on our limited budgets it is essential that all expenditure represents value for money and assists in delivering our policies. Effective highway infrastructure asset management is fundamental to the provision of its services and the

delivery of its long-term vision and strategy. Asset management principles enable informed decisions to be made about investment and maintenance funding and assist in the targeting of resources to where they can be most effective.

Council performance is monitored via returns to the Department of Transport (DfT) on an annual basis and via the National Highways and Transportation (NHT) public satisfaction survey.

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

There are currently no other reviews proposed within this service area.

How does the topic support delivery of the Council Plan?

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

- Protecting the vulnerable through targeted intervention, delivering infrastructure maintenance/improvement schemes 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 footway/cycleway/highway, lighting and structures can encourage people to walk & cycle, which in turns improves people's health and assist people to access jobs and education.
- Developing strong and healthy communities most people use the highway 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 maintenance/improvements undertaken support and maintain strong & healthy communities and reduce severance.
- Creating economic prosperity across the Borough improvements to the highway infrastructure 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?

A wider understanding of how important well maintained highway assets are to the whole Borough and the current budgetary challenges faced in managing ongoing depreciation in our assets given recent declining public satisfaction.

Assurance that the Council is prioritising its available resources appropriately given ongoing budgetary constraints in managing the depreciation of the highway assets and the identification any additional efficiencies and funding that could be utilised to reduce the ongoing depreciation of our vital highway assets moving forward.

Signed: Councillor Mike Smith Date: February 2020

Please return to: Judy Trainer Scrutiny Section Democratic Services

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

Civic Enforcement and PCSO Powers

Community Safety in Stockton on Tees is of paramount concern to the Council, which is why we have continued to prioritise resources in this service area. The Council are proud to have a team of Enforcement Officers, who exercise a wide range of powers in the execution of their duties with the overall objective of ensuring a safe place for residents to live and businesses to flourish.

Civic Enforcement Officers work in close partnership with Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) on a daily basis. Like CEO's, PCSO's also utilise a range of powers whilst carrying out their duties in our communities on behalf of Cleveland Police.

The focus of this review would be to explore further the two separate functions undertaken by these officers, with a view to understanding what overlaps and opportunities exist to further benefit the community safety agenda.

Please be clear about the focus of the review and desired outcome.

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:

Community safety is about helping communities to be and feel safe. It is important that our residents feel safe where they live, work and spend leisure time. Whilst a great deal of work has been done to date, further improvements and scrutiny in this area is absolutely in the interest of every resident in Stockton on Tees in order to continue and drive high standards of community safety.

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

Given the nature of this topic, the impact on society and the overall wellbeing in terms of safety is high. Every resident, business owner and visitor to Stockton on Tees is directly and indirectly affected by how safe our communities are. This is an area in which the council can have a positive impact for society through influencing policy and procedure.

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

With ever increasing demand on council resources, it is prudent to ensure that working arrangements are continuously reviewed to ensure the maximisation of resources. As demand on community safety related services increases, a review in this area will look at potential areas of overlap to better share responsibilities

There are no previous or planned reviews or changes to the services areas in question internally and this is perhaps timely given the reintroduction of neighbourhood policing teams within Cleveland Police, who are expected to form part of the scope.

How does the topic support delivery of the Council Plan?

- Protecting the vulnerable through targeted intervention Improving the safety of our public spaces for all, including vulnerable groups such as the elderly and younger people.
- Developing strong and healthy communities Ensuring that our communities are resilience and cohesive.
- Creating economic prosperity Ensuring that our economic centres are safe and welcoming places to visit.

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

- 1. To clarify and understand what powers are available to CEO's and PCSO's in the execution of their duties.
- 2. To review if any other opportunities are available to increase powers to either or both officers in order to better equip them to deal with community safety issues.
- 3. To explore overlaps and the potential of more efficient joint working to maximise the impact of resources on the issue of community safety.

Signed: Councillor Steve Nelson Date: 27/02/2020

Please return to:

Judy Trainer
Scrutiny Section
Democratic Services
Municipal Buildings
Church Road
Stockton on Tees
TS18 1LD

Email: judith.trainer@stockton.gov.uk

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

Carbon monoxide awareness across the Borough

This silent killer gas claims perhaps 30 lives every year in the country. What people do not know is that if you are exposed to a lower dose then it will not kill you but it will give you serious long term health conditions. It attacks the central nervous system and can lead to paralysis, aches and pains, neuralgia etc. Many chronic conditions may in fact be the result of poisoning that has gone undetected but give the appearance of being something else.

The review would scrutinise how effective SBC and Public Health are at publicising this. The key concerns on this topic are:

- What work do we do to encourage people to have CO detectors in their homes?
- Do we participate in CO awareness month each year?
- What do our partners in RSLs do? For instance, do their operatives carry detectors when they go into tenants' homes for instance?
- Do our ambulance staff routinely check patients who have a rosy complexion when they pick them up?
- Do we encourage our RSL and private landlords to install COs in all their properties?
- Are our fire service giving out detectors?
- Is there more we can do?

Please be clear about the focus of the review and desired outcome.

