

**Date:** Thursday 28 November 2024 at 4.30 pm

**Venue:** Jim Cooke Conference Suite, Stockton Central Library, Church Road,  
Stockton-on-Tees TS18 1TU

**Cllr Paul Rowling (Chair)**  
**Cllr Mrs Ann McCoy (Vice-Chair)**

Cllr John Coulson  
Cllr Jason French  
Cllr Barbara Inman  
Cllr Alan Watson

Cllr Richard Eglington  
Cllr Shakeel Hussain  
Cllr Sylvia Walmsley

## **AGENDA**

- 1 Evacuation Procedure** (Pages 7 - 8)
- 2 Apologies for Absence**
- 3 Declarations of Interest**
- 4 Minutes**  
  
To approve the minutes of the last meeting held on 24 October 2024 (to follow).
- 5 Scrutiny Review of Welcoming and Safe Town Centres**  
  
To consider information from the following organisations in relation to this scrutiny topic:
  - Cleveland Fire Brigade (to follow)
  - Town Councils (to follow)
- 6 Stockton Home Safety Association - Previous Minutes (March and June 2024)** (Pages 9 - 12)
- 7 Chair's Update and Select Committee Work Programme 2024-2025** (Pages 13 - 18)

**Members of the Public - Rights to Attend Meeting**

With the exception of any item identified above as containing exempt or confidential information under the Local Government Act 1972 Section 100A(4), members of the public are entitled to attend this meeting and/or have access to the agenda papers.

Persons wishing to obtain any further information on this meeting, including the opportunities available for any member of the public to speak at the meeting; or for details of access to the meeting for disabled people, please

Contact: , Senior Scrutiny Officer, Gary Woods on email [gary.woods@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:gary.woods@stockton.gov.uk)

**KEY - Declarable interests are:-**

- Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI's)
- Other Registerable Interests (ORI's)
- Non Registerable Interests (NRI's)

**Members – Declaration of Interest Guidance**



**Table 1 - Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>Employment, office, trade, profession or vocation</b>	Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain
<b>Sponsorship</b>	Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from the council) made to the councillor during the previous 12-month period for expenses incurred by him/her in carrying out his/her duties as a councillor, or towards his/her election expenses. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.
<b>Contracts</b>	Any contract made between the councillor or his/her spouse or civil partner or the person with whom the councillor is living as if they were spouses/civil partners (or a firm in which such person is a partner, or an incorporated body of which such person is a director* or a body that such person has a beneficial interest in the securities of*) and the council — (a) under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and (b) which has not been fully discharged.
<b>Land and property</b>	Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of the council. 'Land' excludes an easement, servitude, interest or right in or over land which does not give the councillor or his/her spouse or civil partner or the person with whom the councillor is living as if they were spouses/ civil partners (alone or jointly with another) a right to occupy or to receive income.
<b>Licences</b>	Any licence (alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of the council for a month or longer.
<b>Corporate tenancies</b>	Any tenancy where (to the councillor's knowledge)— (a) the landlord is the council; and (b) the tenant is a body that the councillor, or his/her spouse or civil partner or the person with whom the councillor is living as if they were spouses/ civil partners is a partner of or a director* of or has a beneficial interest in the securities* of.
<b>Securities</b>	Any beneficial interest in securities* of a body where— (a) that body (to the councillor's knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of the council; and (b) either— (i) the total nominal value of the securities* exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or (ii) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the councillor, or his/ her spouse or civil partner or the person with whom the councillor is living as if they were spouses/civil partners have a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

\* 'director' includes a member of the committee of management of an industrial and provident society.

\* 'securities' means shares, debentures, debenture stock, loan stock, bonds, units of a collective investment scheme within the meaning of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 and other securities of any description, other than money deposited with a building society.

## Table 2 – Other Registerable Interest

You must register as an Other Registrable Interest:

- a) any unpaid directorships
- b) any body of which you are a member or are in a position of general control or management and to which you are nominated or appointed by your authority
- c) any body
  - (i) exercising functions of a public nature
  - (ii) directed to charitable purposes or
  - (iii) one of whose principal purposes includes the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union) of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management

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## **Jim Cooke Conference Suite, Stockton Central Library** **Evacuation Procedure & Housekeeping**

If the fire or bomb alarm should sound please exit by the nearest emergency exit. The Fire alarm is a continuous ring and the Bomb alarm is the same as the fire alarm however it is an intermittent ring.

