

APPENDIX 1

PROGRESS UPDATE: Review of Disability Inclusive Borough

SCRUTINY MONITORING – PROGRESS UPDATE	
Review:	Disability Inclusive Borough
Link Officer/s:	Margie Stewart-Piercy
Action Plan Agreed:	March 2022

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 2:	That all Directorates be asked to review and demonstrate how disability inclusivity and co-production of services is embedded within their areas.
Responsibility:	All directorates SBC
Date:	ongoing
Agreed Action:	Service areas will look at gaps both internally and externally and work across directorates as appropriate to meet the needs. We will work with external partners / organisations when developing services Where the regulations only apply minimum standards then we can work with good up to date guidance on providing additional services. Look beyond the minimum needed Understand how certain teams already do this e.g. housing and adaptations.
Agreed Measure:	Success Encouragement, education and information when planning Working with communities / families who are impacted on through consultation and the town plan
Evidence of Progress (January 2023):	All directorates are continuing to work together on this recommendation.
Assessment of Progress (January 2023): (include explanation if required)	2 – On Track
Evidence of Impact (January 2023):	One example of this is the ongoing work of the town centres consultations.
Evidence of Progress (December 2023):	Powering Our Futures work is ongoing – meeting the needs of our communities. The work across directorates is evidenced in the various programmes of work such as Town Centre development,

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	<p>Changing Places, public health work on healthy streets, Dunedin House refurbishment, ABCD community engagement. This work is ongoing.</p> <p>The Council is working with Public Health colleagues to deliver a 'Healthy Streets' pilot in the Newtown and Hardwick Wards. The pilot is focussed on wards with high health deprivation and seeks to work with communities in line with the Asset Based Community Design (ABCD) approach. This includes consultation events, workshops and Co-design to understand barriers and to deliver a strategy for improving the local environment which contributes to increased levels of physical activity across all abilities where possible. The pilot is funded by Public Health.</p> <p>As part of the Dunedin House refurbishment, the Council's Place Development team have engaged with the staff Disability Network to present the proposed office layout and to discuss access and facilities arrangements. This also included a follow up site visit by representatives of the network to 'test' access into the building.</p>
Assessment of Progress (December 2023): (include explanation if required)	1 – Fully Achieved
Evidence of Impact (December 2023):	Examples include the Town Centres, Public Health projects, ABCD work, resident survey, Changing Places.

Recommendation 5:	That an external Equality Information Directory is developed to better inform the public and assist with signposting of services.
Responsibility:	Corinne Moore
Date:	2023/24
Agreed Action:	Development and update of Stockton Information Directory
Agreed Success Measure:	The directory is published and operational
Evidence of Progress (January 2023):	The Stockton Information Directory (SID) is currently undergoing a redesign and a migration onto the GOSS platform. The Council are taking a modular approach with a phased project plan and taking the opportunity to develop new content and interactive services. It is expected that all services will be live on the new SID by June 2023.

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Assessment of Progress (January 2023): (include explanation if required)	2 – On Track
Evidence of Impact (January 2023):	
Evidence of Progress (December 2023):	Some information has been decoupled from the Stockton Information Directory (SID) and redeveloped onto the Stockton Council Website, where the information should sit.
Assessment of Progress (December 2023): (include explanation if required)	2 – On Track
Evidence of Impact (December 2023):	Wider developments have taken place as part of SID including the development of a SEND Microsite and content. SID due to go live December 2023.

Recommendation 9:	That a publicity campaign is developed to continue to highlight the problems caused by parking over dropped kerbs with opportunities for improvements investigated subject to funding.
Responsibility:	John Angus/Richard Bradford/Rob Morrow
Date:	A) End of qtr 2 2022/23 B) Ongoing in response to requests and available funding
Agreed Action:	To review the existing residents guide to pavement parking found on the Council's website and to promote this via a new publicity campaign. (https://www.stockton.gov.uk/media/2151/parking-on-pavements-a-residents-guide.pdf) Improvements to provide dropped kerbs investigated through the Community Participation Budget/Ward Transport Budget when requested. Dropped kerbs provided as part of major footway resurfacing schemes as required.
Agreed Success Measure:	New guide produced and promoted on the Council's website, social media, and Stockton News along with details circulated to Ward Councillors for inclusion in any newsletters. Improvements provided where funding is identified
Evidence of Progress (January 2023):	This financial year (2022-2023), 47 have been installed through the Community Participation Budget/Ward Transport and 14 have been installed as part of footway resurfacing schemes across the borough.

