

APPENDIX 1


PROGRESS UPDATE: Review of Bonfires on Public Land

SCRUTINY MONITORING – PROGRESS UPDATE	
Review:	Bonfires on Public Land
Link Officer/s:	Marc Stephenson (now Sharon Cooney)
Action Plan Agreed:	March 2023

Updates on the progress of actions in relation to agreed recommendations from previous scrutiny reviews are required approximately 12 months after the relevant Select Committee has agreed the Action Plan. Progress updates must be detailed, evidencing what has taken place regarding each recommendation – a grade assessing progress should then be given (see end of document for grading explanation). Any evidence on the impact of the actions undertaken should also be recorded for each recommendation.

Recommendation 5:	To further deter the construction and lighting of unauthorised bonfires, SBC identifies any alternative sites within the Borough where official bonfires may be able to be facilitated in the future.
Responsibility:	SBC Head of Community Safety
Date:	November 2022
Agreed Action:	SBC will monitor and where reasonable advertise diversionary events including official bonfires to deter the practice on public land.
Agreed Success Measure:	Evidence of a communication / engagement strategy which accounts for advertisement of diversionary activity during this period.
Evidence of Progress (March 2023):	<p>There is continued work to identify and accurately track bonfire hotspots and this will continue throughout the year and approaching 2023 season.</p> <p>During Autumn 2022, the Authority conducted a Social Media campaign on the approach to Mischief Night and Bonfire Night, advertising many diversionary activities to attract families, children and Young People to alternative sites and activities, including the Halloween Spooky Walk that coincided with Mischief Night. Bearing in mind that not all bonfires and ASB in the season take place on 5th November, work was undertaken with SBC Youth Workers to divert young people throughout the period.</p> <p>The Shrewsbury Town Council approach is being explored and our own strategy being developed based on this for implementation in Autumn 2023. Environmental Crime Officers have been tasked with engagement activity over the next few months to identify appropriate sites and discuss with residents and businesses.</p>

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Assessment of Progress (March 2023): (include explanation if required)	2 (On-Track)			
Evidence of Impact (March 2023):	<p>The data for 'Recommendation 1' demonstrates the achieved reductions in deliberate fire-setting for Bonfire Season.</p> <p>An update on the implementation of an approach similar to The Shrewsbury Town Council method will be presented to the Committee in due course. Autumnus 2023 will incorporate a collaborative approach with Youth outreach and schools.</p>			
Evidence of Progress (September 2023):	<p>There is continued work to identify and accurately track bonfire hotspots and this will continue throughout the year and approaching 2023 season.</p> <p>The overall strategy is outlined in the supplementary document (see Appendix 2). Case Management Officers have been tasked with engagement activity over the next few months to identify potential sites and discuss with residents and businesses. We are also working with Licensing and with Corporate Comms to identify and publicise organised events across social media platforms.</p>			
Assessment of Progress (September 2023): (include explanation if required)	2 (On-Track)			
Evidence of Impact (September 2023):	n/a			

Assessment of Progress Gradings:	1 Fully Achieved	2 On-Track	3 Slipped	4 Not Achieved
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