If the Fire Alarm rings exit through the nearest available emergency exit and form up in Municipal Buildings Car Park.

The assembly point for everyone if the Bomb alarm is sounded is the car park at the rear of Splash on Church Road.

The emergency exits are located via the doors between the 2 projector screens. The key coded emergency exit door will automatically disengage when the alarm sounds.

The Toilets are located on the Ground floor corridor of Municipal Buildings next to the emergency exit. Both the ladies and gents toilets are located on the right hand side.

### **Microphones**

During the meeting, members of the Committee, and officers in attendance, will have access to a microphone. Please use the microphones, when directed to speak by the Chair, to ensure you are heard by the Committee.

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# Agenda Item 6

## STOCKTON HOME SAFETY ASSOCIATION

A meeting of Stockton Home Safety Association was held on Tuesday 12 March 2024.

**Present:** Cllr Mrs Ann McCoy (Chair), Cllr John Gardner.

**Officers:** Paul Chiver, John Devine.

**Also in attendance:**

**Apologies:** Allison Lilliendahl, Andrea Gledhill and Paul Bell.

### **SHA/27/23 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **SHA/28/23 Minutes**

Consideration was given to the minutes of the previous meeting held Tuesday 12th December 2024.

### **SHA/29/23 Report of the Trading Standards Officer**

Officers informed members of work which had been carried out with the Police, in which Shops were searched for tobacco offenses. Two of the shops which were visited would be served closure orders following the searches with a third having failed a test purchase.

A suggested ban on disposable Vapes could be going forward nationally with it being made a possible offense to sell. But there has been progress on the banning of certain flavoured vapes which appealed to children. Suggested had also been made to force sellers to store Vapes out of sight similar to how Tobacco products are stored.

The disposal of Vapes which had been seized was also discussed, Officers explained to members that due to the built-in batteries of Vapes it is difficult to dispose of. But Stockton Council had worked with other Local Authorities to share the cost for pick up and disposal.

Members expressed an interest in Officers to pass on an update report on the issues and work done around Vaping to the Safer Stockton Partnership group or the Health & Wellbeing Board.

Members AGREED to note the update.

### **SHA/30/23 Report of the Home Safety Officer - Children's Services**

No Officer was present at the meeting, but a short update was circulated to members.

### **SHA/31/23 Report of the One Call Officer**

No Officer was present for the meeting, it was agreed that the report would be deferred until the next meeting.

**SHA/32/23 Other Business**

There was no other business brought to the attention of members.

**SHA/33/23 Work Programme**

The work programme was discussed and would be brought to the next meeting.

## STOCKTON HOME SAFETY ASSOCIATION

A meeting of Stockton Home Safety Association was held on Tuesday 11 June 2024.

**Present:** Cllr Ann McCoy, Cllr Nigel Cooke .

**Officers:** Allison Lilliendahl, Andrea Gledhill, John Devine.

**Also in attendance:**

**Apologies:** Cllr John Gardner, Cllr Sufi Mubeen.

### **SHA/1/24 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **SHA/2/24 Minutes**

Consideration was given to the minutes of the previous meeting held Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2024.

Agreed that the minutes were a true record.

### **SHA/3/24 Report of the Trading Standards Officer**

Officers presented an update report to members which outlined work which had been undertaken since the last meeting. Several closure orders had been obtained against shops selling illicit tobacco and oversized vapes.

Test purchases had been made following complaints of underage sales and sales of counterfeit cigarettes, with the seizures of the illicit tobacco and vapes providing evidence to the courts to issue closure orders.

Officers also informed members of work which was underway in regards to E-Bikes and Scooters. The Office for Product Safety and Standards (OPSS) asked Trading Standards to identify local repairers and modifiers and approach them with guidance on safe repairs etc. while also checking that they are competent in the relevant safety standards and are know their obligations under the legislation.

Members Agreed to note the report.

### **SHA/4/24 Report of the Home Safety Officer - Children's Services**

Officers continued to run the popular Family Safety Sessions, 12 plus sessions are also held in the four family hubs.

Offices had begun to work with local Brownie groups to deliver sessions on basic first aid and other life skills. The groups are for the ages of 7 to 10, with the sessions mostly covering who to contact in emergencies and what positions can be used to help for choking, minor bleeding and how to use the recovery position.

Members noted the report.