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:

The effects of carbon monoxide poisoning are stated above and this could be affecting residents across the Borough without them knowing.

The gas comes not just from gas boilers, but from anything that creates carbon when it burns so that includes wood and coal fires, barbeques, calor gas, paraffin heaters etc. The best way to prevent it is to have these regularly serviced and flues swept. It tends to be people in poverty who don't prioritise that.

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

As above – this issue has a direct impact on health and wellbeing.

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

There is a recognised problem. The Council has a role to play in monitoring private landlords/ tenancies etc.

Unknown

How does the topic support delivery of the Council Plan?

Health and Wellbeing

Key objective: All people in the Borough live well and live longer.

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

A greater understanding of the work of SBC and external organisations on raising awareness about carbon monoxide poisoning.

Signed: Louise Baldock Date: 5/03/2020

Please return to:

Judy Trainer
Scrutiny Section
Democratic Services
Municipal Buildings
Church Road
Stockton on Tees
TS18 1LD

Email: judith.trainer@stockton.gov.uk

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.

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:

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 it's 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

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

Action Fraud

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.

Such offences include cyber-crime, doorstep crime, telephone and postal enabled offences.

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.

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.

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:

The impact upon victims is devastating with people often losing their life savings.

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

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.

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

N/A

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

None known

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

➤ 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.

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

Increased awareness and report and better support for victims.

Signed: Dave Mead VCAS Date: August 2018

This do	ocument was classified as: OFFICIAL	

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

Children and young people's play equipment in the Borough.

The key lines of enquiry for this review could be:

- What play equipment do we have?
- Where do we have it?
- What have the impacts of austerity been on its provision?
- Are there are any other routes/funding pots we could access to get more?
 Particularly in those areas where new housing estates have been built and there is nowhere nearby for children to play.

Please be clear about the focus of the review and desired outcome.

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:

The increase in house building across the Borough means that this could benefit lots of people.

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

Play areas positively impact children's development, health and well-being.

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

A recognised need for more play areas in the Green Infrastructure Strategy.

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

Any review would need to dovetail with the refresh of the Green Infrastructure Strategy.

How does the topic support delivery of the Council Plan?

Children and Young People

Our vision is of a great place to grow up, where children and young people are protected from harm and supported to be the best they can be in life.

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

To understand the level of need for additional play areas and determine if new sources of funding can be obtained to purchase play equipment for children and play equipment in areas which need these resources.

Signed: Louise Baldock Date: 5/03/2020

Please return to:

Judy Trainer Scrutiny Section Democratic Services Municipal Buildings Church Road Stockton on Tees TS18 1LD

Email: judith.trainer@stockton.gov.uk

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

Climate Change and Net Zero Carbon

Most environment policies, and responses to national and regional policy, are developed and led by EGDS, however legislative responsibility for some theme areas, projects and delivery are delivered by other Directorates

Emerging long-term priorities/key concerns

There have been a number of recent policy moves which increase the importance of a coordinated approach to sustainability for the Council, these include (but not exclusively):

- The UK governments '25 year Environment Plan' published in 2018 sets out 6 policy areas and 10 goals to manage the natural environment including air, water, biodiversity, heritage, waste and resources
- The UK's commitment to being a Net Zero emitter of greenhouse gas emissions was set in statute in June 2019 with the amendment of the Climate Change Act (2008) and legal requirements for Local Authorities to reach zero emissions will follow
- In March 2019 the government mandated that all new developments must deliver an overall increase in biodiversity, requiring strategic management of the natural environment
- The Waste and Resources Strategy for England legislates for eliminating all avoidable waste by 2050
- The governments Clean Air Strategy published in 2019 sets out ambitious proposals to improve air quality with a commitment to ending the operation of conventional new diesel and petrol vehicles by 2040, with implications for our operations and services
- The governments 'Future Homes Standard' announced in 2019 requires new build homes to be future-proofed with fossil fuel free, low carbon heating and world-leading levels of energy efficiency

Please be clear about the focus of the review and desired outcome.

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:

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

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

How does the topic support delivery of the Council Plan?

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

We would look to build on the outcomes identified in the recent Peer Review:

- Generate a "more jointly-developed approaches to issues, such as health inequalities and inclusive growth"
- A narrowed-down set of clear priorities that are then shared
- Shifting to an outcome-focused approach centered upon enhanced capturing and sharing of data and intelligence; the development of a sustainability strategy is the ideal opportunity to co-ordinate wide ranging data sets and set out clear outcomes to achieve
- Generating more jointly developed approaches to issues both between organisations and within the Council, including greater engagement and dialogue between partners at the strategic level.
- Encourage the development of much greater clarity about where to apply effort in order to make the biggest impact, supported by the creation of a set of targets
- The Council has not made its position clear on what the driver is for it to look to increase levels of recycling, however focusing on waste management outcomes in the context of new sustainability strategy is an ideal opportunity for new thinking

Signed: Cllr Mike Smith Date: 5 March 2020

Please return to:

Judy Trainer
Scrutiny Section
Democratic Services
Municipal Buildings
Church Road
Stockton on Tees
TS18 1LD

Email: judith.trainer@stockton.gov.uk

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.

