

## Community Safety Select Committee Chair's Update – May 2026

<b>Scrutiny Review – Children affected by Domestic Abuse</b>	
<b>Achieved since last meeting</b>	<p>A draft final report was considered and subsequently approved at the Committee meeting in March 2026.</p> <p>The Committee's final report was presented to Cabinet in April 2026 where all recommendations were endorsed.</p>
<b>Problems or concerns</b>	None
<b>Planned this / next month</b>	A draft Action Plan in relation to the report's recommendations will be presented for approval at the Committee meeting in May 2026.
<b>On track – yes / no</b>	Yes

<b>Scrutiny Review – Community Participation Budget and Ward Transport Budget</b>	
<b>Achieved since last meeting</b>	<p>A draft scope and plan for this review was presented to, and subsequently approved by, the Committee at its meeting in March 2026. The main aims for this review will be to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• understand the scope of interventions that are eligible through these two budget schemes, the processes for determining the priorities for use of the funds, and the management of the projects that are funded through CPB and WTB.</li> <li>• establish the effectiveness of these two budgets and whether projects funded through the CPB and WTB have had genuine and sustained impact.</li> <li>• ascertain the communication of the CPB and WTB to Ward Councillors and wider public awareness of these two funding streams.</li> <li>• consider the value of CPB and WTB in the context of significant ongoing budget pressures for the Council as a whole.</li> </ul> <p>Given this scrutiny topic was largely Council-focused, relevant Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council (SBC) officers involved with these initiatives and Ward Councillors themselves would be the predominant contributors to the review. However, it was also proposed that the review established the extent to which residents were aware of these budget schemes, the involvement of local Town and Parish Councils in CPB / WTB-related work, and whether any learning could be found within other Local Authorities which operated similar funding arrangements involving its Elected Members. It was anticipated that the Committee's findings and recommendations would be reported to Cabinet in October 2026.</p> <p>The first evidence-gathering session was held at the Committee meeting in April 2026 – this focused on an initial presentation from the SBC Community Services, Environment and Culture directorate. Questions for a Ward Councillor survey were also</p>

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	discussed and agreed – this would be issued to all SBC Elected Members in early-May 2026.
<b>Problems or concerns</b>	None
<b>Planned this / next month</b>	The second evidence-gathering session in May 2026 is scheduled to feature further contributions from the SBC Community Services, Environment & Culture directorate, including examples / effectiveness of similar schemes at other Local Authorities. Early feedback from the Ward Councillor survey may also be considered if available.
<b>On track – yes / no</b>	Yes

### Monitoring

<b>Key Issues / Problems or Concerns</b>	<p>No updates have been considered by the Committee since the last Executive Scrutiny Committee meeting:</p> <p>Future progress updates regarding previously completed reviews will be received by the Committee as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fly-Grazed Horses (TBC) (<i>note: in November 2025, Cleveland Police was approached to see if there were any developments from a force perspective that might enable some further progress on this issue – to date, no further information has been provided</i>)</li> <li>• Welcoming and Safe Town Centres (May 2026)</li> <li>• Children affected by Domestic Abuse (TBC)</li> </ul>
<b>Requests for more information</b>	None

### Overview / Performance and Quality Assurance

<b>Key Issues / Problems or Concerns</b>	<p><b>Safer Stockton Partnership (SSP):</b> Minutes of previous SSP meetings are periodically included on Committee agendas so Members are sighted on developments within that forum.</p> <p><b>Overview Report: SBC Adults, Health and Wellbeing (Community Safety and Regulated Services: Environmental Health and Licensing):</b> Following a decision in 2025 to resume overview and performance reporting to the Council's Select Committees, an overview-only report was presented to the Committee in April 2026 in relation to the Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council (SBC) Adults, Health and Wellbeing directorate (<i>note: the reporting of performance measures would not commence until September / October 2026</i>). Specifically focusing upon the Environmental Health and Licensing functions within the Council's Community Safety and Regulated Services department, the report outlined key achievements and challenges in 2025-2026, as well as emerging issues within these areas of</p>
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	Council activity. Member comments / questions centred on recent media regarding the increase in attacks on Trading Standards officers, pest control (including sites near to / involving Thirteen Housing Group properties), co-operation with large organisations in relation to air quality matters, use of apprenticeships, and the need to promote the successes of these Council services more.
<b>Requests for more information</b>	None

### 2026-2027 Scrutiny Reviews

- Community Participation Budget and Ward Transport Budget
- Alley Gates

### Remaining 2026-2027 Meetings (all 4.30pm unless stated)

Thursday 28 May 2026	Thursday 26 November 2026
Thursday 2 July 2026	Thursday 17 December 2026
Thursday 30 July 2026	Thursday 28 January 2027
Thursday 1 October 2026	Thursday 25 February 2027
Thursday 29 October 2026	Thursday 25 March 2027