

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

Scrutiny Review – Safety of Staff in the Night-Time Economy	
Achieved since last meeting	<p>Further to the report presented to the Executive Scrutiny Committee in early-September 2023 summarising discussions at the initial tri-partite meeting in August 2023, a report was presented to the Committee later in September providing context / background around this issue and recommending that the objectives set out in the original topic suggestion could be met through existing mechanisms as opposed to an in-depth scrutiny review.</p> <p>The report emphasised that transport to and from work is not a licensable activity and therefore cannot be considered as a condition attached to a licence and, as such, cannot be enforced. Following consideration of other elements such as a jointly commissioned Cleveland-wide problem profile of understanding violence in the night-time economy, the national PubWatch initiative, and already established multi-agency partnership arrangements, the Committee agreed that an in-depth scrutiny review was not required. Members did, however, request a future update on any developments in relation to this issue.</p>
Problems or concerns	None
Planned next month	A future update on any developments in relation to this issue will be scheduled for 2024.
On track – yes / no	Yes

Scrutiny Review – Outdoor Play Provision: Quality and Distribution, Maintenance, and Physical Accessibility	
Achieved since last meeting	<p>The initial tri-partite meeting was held in early-October 2023 to discuss the potential scope and plan for this review. Draft proposals were then considered by the Committee later in October 2023, with the key aims identified as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examine the Borough's existing outdoor play offer in terms of play value and distribution, and identify locations where there is currently an imbalance in provision. • Ascertain who is responsible for individual facilities and what the management / maintenance and sustainability requirements are now, and are likely to be in the future (including revenue costs). • Consider accessibility / inclusivity factors in relation to play provision so practical and financial implications are understood and factored into decisions around existing and future plans. • Contribute to future policy around play area provision, giving an appraisal of potential options.

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	<p>Several contributors were identified including a number of SBC departments, the Association of Play Industries (API), RoSPA, Play England, Stockton Parent Carer Forum, Bright Minds Big Futures (BMBF), and the Local Government Association (LGA) / other Local Authorities. Site visits were also planned as part of the evidence-gathering phase, with a view to presenting the Committee's findings and recommendations to Cabinet in April 2024.</p> <p>The Committee subsequently approved the scope and plan.</p>
Problems or concerns	None
Planned next month	Evidence-gathering would begin in November 2023 with initial contributions from SBC departments.
On track – yes / no	Yes

Monitoring	
Key Issues / Problems or Concerns	<p>The following updates have been received by the Committee since the last Executive Scrutiny Committee meeting:</p> <p><u>Bonfires on Public Land</u> The second update on progress of outstanding actions in relation to recommendations from the Committee's previously completed review of Bonfires on Public Land was considered in September 2023. Only one recommendation (<i>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</i>) was yet to be signed-off as complete, and Members were informed that SBC Case Management Officers had been tasked with engagement activity over the next few months to identify potential sites and discuss with residents and businesses. Work was also being undertaken with SBC Licensing and SBC Corporate Communications to identify and publicise organised events across social media platforms. Since the agreed actions for this recommendation were still to be completed, a further update was requested for the Committee meeting in December 2023.</p> <p><u>Fly-Grazed Horses</u> The fourth update on progress of outstanding actions in relation to recommendations from the Committee's previously completed review of Fly-Grazed Horses was considered in October 2023. Four recommendations were yet to be signed-off as complete, central to which was the ongoing issue of Cleveland Police not yet implementing the intended joint formal policy document to address the fly-grazing of horses on both Council and non-Council land, clearly outlining the roles and responsibilities of the relevant organisations. Cleveland Police acknowledged that this</p>

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	<p>was a protracted matter that effects all police forces in the country and therefore requires a national approach. The force's procurement team were currently engaged with the National Police Chiefs Council (NPCC) working group (who are developing a national approach) and were awaiting an indication of timescales. The Committee therefore agreed that no further progress updates would be scheduled until something of significance could be relayed in the attempt to tackle this issue on a wider countrywide level.</p> <p>Future progress updates regarding previously completed reviews will be received by the Committee as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bonfires on Public Land (December 2023) • Tree Asset Management (TBC – late-2023 / early-2024) • Fly-Grazed Horses (TBC)
Requests for more information	None

Overview / Performance and Quality Assurance

Key Issues / Problems or Concerns	<p>Work Programme 2023-2024: An additional '<i>Other Information Sources / Updates</i>' section had been added to the Committee's work programme document – this reflected some key crime and disorder / community safety issues (with links included providing more detail) which the Committee may be interested in scrutinising further (outside of any ongoing in-depth review work). Members were encouraged to contact either the Chair / Vice-Chair or Scrutiny Officer if they had queries on any of the stated topics.</p>
Requests for more information	None

Remaining 2023-2024 Scrutiny Reviews

- Access to and Impact of Vaping

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

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