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:

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 Councils 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.

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 Councils four key policy principals 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

Please return to:

Judy Trainer
Scrutiny and Electoral
Administration, Democratic and Electoral Services
Municipal Buildings
Church Road
Stockton on Tees
TS18 1LD

Email: judith.trainer@stockton.gov.uk

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

Events on Private Land

As we encourage and support organisations wishing to develop new events across the Borough we increase the demand placed on our technical support teams and also on our Independent Safety Advisory Group (ISAG). An increasing number of the events that are proposed take place on private land and are therefore beyond the normal scope of ISAG.

For all events on public land, including adopted highways and pedestrian areas, the Council will have landowner's liabilities. For events on private land these responsibilities fall on the private landowner and we seek to advise relevant landowners and their agents of their liabilities

The Council does have an overriding duty of care and if we felt there was a risk to the safety of people attending an event, or risk of disruption arising from the event, we would take appropriate action. However, how far we should go in seeking assurance from third parties about events on private land, and how much responsibility we might place on ISAG to consider the likely risk associated with such events is not clearly defined.

A scrutiny review might look at legal liabilities and scope of responsibilities for event safety and give consideration to possible guidelines on levels of involvement or intervention that are proportionate to scale and likely risk.

It is not expected that a Scrutiny Review would produce a definitive legal position or make recommendations about absolute positions, but it could offer a perspective on when and under what circumstances it might be appropriate for ISAG to be asked to take a view on events that are not on public land.

The Review might also clarify the status of any advice given in relation to events on private land and the relevant powers and options available to the Council to seek to influence the event organisers to modify the event in any way.

Please be clear about the focus of the review and desired outcome.

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:

This subject relates directly to the safety of members of the public attending events in the Borough. The perception of the public may be that if they attend any event in the Borough, even on private land, it has been subject to some form of safety assessment by the Council and it is in the public interest to set out the limitations of our powers.

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

The Review is not likely to lead to radically different approaches to the staging of events in the Borough and it is not likely therefore to impact on the social or economic wellbeing of the area.

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

The review could make a modest contribution to the efficiency of the development and safety assurance of events through improved clarity about roles and liabilities.

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

There no other event reviews currently taking place.

How does the topic support delivery of the Council Plan?

The Council is committed to the use of events as a contributor to the economy, community pride and reputation and image. This review might assist in supporting an increase in the delivery of events by other parties and events staged on private land, increasing the total number of events available to people.

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

Guidelines on when and under what circumstances we might ask ISAG to review event proposals for public events on private land.

Signed: Cllr Jim Beall/ People Select Committee Date: 5 March 2020

Please return to:

Judy Trainer
Scrutiny Section
Democratic Services
Municipal Buildings
Church Road
Stockton on Tees
TS18 1LD

Email: judith.trainer@stockton.gov.uk

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

Support for Younger Adults with physical disabilities, learning disabilities, mental ill-health and dementia

 What more can be done for younger adults who have physical disabilities, learning disabilities, mental ill-health and dementia.

Adult social care provides support with everyday living for:

1550 people age 18-64 in a year who have a physical disability 522 peopled aged 18-64 who have a learning disability 174 people aged 18-64 who have a primary mental health need and a small number of people who have early onset dementia

The aspirations and needs of someone aged 18 are likely to be greatly different to that of someone aged 64. In order to ensure that we are providing the most personalised care we can it would be positive to identify whether we can do more for younger adults.

The outcome of the review would be to identify whether there are any gaps in the support provided to younger adults, to identify whether we are fully exploring the assets younger people have in their lives and maximising on this and to ensure that we are doing all we can to support people to live the best life they can.

Please be clear about the focus of the review and desired outcome.

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:

This is of interest to any family in the borough with a family member who has a learning disability, physical disability, mental ill-health or early onset dementia.

It is also of interest to residents of the borough regarding the Council's spend on services to support people.

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

Potential for improved well-being of people accessing services and their families.

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

Statistical information regarding numbers of people accessing services, types of services purchased, location of services and associated cost will be collated should this topic be progressed.

Adult social care is currently progressing a strategic learning disability review. This review is looking at all aspects of care provided for people with a learning disability.

How does the topic support delivery of the Council Plan?

Protecting the vulnerable. Improving health and wellbeing.

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

Identification of whether more can be done to support younger adults.

Signed: Ann McCoy Date: 5 March 2020

Please return to:

Judy Trainer
Scrutiny Section
Democratic Services
Municipal Buildings
Church Road
Stockton on Tees
TS18 1LD

Email: judith.trainer@stockton.gov.uk

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

Chiropody/ Foot care for people who are housebound

Concerns have been raised locally that chiropody services are either insufficient or too expensive for the housebound. In order to explore the veracity of this. The key concerns which this review could investigate are:

Is there enough of a service (particularly nail cutting)?

What services are currently being offered in our Borough (primary care or private)?

How successful are the services?

What do the carers' network think about the provision?

How do people find out about available services?

Are there waiting list for these services?

Please be clear about the focus of the review and desired outcome.