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	<p>A campaign will be arranged to start by the end of January 2023, with then programme set to provide regular updates throughout the year. The Civic Enforcement team have lots of images of examples of bad parking that could be used as part of the campaign to highlight the issues. The posts would, as well as highlighting the issue, advise residents of the reporting mechanism for how to contact the team for them to investigation and consider the appropriate enforcement action.</p>
<p>Assessment of Progress (January 2023): (include explanation if required)</p>	<p>2 – On Track</p>
<p>Evidence of Impact (January 2023):</p>	
<p>Evidence of Progress (December 2023):</p>	<p>As part of this financial year (23/24), 18 drop kerbs request have been received (and included in the current SBC works programme) as part of the Community Participation Budget /Ward Transport Budget and 39 drop kerbs will be installed as part of the footway resurfacing schemes across the borough.</p> <p>The following article was also included in the May 2023 edition of Stockton-on-Tees News, which is distributed to 90,000 homes:</p> <div data-bbox="485 1189 1385 1697" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;">  <p style="font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold; color: white; background-color: #e67e22; padding: 5px;">Think before you park</p> <p>Residents are reminded to park considerably on pavements – or they could risk receiving a fixed penalty notice.</p> <p>Pavement parking can cause an obstruction to road users and pedestrians. Residents with disabilities, visual impairments, older residents and those with prams or pushchairs are particularly vulnerable as it can make it difficult for them to use the footpaths and in some instances force them onto the road.</p> <p>You are permitted to park with two wheels on the pavement, as long as enough space is left for pedestrians.</p> <p>However, if pavement parking is considered a safety hazard, an Enforcement Officer may ask for the vehicle to be removed or a Police Officer can issue a £30 fixed penalty notice.</p> <p>Please consider others when parking and only park where it is safe to do so. If you spot a parked car obstructing a pavement, you can report it to our Enforcement team by calling 01642 528439 or emailing civic.enforcement@stockton.gov.uk</p> </div> <p>In addition, a social media post was issued in June 2023. Engagement statistics for this post are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reach – 32,579 • Reactions – 67 • Comments – 95 • Shares – 39

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	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;"> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council Published by Hootsuite • 19 June • </div> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">*** THINK BEFORE YOU PARK ***</p> <p>🚗 Did you know you could face a fixed penalty notice if your car is parked obstructively on the pavement? If pavement parking is considered a safety hazard, an Enforcement Officer may ask for the vehicle to be removed or a Police Officer can issue a £30 fixed penalty notice.</p> <p>🙋 Please remember to park considerately!</p> <p>👉 And if you do spot a car causing an obstruction, you can report it to our Enforcement team by calling 01642 528439, or emailing civic.enforcement@stockton.gov.uk</p> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="background-color: orange; color: white; padding: 5px; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">Think before you park</div> <p style="font-weight: bold; margin-top: 5px;">Report it to our Enforcement Team</p> <p>01642 528349 civic.enforcement@stockton.gov.uk</p> </div> </div>																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																		
	<p>A breakdown of the parking related calls below shows that following the article in the Stockton News in May and the social media post in June, the Council experienced an increase in calls in relation to parking issues.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; font-size: 0.8em;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">Count of refno</th> <th colspan="2">month</th> <th rowspan="2">Grand Total</th> </tr> <tr> <th>ward</th> <th>category</th> <th>Apr</th> <th>May</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>3</td><td>9</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>Billingham Central</td><td></td><td>6</td><td>10</td><td>7</td><td>23</td></tr> <tr><td>Billingham East</td><td></td><td>7</td><td>9</td><td>5</td><td>21</td></tr> <tr><td>Billingham North</td><td></td><td>4</td><td>1</td><td>5</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>Billingham South</td><td></td><td>6</td><td>17</td><td>4</td><td>27</td></tr> <tr><td>Billingham West</td><td></td><td>13</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>24</td></tr> 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(include explanation if required)	
Evidence of Impact (December 2023):	