**SHA/5/24 Report of the One Call Officer**

No Officer was present at the meeting, Members agreed to defer the report till the next meeting.

**SHA/6/24 Other Business**

Members suggested that Officers who would be unable to attend meetings could prepare written reports instead. Democratic Services would contact Officers and make the suggestion on behalf of Members.

Also discussed was that due to the General Election it would be too late to organise the annual Homes Safety Town Centre Event this year, but Members would push the item to next year on the work programme.

Members noted the discussion.

**SHA/7/24 Work Programme**

Members noted the work programme.

**COMMUNITY SAFETY SELECT COMMITTEE**  
**Work Programme 2024-2025**

Date (4.30pm unless stated)	Topic	Attendance
25 April	Review of Outdoor Play Provision: Quality and Distribution, Maintenance, and Physical Accessibility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (Draft) Final Report</li> </ul>	Cllr Clare Gamble / Cllr Steve Nelson / Cllr Norma Stephenson OBE / Neil Mitchell
23 May	CANCELLED	
13 June	Monitoring: Action Plan - Outdoor Play Provision  Monitoring: Progress Update – Tree Asset Management  Review of Welcoming and Safe Town Centres <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (Draft) Scope and Project Plan</li> </ul>	Graham Clingan  Dale Rowbotham  Marc Stephenson
11 July	Review of Welcoming and Safe Town Centres <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SBC Community Safety and Regulated Services</li> </ul>	Sharon Cooney / Stephen Donaghy / Leanne Maloney-Kelly
26 September	Review of Welcoming and Safe Town Centres <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SBC Town Centres Development</li> <li>• SBC Public Health / CGL</li> </ul>	Iain Robinson / Marc Bould Sarah Bowman-Abouna / Mandy MacKinnon / Oliver Metcalf
24 October	Review of Welcoming and Safe Town Centres <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland</li> <li>• Cleveland Police</li> </ul> Minutes of the Safer Stockton Partnership (March, May & July 2024)	Matt Storey  John Wrintmore / Andy Evans
28 November	Review of Welcoming and Safe Town Centres <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cleveland Fire Brigade</li> <li>• Town Councils <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Billingham</li> <li>○ Ingleby Barwick</li> <li>○ Thornaby</li> <li>○ Yarm (TBC)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> Minutes of the Stockton Home Safety Association (March & June 2024)	Alan Turner  Dee Smith (written submission) TBC TBC
19 December	CANCELLED	
9 January	Review of Welcoming and Safe Town Centres <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Business Forums / Groups (TBC)</li> <li>• Ward Councillor Survey Feedback</li> </ul>	

## COMMUNITY SAFETY SELECT COMMITTEE Work Programme 2024-2025

Date (4.30pm unless stated)	Topic	Attendance
	Minutes of the Safer Stockton Partnership (October & November 2024)	
23 January	Review of Welcoming and Safe Town Centres <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Catalyst (TBC)</li> <li>• Other Local Authority Initiatives (TBC)</li> </ul>	
27 February	Overview Report: Adults, Health and Wellbeing (TBC)  Review of Welcoming and Safe Town Centres <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TBC</li> </ul>	
27 March	Review of Welcoming and Safe Town Centres <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TBC</li> </ul>	

### 2024-2025 Scrutiny Reviews

- Welcoming and Safe Town Centres

### Monitoring Items (scheduled / to be scheduled)

- Fly-Grazed Horses (Progress Update) – TBC
- Tree Asset Management (Progress Update) – TBC (early-2025)
- Outdoor Play Provision (Progress Update) – TBC (mid-2025)

### Other Information Sources / Updates

- **Safer Stockton Partnership (SSP):** The SSP is the local community safety partnership and works together to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB) – meeting dates, agendas and minutes can be accessed via <https://moderngov.stockton.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?Cid=1144&Year=0>. Every three years, the SSP undertake a Crime and Disorder Audit and, following public consultation, produce a Community Safety Plan which sets out how agencies within the Partnership intend to achieve targets in crime reduction – the latest version is the [Stockton-on-Tees Community Safety Strategy 2022-2025](#). Government is consulting on part two of the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) Review, with Councils giving input into the Local Government Association’s (LGA) response – there is appetite amongst Councils for a more fundamental look at the partnership duty landscape and how CSPs work with Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs).
- **Serious Violence Duty:** The Duty (Aug 22) <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/police-crime-sentencing-and-courts-bill-2021-factsheets/police-crime-sentencing-and-courts-bill-2021-serious-violence-duty-factsheet> and associated guidance (Dec 22): [https://www.gov.uk/government/news/efforts-to-tackle-serious-violence-and-homicide-stepped-up?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=govuk-notifications-topic&utm\\_source=66d44b4c-9d22-4f1d-aed7-517818847183&utm\\_content=immediately](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/efforts-to-tackle-serious-violence-and-homicide-stepped-up?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications-topic&utm_source=66d44b4c-9d22-4f1d-aed7-517818847183&utm_content=immediately). The Home Office plan to update the guidance to the Serious Violence Duty (SVD) – the LGA will be giving views (Councils have contributed to this).

