

Community Safety Select Committee Chair's Update – July 2024

Scrutiny Review – Outdoor Play Provision	
Achieved since last meeting	<p>The Committee's agreed final report was presented to Cabinet in May 2024 where all recommendations were subsequently endorsed.</p> <p>A draft Action Plan in relation to the approved recommendations was presented to, and agreed by, the Committee in June 2024. An update on progress of the confirmed actions would be required in mid-2025.</p>
Problems or concerns	None
Planned next month	n/a
On track – yes / no	Yes

Scrutiny Review – Welcoming and Safe Town Centres	
Achieved since last meeting	<p>Following initial officer and tri-partite meetings to discuss this scrutiny topic, a draft scope and project plan was presented to the Committee in June 2024 – the key aims of which would be to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish the key issues within each of the Borough's six town centres with regards safety. • Understand the measures already in place to address these issues and ascertain any gaps in future plans. • Identify any potential learning from other parts of the UK. <p>Numerous contributors were proposed including a number of SBC departments, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland, Cleveland Police, Cleveland Fire Authority / Brigade, Town Councils, business forums / groups, Catalyst / VCSE Sector, and residents / communities. The Committee also intended to learn from other Local Authority areas. Site visits would also be considered as part of the evidence-gathering phase, with a view to presenting the Committee's findings and recommendations to Cabinet in February 2025. The Committee subsequently approved the scope and plan.</p> <p>The evidence-gathering phase began at the meeting in July 2024 with a presentation focusing on the work of the teams within SBC Community Safety and Regulated Services (Licensing, Trading Standards and Environmental Health). Discussion subsequently ensued on a variety of issues including the difference between reported crime / ASB data and perceptions of safety, the provision of bleed packs, the impact of the Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) in Stockton / Norton, air quality, and the need to promote success stories in making the Borough's six town centres move welcoming and safe.</p>

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Problems or concerns	None
Planned next month	The second evidence-gathering session in September 2024 is due to feature contributions from other SBC departments, including Town Centres Development, Inclusive Growth and Development, and Public Health.
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>Tree Asset Management: The second update on progress of agreed actions in relation to outstanding recommendations from the Committee's previously completed review of Tree Asset Management was considered in June 2024. Included within the update was a draft SBC Tree Management Policy (a document which the Committee recommended was refreshed) and an updated Tree Preservation Order (TPO) easy read guide. Given there were still some actions to be fully achieved, a further update would be scheduled for a future Committee meeting (to be confirmed).</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 (TBC) • Tree Asset Management (TBC) • Outdoor Play Provision (TBC)
Requests for more information	Tree Asset Management: Further information was sought by the Committee in relation to private owners refusing to comply with a request from the Council to deal with overgrown trees / vegetation impacting upon public space – this was subsequently provided by SBC officers after the June 2024 meeting.

Overview / Performance and Quality Assurance	
Key Issues / Problems or Concerns	None
Requests for more information	None

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Next Scrutiny Review

- Welcoming and Safe Town Centres

Remaining 2024-2025 Meetings (all 4.30pm unless stated)

Thursday 26 September 2024
Thursday 24 October 2024
Thursday 28 November 2024
Thursday 19 December 2024

Thursday 23 January 2025
Thursday 27 February 2025
Thursday 27 March 2025