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:

It is vitally important that old people have their nails cut by a professional so that they do not attempt to cut their own nail and cause themselves injuries or further problems.

Concerns about what happens to all adults who are not receiving these services.

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

Appropriate care is vital for elderly and disabled people and directly affects mobility and independence.

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

Recognised concern re lack of provision.

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

Unknown.

How does the topic support delivery of the Council Plan?

Adult Services

Our vision is that people can get the right level and type of support at the right time to help, prevent, reduce or delay the need for ongoing support and maximise their independence.

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

This review would assess the current level of chiropody/ foot care services for adults in their own homes to see if there is sufficient provision and if more could be done to support these services.

Signed: Louise Baldock Date: 5/03/2020

Please return to:

Judy Trainer Scrutiny Section Democratic Services Municipal Buildings Church Road Stockton on Tees TS18 1LD

Email: judith.trainer@stockton.gov.uk

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

Residents Parking Schemes

I understand some councillors get regular requests for resident parking schemes. Residents seem to think they are a panacea for their concerns about often being unable to park near their homes. Issues can be caused for a range of reasons eg living near town centres, shopping areas, pubs, hospitals, schools etc. Given the ever increasing car numbers it would seem apposite to review any policy the council currently has.

The outcome of the review would be to clarify policy and to provide residents and councillors with the information to understand:

- a) When residents parking is/isn't an option
- b) The cost/benefit analysis of such schemes eg that they can reduce parking spaces, do not guarantee a parking space, the financial cost to residents, the enforcement issues etc.

Please be clear about the focus of the review and desired outcome.

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:

Increased requests for such schemes. Confusion as to council policy

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

Links to parking and business activity.

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

Would allow councillors to respond directly to residents and also provide information direct to residents which may reduce both requests for schemes and reduce reputational damage to council for simply saying "no"

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

How does the topic support delivery of the Council Plan?

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

Signed: Steve Nelson Date: 2nd March 2020



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

Disabled Facilities Grant Process

Focus

The Council has a statutory duty to deliver Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) and funding is made available (ring-fenced) via the Better Care Fund allocation. DFG grants are given to enable people to live independently in their own home for longer thus reducing the burden on the health and social care services. DFG's can include, Level entry showers, ramps, stairlifts, extensions, garage conversions etc. The maximum amount of grant available is £30,000 per person.

Potential issues/areas to be involved:

- The 'customer journey' i.e. the process from when a client makes contact with the Council through to a referral for a DFG to the Housing Regeneration & Investment Team approval of the grant, the works in progress and completion and sign off of the works.
- Policies and procedures the Council has in place with regards to the grant, including the use of discretionary financials support provisions.
- To review alternative service delivery models/best practise.

Desired Outcome

Local Authorities throughout the North East all operate differently so this is an opportunity to ensure our working processes are effective, efficient and customer focused..

Key Concerns

- 1. Over the last 3 years the DFG Budget allocation has increased year on year by approximately 10%, we are helping more people to stay living independently in their homes however over the last 2 years we have seen a significant increase in referrals for large adaptations i.e. garage conversation or extensions. The maximum grant allocation is £30,000 and most extensions cost in excess of this. The concern is that even though SBC's funding allocation has increased it is still not going to be enough to enable the Council deliver the number of larger adaptation works required to meet our boroughs needs.
- 2. In 2018 the the Department of Health and Social Care appointed the University of West of England to carry out an independent review of Disabled Facilities Grants (DFG) in England. The review looked at both the operation of the grant and the wider delivery of home adaptations to support the independence of disabled people living in their own homes. Despite increases to the annual DFG budget, demand for adaptations has always outstripped supply and this is set to continue as the population ages. The review sought to ensure that home adaptation policy remains fit for purpose and that funds are being allocated as effectively as possible. A report was present to the Department of Health and Social Care on 10th December 2018 which they are still considering no feedback has been given to date.

Please be clear about the focus of the review and desired outcome.

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:

- Public money allocated for the delivery of the DFG's
- Is a consistent service provided?
- Are waiting times appropriate?
- Are all processes efficient and effective?
- Can any improvements be made to how we deliver the programme?

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

- Scrutiny of current policies and procedures
- New loans introduced are they working effectively and supporting the right people
- Increased funding year on year are we using the grant in the best possible way.

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

- Building Service Unit (BSU) in Community Services used for all works (except Stairlift and Ramps) is this offering savings for clients.
- Legislation states we need 2 two quotes for all works so if we benchmark the BSU against others is this enough to satisfy this requirement?
- Are the contracts we currently have in place with Yorkshire Housing (Home Improvement Agency (HIA) minor works and handy person service), Easiaccess (Ramps), Thyssenkrupp (Stairlifts), Architects etc appropriate or can anything else be brought in house?
- As stated above we have received a huge increase in larger adaptation works can any efficiencies be made?

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

As stated above The Department of Health and Social Care appointed the University
of West of England to carry out an independent review of Disabled Facilities Grants
(DFG) in England in 2018 – a report was submitted on 10th December 2018 but no
feedback has been received.

How does the topic support delivery of the Council Plan?