## COMMUNITY SAFETY SELECT COMMITTEE Work Programme 2024-2025

- **Martyn's Law:** ([The Terrorism \(Protection of Premises\) Draft Bill](#)) has recently (May 23) been published, which will introduce new requirements for those responsible for certain public premises or events to take protective security measures to mitigate against terrorist attacks. Also known as Martyn's Law, this will likely have a number of implications for Councils. Further details can also be found on [the Home Office's Martyn's Law factsheet](#). The LGA has recently (Apr 23) published [a case study highlighting how Manchester Council](#) has embedded the principles of Martyn's Law into their licensing process.
- **Modern Slavery:** [New modern slavery risk assessment and due diligence guidance for local authority commissioners of adult social care](#), produced by the University of Nottingham Rights Lab in tandem with the LGA, was published in October 2023 - it provides advice on to how to set up effective local systems to identify and manage the risks of modern slavery in adult social care. The LGA has established a modern slavery network for council officers leading on work to tackle modern slavery – the network meets quarterly via Teams and aims to share good practice and discuss current issues. In March 2024, the Home Office [published data on the number of potential victims of modern slavery](#) referred into the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) or via the Duty to Notify (DtN) process in 2023. 17,004 potential victims of modern slavery were referred to the Home Office in 2023. The number of referrals for females were at their highest on record, as were the number of referrals for child potential victims. The most common nationality referred in 2023 was UK.
- **Youth Offending:** *Turnaround* is a voluntary youth early intervention programme led by the Ministry of Justice. The programme provides multi-year grant funding to Youth Offending Teams (YOTs) across England and Wales until March 2025, enabling them to intervene earlier and improve outcomes for children on the cusp of entering the youth justice system. The eligibility criteria for *Turnaround* includes; children involved in anti-social behaviour (ASB) – ranging from coming to notice for repeated involvement in ASB up to and including receiving a Civil Order for ASB. The Ministry of Justice is encouraging all community safety teams to engage with their local YOT Manager or Management Board to discuss a referral pathway for eligible children so they can be offered support via *Turnaround*.
- **Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB):** The Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman issued a press release in August 2023 expressing concern that [Councils were not doing enough to help victims of ASB](#). The Ombudsman has also produced a [learning lessons from complaints about antisocial behaviour](#) document which includes scrutiny questions for Councillors. The [ASB Action Plan](#) has since been updated (March 2024).
- **CONTEST:** In July 2023, the Government published its [updated counter-terrorism strategy, CONTEST](#), which judges that risks from terrorism are rising. In related matters, SBC rolled-out mandatory staff training around the Prevent and Protect duty at the end of April 2023. In March 2024, the Government [published a new definition of extremism](#), updating the one in the 2011 Prevent Strategy and to reflect the evolution of extremist ideologies and the social harms they create. The Government also recently published a [progress report one year on from the publication of the Independent Review of Prevent](#). This sets out that 30 of the 34 recommendations are now complete, including updated statutory guidance, training and the assessment framework, the launch of a new [Standards and Compliance Unit \(STaCU\)](#) to handle complaints and provide oversight.