Recommendation 11:	That lessons learnt from the upcoming refurbishment of the junior/toddlers play area at Preston Park be used to inform future play provision designs with respect to inclusion and accessibility.
Responsibility:	Keith Mathews
Date:	2023
Agreed Action:	Meetings held with members of the SEND group, both on site at Preston Park and site visit to Stewarts Park. Design brief to be rewritten based on information gathered.
Agreed Success Measure:	All future play provision will consider the learning from Preston Park
Evidence of Progress (January 2023):	<p>A design brief has been prepared for the refurbishment of the junior/toddlers play area at Preston Park which highlights the need to create a space, and provide a range of play equipment, which is accessible to a wide range of users.</p> <p>However, the Preston Park scheme will not be delivered until 2023, so while it will help to inform the future development of other play areas in the Borough, there are a number of other schemes where the Council can ensure that inclusion and accessibility are key considerations in the design process of other play areas.</p> <p>Key actions to date include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A requirement that play area designers / suppliers provide an inclusivity and accessibility statement in relation to all items of play equipment (not that the Council would require all equipment to be accessible to all, but that on a given site there is an appropriate range of equipment and spaces to meet the needs of a wide range of users) • Proactively involving members of the Stockton Parent Carer Forum (SPCF) at the early stages in the development of a number of play areas projects, e.g. in November/December 2022 they have been invited to comment on proposals for a scheme at Victoria Recreation Ground, Thornaby, and members of SPCF will also be invited to comment on the design brief for improvements to the play area at Harold Wilson Recreation Ground, Thornaby.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exploring ways in which the Council can maintain an on-going dialogue with the SPCP with the suggested aim of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ developing some broad design principles which we might apply to all schemes going forward ○ learning lessons from a range of schemes and using that learning to inform future projects ○ ensuring parents, carers and their children have opportunities to input the design of future schemes
<p>Assessment of Progress (January 2023): (include explanation if required)</p>	<p>2 – On Track</p>
<p>Evidence of Impact (January 2023):</p>	<p>It is too early to assess the success of the above actions, but there has been a very positive response from the Stockton Parent Carer Forum to date and a willingness to input to this work in the future.</p> <p>The Town Centres Team are working with colleagues and appointed professional consultants in designing new play equipment in Preston Park and Stockton Waterfront to be accessible and inclusive where possible.</p>
<p>Evidence of Progress (December 2023):</p>	<p>A number of schemes have now been assessed by the Parent Carers Forum (PCF) as part of the design and implementation journey. These include the proposed play areas for Elmwood Community Centre, Hardwick Green, the extension of Redbrook Park and the extension of Harold Wilson Play Area.</p> <p>Each design brief sent to potential contractors now includes a requirement to demonstrate how accessibility and inclusion has been factored into a design, is afforded weighting, and is considered by the PCF.</p> <p>On-site construction has not commenced at any of these sites yet, Hardwick and Elmwood are still subject to planning approval, and orders have been placed with contractors for both Harold Wilson and Redbrook play areas.</p>
<p>Assessment of Progress (December 2023): (include explanation if required)</p>	<p>2- On Track</p> <p>The PCF have undertaken an assessment of each play area scheme and have provided feedback to Council officers. This feedback is considered along with other factors and a decision made accordingly.</p> <p>The PCF are delighted to be involved and their feedback is very constructive and helpful. As things stand, they are happy with the process and there is no requirement for modification.</p>

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Evidence of Impact (December 2023):	It is only when the play areas have been established or extended that we will be able to undertake any assessment of how successful they have been with regards to accessibility and inclusivity. Again, Council officers will work with the PCF to establish criteria for measuring success.
Recommendation 12:	That the provision of changing places toilet facilities be progressed, where practicable, as part the Town Centre Development Programme, subject to funding through the Changing Places Fund.
Responsibility:	Town Centres Team/Town Centre Programme
Date:	ongoing
Agreed Action:	Town centre team will continue to look at options for changing places as part of the future developments of town centres
Agreed Success Measure:	Maximum possible provision is created using all available funding sources
Evidence of Progress (January 2023):	<p>The outline design for the new civic hub includes a changing place facility and one will be considered as part of the new improvements to Preston Park.</p> <p>There are three Changing Places facilities in the borough.</p> <p>The Council is supporting the delivery of a Changing Places facility at the Catholic Church of the English Martyrs and Saints Peter and Paul within the Roseworth ward and are currently working on options to deliver a facility at South Thornaby Community Centre – both of which are funded from the national Changing Places Fund.</p> <p>A new privately funded facility has also been made available at Teesside Retail Park.</p>
Assessment of Progress (January 2023): (include explanation if required)	2 – On Track
Evidence of Impact (January 2023):	Changing Places provision is being considered for the following projects: (i) Stockton new Civic Building, (ii) Preston Park site and (iii) Thornaby Town Centre Pavilion/Pool development. Ongoing operation and management also need to be looked at for the end users of the building.
Evidence of Progress (December 2023):	A Changing Places is included in the new Stockton Urban Park & Waterfront development. The Council is providing a Changing Places at Preston Park. Both facilities are funded through the individual capital funds, not any Changing Places funding.

APPENDIX 1
PROGRESS UPDATE: Review of Disability Inclusive Borough

	<p>The Changing Places at Catholic Church of the English Martyrs and Saints Peter and Paul within the Roseworth ward is close to completion before being assessed for official registration.</p> <p>The proposal to deliver a facility at South Thornaby Community Centres is no longer an option but the Council is supporting the development of a facility at the Arc in Stockton. This is currently at design and cost estimate stage before being submitted to MDUK for consideration and approval.</p> <p>Both of the above projects are funded from the national Changing Places Fund.</p>
Assessment of Progress (December 2023): (include explanation if required)	1 – Fully Achieved
Evidence of Impact (December 2023):	The new privately funded facility at Teesside Park is now officially registered and able to view on the national website.

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