- Environment & Housing Better places to live
- Health & Wellbeing places where people are support to be healthy
- Children & Young People- Give Children best start in life
- <u>Adult Services</u> Focus on prevention and early intervention. Work closely with NHS and deliver statutory duties

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

That the processes and implementation of the grant and the experience for the client in the borough of Stockton-on-Tees is robust, effective and efficient.

Signed: Cllr Nigel Cooke Date: 3.3.20

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

School Meal Provision

School meal provision via the Local Authority is an area which continues to see a decline in terms of schools taking the service as they opt to move to other providers in favour of a cheaper service. The service provided is cheaper due to the lower employee wages, but also lower food cost per meal and an increased use of processed and pre-prepared meals. It has been found that there is a lot of frozen goods with low nutritional values which is not meeting the School Food Plan 2019.

The review would seek to review school meal provision within Stockton Borough and investigate the extent to which caterers are following the School Food Plan and Nutritional Standards, and if there is any way to influence choices being made Schools and academies with a better focus on the quality of the food provided. Investigate the cost per meal charged to Schools, understand the potential impact on health to children who do not follow a healthy nutritious diet.

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2014/1603/contents/made

Please be clear about the focus of the review and desired outcome.

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:

Ensuring that a child receives the option to have a hot nutritious meal at School is an important element for the residents in Stockton. Diets and nutrition have an impact the child's ability to concentrate and learn. Additionally a poor diet may well lead to poor health outcomes with a knock on effect on health services, therefore residents would be interested to ensure that pupils receive a high standard lunch whilst at School.

In addition to this, School lunches are sometimes the only hot and nutritious meal that a child receives due to the different levels of deprivation within the Borough.

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

Poor nutrition in food for children leads poor health outcomes increased strain on the NHS and hampers efforts to tackle child obesity.

A nutritionally balanced diet will also have an impact on ensuring that the children receive the best start to life, a nutritionally balance meal during the school day is an important element of this.

There will be an impact on the economic well being if there continues to be a downward trend of schools opting for private sector catering as the level of income would reduce for the Council.

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

The number of schools that are outsourcing catering service is increasing, which therefore has an impact on Council income.

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

No other reviews ongoing.

For interest: LACA The School Food People are currently reviewing the School Food Plan. This is a country wide review and not specific to the area.

How does the topic support delivery of the Council Plan?

Tackle inequality through improving -

 Health of young people, and supporting better outcomes, the disadvantaged are particular effect by these outcomes.

Help people to be healthier by -

• Providing healthy food to improve health outcomes and improve Oral health

Children and Young People -

- Giving children the best start in life
- Focusing on schools and learning outcomes
- · Work collaboratively, effectively and efficiently.

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

To ensure that the children of the Borough have access to a healthy, nutritious two course lunch that meets the government's nutritional standards.

Why is a healthy, balance and nutritious diet essential for children?

A healthy, balanced diet and regular physical activity are essential for health and wellbeing. Research confirms that health eating habits during School, are very important because they influence a range of health and development outcomes in later life.

Quality of early years experiences, lunch been a main contributor, can have a fundamental impact on many aspects of development physically, emotionally and intellectually. Children are likely to be energised and motivated supporting their ability to learn. Educating them on healthy eating during childhood will help them make healthier choices as they become adults.

Signed:	Date: 5 March 2020

Please return to:

Judy Trainer
Scrutiny Section
Democratic Services
Municipal Buildings
Church Road
Stockton on Tees
TS18 1LD

Email: judith.trainer@stockton.gov.uk

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

School Catering

This review would focus on the catering service in schools provided by Stockton Borough Council.

The key concerns are:

- Is the SBC catering service providing value for money?
- What is the business case for SBC catering services for example, how is it marketed?
- Are there any issues or problems with the service?
- What is the relationship between SBC catering services and schools (including academies)?

Please be clear about the focus of the review and desired outcome.

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:

This review would assess whether SBC catering services are sufficiently responsive to increases and decreases in demand for council funded catering in schools. It will also question if the SBC catering service area is delivering on service quality.

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

The focus of the review would be to establish whether SBC are offering a catering service to schools and academies which are both nutritional and value for money.

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

The demand for council funded school catering and a wider awareness of trends in the service (private?) sector would identify where SBC catering services could make savings in the future.

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

No other reviews are taking place in this area to my knowledge.

How does the topic support delivery of the Council Plan?

Catering services are a key part within both Council owned schools and (customers?) academies/ other education establishments.

Our policy principles

Tackle inequality through improving health.

<u>Children and Young People</u> Key objective – Giving children the best start in life.

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

Knowledge of the SBC catering service in schools and an understanding of the challenges facing the catering sector as a whole.

Signed: Luke Frost **Date:** 21.02.2020

Please return to:

Judy Trainer Scrutiny Section Democratic Services **Municipal Buildings** Church Road Stockton on Tees TS18 1LD

Email: judith.trainer@stockton.gov.uk

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

Refuse Collection and Recycling

This review would be focussed on refuse collection and recycling services provided by Stockton Borough Council.