## COMMUNITY SAFETY SELECT COMMITTEE Work Programme 2024-2025

- **Fire & Rescue:** [State of Fire & Rescue 2022](#) - His Majesty's Chief Inspector of Fire and Rescue Services Annual Assessment of Fire and Rescue Services in England. Arson and deliberate fire setting remain a significant issue for Cleveland Fire Brigade with Cleveland being the arson capital of the UK – in October 2022, Cleveland Fire Brigade [appealed for everyone to become a FireStopper in a new bid to reduce arson and violent attacks on Firefighters](#).
- **Shoplifting:** Police to treat shoplifting like organised crime (BBC online article published in October 2023): <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-67191793>. In November 2024, it was reported that incidents of shoplifting had reached a 20-year high, according to figures recorded by the police. A survey of shopkeepers by the Association of Convenience Stores found that 94 per cent felt that the problem had worsened in the last 12 months: [Sky: 'We need help': Workers say shoplifting is 'out of control' after surge in brazen thefts](#).
- **Dangerous Dogs Act 1991:** The Government has added the XL Bully breed type to the list of dogs banned under the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 in England and Wales. From 31 December 2023, breeding, selling, exchanging, advertising, rehoming, gifting, abandoning, and allowing an XL Bully dog to stray will be illegal, and these dogs must be muzzled and on a lead in public. From 1 February 2024 it will be a criminal offence to own an XL Bully in England and Wales unless the owner has a Certificate of Exemption. [Defra has published further information about how to prepare for the ban which will be updated regularly](#), and they will continue engagement with stakeholders. In March 2024, the LGA wrote to Council chief finance officers on behalf of DEFRA about new burdens funding relating to the XL Bully Ban for 2023-24.
- **Licensing:** [Legislation has been introduced into Parliament to amend the Licensing Act 2003](#) so that it is easier to get changes to licensing hours for special events or occasions, such as significant sporting events, through Parliament. The Bill is more concerned with parliamentary process than the contents of the Licensing Act itself. The Local Government Association (LGA) understands this legislation has Government support, so is likely to complete its parliamentary stages and become law. The British Beer & Pub Association has [produced advice for licensees showing European Championship football matches](#) – this is an update of the previous World Cup guidance.
- **Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs):** The LGA and DAC conducted a survey regarding DHRs - [the results can be found on the LGA website](#). The LGA, Association of Police and Crime Commissioners (APCC) and Domestic Abuse Commissioner (DAC) have established a forum to share best practice and act as a platform for government changes in relation to domestic and related death homicide. So far there has been one meeting and 132 people have volunteered to take part.
- **Float to Live campaign:** The [RNLI's Float to Live campaign](#) took place on 21 May 2024. The ['float to live' message has saved lives](#), and the RNLI is keen for Councils to support the campaign to raise more awareness amongst local communities. It has produced [a free social media toolkit](#) which may be of interest to Council communications team.
- **Fires involving e-bikes and e-scooters:** The Office for Product Safety & Standards (OPSS) has written to heads of trading standards, asking that, where resources and prioritisation allow, Trading Standards services identify and inspect bike repair businesses and where possible inform OPSS of their findings.



## COMMUNITY SAFETY SELECT COMMITTEE Work Programme 2024-2025

- **Khan Review:** Dame Sara Khan has published her [independent review into social cohesion and resilience](#). Recommendations include the establishment of a new Office for Social Cohesion and Democratic Resilience (OSCDR), a 5-year Social Cohesion and Democratic Resilience Strategy (SCDR) and Action Plan, and that Government should better engage with Local Authorities over actions that could undermine social cohesion – for example in relation to asylum dispersal.
- **Taxi Licensing:** An [HMRC consultation](#) ended on 8 August 2024 on the VAT implications of court judgements that proposes abolishing the current licensing system, which differentiates between Taxis and PHVs, and moving to a single-tier system. The LGA will respond.
- **Safe Access Zones Around Abortion Clinics:** Councils have been contacting the LGA regarding Safe Access Zones around abortion clinics. The LGA have been engaging with government to ensure safe access zones can be established. Legislation will come into force from 31 October 2024 and will make it illegal for anyone to do anything that intentionally or recklessly influences someone's decision to use abortion services, obstructs them, or causes harassment or distress to someone using or working at these premises. The law will apply within a 150-metre radius of the abortion service provider. The College of Policing and the Crown Prosecution Service will be publishing operational guidance to ensure there is clarity and consistency with the enforcement of the new offence. Further information is available at: [Protection zones around abortion clinics in place by October - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#).
- **Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Cleveland:** Further information on the office of the PCC can be found on via <https://www.cleveland.pcc.police.uk/commissioner/office/> - this includes engagement with the **Cleveland Police and Crime Panel (PCP)**. Access to PCP agendas and papers can be found via <https://www.cleveland.pcc.police.uk/commissioner/office/the-work-of-cleveland-police-and-crime-panel/>.

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