

Crime and Disorder Select Committee Chair's Update – September 2023

Scrutiny Review – Safety of Staff in the Night-Time Economy	
Achieved since last meeting	During August 2023, the initial tri-partite meeting was held to consider the potential scope and plan for this work. Following lengthy discussion, it was agreed that the most appropriate way of scrutinising this topic was via an alternative approach rather than an in-depth review – see <i>Scrutiny Work Programme 2023/24 – Update</i> item also included on this agenda.
Problems or concerns	None
Planned next month	It is proposed that a report will be submitted to the next Committee meeting in September 2023 to provide further context and background around this issue.
On track – yes / no	Yes

Overview / Performance and Quality Assurance	
Key Issues / Problems or Concerns	<p>Overview Report (Adults, Health and Wellbeing): During the first Committee meeting of the 2023-2024 municipal year (which took place in July 2023), Members considered an overview report detailing achievements and challenges / opportunities within the SBC Adults, Health and Wellbeing directorate. With a focus on Community Safety and Regulated Services (Trading Standards, Licensing and Environmental Health), the Committee raised comments / questions on a range of topics including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the impact of COPA (Cleveland Online Policing App) on the latest reported crime figures; • reports of individuals attempting to access house / car doors within certain hot-spot areas; • people not reporting incidents due to a lack of confidence in authorities (particularly amongst older demographics); • the number of applications for amusement licenses, something which appeared contradictory to managing the existing situation within certain parts of the Borough; • concerns in relation to violence against women and girls; • the impact of the PSPOs in Stockton Town Centre and Norton Village and whether these dispersed problems elsewhere; • the potential impact of Martyn's Law and the emerging statutory obligations (as a result of the Manchester Arena bombing); • areas identified within the Borough for the Home Office pilot (via Cleveland Police) to tackle organised crime via a new 'clear, hold, build' (CHB) framework approach; • concerns around vaping devices containing lithium batteries which have reportedly caused fires / explosions; • progress around air quality (which was praised, and was a topic which would benefit from closer scrutiny at some point

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	during the recently initiated four-year Council term.
Requests for more information	Overview Report (Adults, Health and Wellbeing): To further understand the July 2022 to June 2023 reporting period, Members requested a breakdown of crime data (per crime type) and any crime location maps. Both have since been provided by officers and subsequently shared with the Committee.

Monitoring

Key Issues / Problems or Concerns	<p>No updates have been received by the Committee since the last Executive Scrutiny Committee meeting:</p> <p><u>Fly-Grazed Horses</u> The Committee is due an update on progress of the outstanding actions in relation to the agreed Action Plan which was approved following this previously completed review. Initial contact was made with Cleveland Police representatives in July 2023 as a critical element involves the force's development and implementation of a joint policy with SBC around this issue. However, feedback was received which indicated that there had been little change since the previous update given to the Committee in December 2022. Given the amount of time which has passed since the Action Plan was originally approved (February 2021), this apparent impasse has been escalated to senior officers within the force who have been invited to attend the next Committee meeting in September 2023 to address Members on the current situation.</p> <p>Future progress updates regarding previously completed reviews will be received by the Committee as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fly-Grazed Horses (September 2023) • Bonfires on Public Land (September 2023) • Tree Asset Management (TBC – late-2023 / early-2024)
Requests for more information	None

Remaining 2023-2024 Scrutiny Reviews

- Play Area Distribution, Maintenance and Physical Accessibility

Remaining 2023-2024 Meetings (all 4.30pm unless stated)

Thursday 21 September 2023	Thursday 25 January 2024
Thursday 19 October 2023	Thursday 22 February 2024
Thursday 9 November 2023	Thursday 21 March 2024
Thursday 21 December 2023	