The key questions the review could address are:

- How do we operate currently?
- Financial impact on operations
- · Are we delivering on what we set out to do?
- Is there a need/want to scrap "Black Bag" Areas?
- Are we doing enough to encourage people to recycle?
- Can more be done to encourage people to recycle and are schools involved?
- Is SBC doing enough internally to encourage the workforce to recycle?

Please be clear about the focus of the review and desired outcome.

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:

Recycling is part of a wider issue of tackling climate change. This is very topical in the media and as a cause of concern for the national government.

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

An increase in recycling would improve the environmental well-being of the area.

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

The review might identify savings which could be made in the future.

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

Unknown.

How does the topic support delivery of the Council Plan?

The review could contribute to the delivery of the following key objective of the Council Plan:

· Deliver effective environmental services

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

Signed: Luke Frost Date: 05/03/2020

Please return to:

Judy Trainer Scrutiny Section Democratic Services Municipal Buildings Church Road Stockton on Tees TS18 1LD

Email: judith.trainer@stockton.gov.uk

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

Information Sharing

Community Safety in Stockton on Tees is of paramount concern to the Council, which is why we have continued to prioritise resources in this service area. The Council are proud of the process we have made around partnership working over recent years, but more can be done to ensure efficient deployment of resources and timely sharing of intelligence and data.

Information sharing is the cornerstone of effective partnership performance and the focus of this review is to explore current information sharing arrangements with key partners in light of recent changes to data protection laws and regulations.

For the purpose of this review, key partners are 'responsible authorities' as defined under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. This includes, but isn't limited to;

- Cleveland Police
- Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
- Cleveland Fire Brigade
- Health (including Primary Care Trusts)
- Probation

Please be clear about the focus of the review and desired outcome.

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:

Community safety is about helping communities to be and feel safe. It is important that our residents feel safe where they live, work and spend leisure time. Whilst a great deal of work has been done to date, further improvements and scrutiny in this area is absolutely in the interest of every resident in Stockton on Tees in order to continue and drive high standards of community safety and partnership working.

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

Given the nature of this topic, the impact on society and the overall wellbeing in terms of safety is high. Every resident, business owner and visitor to Stockton on Tees is directly and indirectly affected by how safe our communities are. This is an area in which the council can have a positive impact for society through influencing policy and procedure.

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

With ever increasing demand on council resources, it is prudent to ensure that working arrangements are continuously reviewed to ensure the maximisation of resources. As demand on community safety related services increases, a review in this area will look at potential areas of overlap to better share responsibilities.

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

There are no previous or planned reviews or changes to the services areas in question internally.

How does the topic support delivery of the Council Plan?

- Protecting the vulnerable through targeted intervention Improving the safety of our public spaces for all, including vulnerable groups such as the elderly and younger people.
- Developing strong and healthy communities Ensuring that our communities are resilience and cohesive.
- Creating economic prosperity Ensuring that our economic centres are safe and welcoming places to visit.

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

- 1. To clarify what information sharing arrangements are currently in place with a view to reviewing if they are fit for purpose and meet legitimate aims.
- 2. To review if further improvement can be made for joint working in this area.
- 3. To review what software systems are available to partners currently and explore potential interface potential.
- 4. To consider what current software systems are available to aid joint working and information sharing e.g. ECINS.

Signed: Councillor Steve Nelson Date: 04/03/2020

Please return to:

Judy Trainer
Scrutiny Section
Democratic Services
Municipal Buildings
Church Road
Stockton on Tees
TS18 1LD

Email: judith.trainer@stockton.gov.uk

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

Businesses operating from residential premises without necessary permission

Investigate if this is an issue that is causing harm to neighbourhoods particularly in light of recent changes to licensing arrangements

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:

Businesses operating from residential premises without necessary permission can cause harm and nuisance

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

Can cause a detrimental impact to the environment in a residential setting

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

Limited Planning Enforcement resource

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

There has been a recent SWIS Review in this area

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?

A better understanding of if the issue is a particular problem in the Borough

Signed: Councillor Jim Beall Date: January 2019

This document was classified as: OFFICIAL						

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

Obstructive Parking

Vehicles parked in a way that is obstructive can cause annoyance to neighbours, problems with traffic flow and congestions, safety hazards for road users and even cause expensive damage to street furniture and pavements. Perhaps most importantly, illegally parked obstructive vehicles are a potential hazard to pedestrians who may be blind, use a wheelchair or have to step into the road to avoid illegally parked vehicles.

The problem of obstructive parking is one which is felt in all wards across Stockton on Tees and is one of the primary issues raised with elected Members and officers alike. We have a responsibility to keep road and footpaths in the borough safe to use falls to the Council. The area around enforcement against obstructive parking in our communities is however less clear.

As our borough continues to grow, a scrutiny review of obstructive parking is therefore timely in order to confirm exactly what the law is surrounding this matter and who is responsible for enforcement against these types of offences that blight our communities.

A scrutiny review on this topic would look to consider the current legal position, but also look to include best practice in resolving similar issues in other parts of the country and may also offer an opportunity for new and exciting solutions to a problem that affects many residents and businesses.

Please be clear about the focus of the review and desired outcome.

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:

The safety of pedestrians and road users is of paramount interest to this Council and certainly in the wider public interest. This can be evidenced by the high volume of complaints received each year to the Civic Enforcement Service, 2175 in 2019. Furthermore, this doesn't include the amount of complaints made directly to ward Members and other key partners such as Cleveland Police.

This is a matter which has the potential to impact on a diverse mix of residents and visitors in Stockton on Tees, with the ultimate aim of improving road safety and reducing causalities.

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

Given the nature of this topic, the impact on society and the overall wellbeing in terms of safety is high. Most people use some part of the highway network incorporating pavements and roads. This is an area in which the council can have a positive impact for society through influencing policy and procedure around obstructive parking.

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

Whilst our own enforcement teams undertake wider parking enforcement on a commendable scale, the position and responsibility surrounding obstructive parking enforcement remains unclear and therefore resident concerns are not being appropriately addressed. Currently the council fails to appropriately respond to concerns regarding obstructive parking in our communities with many highlighted problems continuing for long periods of time due to the lack of clarity,

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

A previous review of grassed verge parking and also disabled parking have recently been conducted however this topic falls outside of the scope for both of these reviews.

There are no planned reviews or changes to the services areas in question internally and this is perhaps timely given the reintroduction of neighbourhood policing teams within Cleveland Police, who are expected to form part of the scope.

How does the topic support delivery of the Council Plan?

- Protecting the vulnerable through targeted intervention Improving the safety of highway users can help protect the vulnerable such as the elderly, young children and mobility impaired.
- Developing strong and healthy communities Most residents use the highway network on a daily basis whilst going about their lives. Removing the barriers to accessing public spaces safely will help in turn to promote resilient and healthy communities.
- Creating economic prosperity Improving the free flow of both vehicle and pedestrian traffic throughout our town centres can help drive economic prosperity by making economic centres more attractive areas to visit.

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

- 1. Confirmation on the overall legal position regarding obstructive parking in Stockton on Tees.
- 2. Clarification on the appropriate enforcement mechanism to deter obstructive parking which puts others at risk.
- 3. The identification of best practice nationally in tackling this issue from a strategic perspective over a medium and long term basis.
- 4. The exploration of new and innovative ways of working that explores possible changes to how this matter can be enforced.

Signed: Councillor Steve Nelson Date: 27/02/2020

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

Animal Licensing

The Animal Welfare (Licensing of Activities Involving Animals) (England) Regulations 2018 – Licensing Regime

New regulation were introduced in 2018, replacing old legislation and requirement a licence for the activities of:

Dog Boarding

Dog Day Care

Cat Boarding

Hiring out Horses

Dog Breeding

Keeping and training animals for Exhibition

Selling Animals as Pets

How effective has the regime been in promoting animal welfare, how effective have investigations into unlicensed activity been, is there support for local animal businesses.

Please be clear about the focus of the review and desired outcome.

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:

Unlicensed activity if a criminal offence under the Animal Welfare Act 2003.

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

Effective implementation of the legislation and regime would seek to have a positive impact on the social and economic well-being of the area.

Consistent support for local business.

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

This is a new regime, scrutiny of the topic would give an indication of the increased demands on the licensing service.

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

No.

How does the topic support delivery of the Council Plan?

> Creating economic prosperity across the Borough

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

An effective licensing regime and consistent approach against unlicensed activity.

Signed: Steve Nelson Date: 09.03.20

Please return to:

Judy Trainer Scrutiny Section Democratic Services Municipal Buildings Church Road Stockton on Tees TS18 1LD

Email: judith.trainer@stockton.gov.uk

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

Joint Working between Children's and Adults Services

I would like to scrutinise the relationship between Adult Social Services and Children's Social Services when there is a conflict of interests.

I would like to see how these services resolve their problems when another service is opposing their work. For example, a young person of about 15 has offered violence and intimidation to a lone parent. That parent throws the young person out because they are fearful for their safety. Children's Social Care wants the parent to take the child back into their home. The parent in this case may now be a vulnerable adult. How do the services work together to resolve these issues? Which vulnerability takes priority?

I am sure there are other examples of conflicts.

Teeswide Safeguarding Adults Board states that this is a grey area that needs looking into.

Please be clear about the focus of the review and desired outcome.

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:

Safeguarding of children and adults.

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

Yes

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

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

Not that I am aware of.

How does the topic support delivery of the Council Plan?

Support and protection of our most vulnerable residents.

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

Clear guidance on the way these conflict of issues are dealt with. Liaison between the opposing agencies. All round joined-up support, with neither side dominating the outcomes.

Signed: Cllr Evaline Cunningham	Date: 5/3/2020
Please return to:	
Judy Trainer Scrutiny Section Democratic Services Municipal Buildings Church Road Stockton on Tees TS18 1LD	

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

Community Engagement in Public Health and Adult Services

• Community Engagement – how can community engagement and development be improved for both Public Health and Adult Services.

Both Public Health and Adult Social Care are promoting an asset based approach; this means identifying the assets an individual has personally within their life and the assets a person has in their community to ensure that those assets are maximised. This approach also means that a person's assets, as well as their needs, are considered to give a more holistic response.

In order to ensure an asset based approach within the community both public health and adult social care may need to further develop their community engagement.

The outcome would be to identify whether there is anything more that public health or adult social care can be doing to maximise engagement with the community.

Please be clear about the focus of the review and desired outcome.

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:

This will be of interest to residents, community groups and VCSE organisations.

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

Improved communication and joint working between public health and adult social care and the broader community.

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

N/A

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

The Health & Wellbeing Board is progressing a Pathfinder programme that will focus on improving health and wellbeing by further developing an asset based approach and social prescribing.

How does the topic support delivery of the Council Plan?

Protecting the vulnerable. Improving health and wellbeing.

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

To identify what more public health and adult social care can be doing to engage with communities to support individuals to live the best life they can.

Signed: Cllr Ann McCoy Date: 5 March 2020

Please return to:

Judy Trainer Scrutiny Section Democratic Services Municipal Buildings Church Road Stockton on Tees TS18 1LD

Email: judith.trainer@stockton.gov.uk

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

Discretionary Parking Bays

Discretionary bays are welcomed and councillors invariably support them but it would be useful to know if there are any negative aspects e.g. are they reviewed when the disabled person moves home? Because people tend to respect the spaces they don't park in them even if the disabled person no longer accesses it. With the ever increasing numbers of vehicles on the streets every parking space is important.

Is the application process fit for purpose?

Outcome would be to maximise benefits for disabled people and minimise impact on general public.

Please be clear about the focus of the review and desired outcome.

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	iustification:
------------------------	----------------

General parking issues

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

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

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

How does the topic support delivery of the Council Plan?

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

Signed: Cllr Steve Nelson Date: 5 March 2020

Please return to:

Judy Trainer
Scrutiny Section
Democratic Services
Municipal Buildings
Church Road
Stockton on Tees
TS18 1LD

This document was classified as: OFFICIAL						

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

To review OneCall which provides an assistive technology and response services for vulnerable people within Stockton.

The OneCall service has been in existence since 1986 and provides a communal alarm system for elderly clients throughout the borough.

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.

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.

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.

Key areas for consideration are:

- 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.

Proposed evidence from:

- OneCall Service.
- Commissioning.
- Social Services Management.

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:

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.

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

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.

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

Please return to:

Judy Trainer
Scrutiny Section
Democratic Services
Municipal Buildings
Church Road
Stockton on Tees
TS18 1LD

Email: judith.trainer@stockton.gov.uk

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

Engagement with Town and Parish Council

How does Stockton Borough Council engage with Town and Parish Councils within the Borough?

Please be clear about the focus of the review and desired outcome.

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:

Residents often pay a parish council precept in addition to their base Council Tax and wish to see value for money and effective local government.

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

A key focus area of the Council is health and wellbeing, reducing social isolation and promoting economic prosperity. The aims and objectives are shared with Town and Parish Council and therefor present opportunities for joint working.

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

There are areas where Town and Parish Councils are providing similar services and joint working could result in cost savings for the Council and taxpayers.

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

There have not been any reviews on this for a number of years. However, there is currently a piece of work on events across the Borough which Town and Parish Councils are feeding into via the Engagement Team.

How does the topic support delivery of the Council Plan?

By working in partnership with Town and Parish Councils and having a better understanding of their work, there is a real opportunity for delivering more for our residents meeting the aspirations of the Council Plan.

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

Improved co-operation between the Council and Town and Parish Councils; less duplication and the introduction of a Charter for how the Borough Council and Town and Parish Councils can work together.

Signed: Cllr Clare Gamble Date: 5 March 2020

This document was classified as: OFFICIAL						

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

Locality Forums

Stockton Borough Council has four locality forums and this review would evaluate if they are cost effective.

This review could look at the following lines of enquiry:

- What are we learning from hosting Locality Forums?
- What is the cost for running Locality Forums?
- Are Locality Forums meeting the Terms of Reference?
- · What direction are Locality Forums heading in?

Please be clear about the focus of the review and desired outcome.

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:

Locality Forums allow representatives from public, private, voluntary and community sectors to meet and assist residents across the Borough, particularly the most vulnerable.

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

Projects through Locality Forums, such as the collection of over 300 coats for local charities and foodbanks, have had a direct impact on the well-being of Stockton residents.

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

If it is possible to run the Locality Forums more efficiently this would provide savings for the Council.

Also, there may be other forums which perform the same functions as the Locality Forums and could merge with the Locality Forums.

Keep in Context	(are other r	reviews taking p	place in t	:his area?))
-----------------	--------------	------------------	------------	-------------	---

Unknown

How does the topic support delivery of the Council Plan?

This review is aligned with the following policy principle outlined in the Council Plan:

 Protect the vulnerable by assisting people whose circumstances make them vulnerable.

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

The aim of this review would be to see if Locality Forums are fit for purpose and to understand the need or want for these forums.

Signed: Luke Frost Date: 05/03/2020

Please return to:

Judy Trainer Scrutiny Section Democratic Services Municipal Buildings Church Road Stockton on Tees TS18 1LD

Email: judith.trainer@stockton.gov.uk