

**Safer and Stronger Communities
Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

27 June 2022

**Anti-social Behaviour (ASB) Strategic
Group**



**Report of Alan Patrickson, Corporate Director of Neighbourhoods
and Climate Change**

Electoral division(s) affected:

Countywide

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To provide the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee with an update on the re-established ASB Strategic Group.

Executive summary

- 2 It was requested by Committee that a report be brought to every meeting on the progress of the work of the ASB Strategic Group.
- 3 The report provides an opportunity for Members to receive an overview of the ASB Strategic Group priorities and work areas and the development of the ASB Strategy.

Recommendation

- 4 Members of the Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee are asked to:
 - (a) Note information contained within the report from the ASB Strategic Group and comment accordingly.

Background

- 5 At the last meeting of the group on the 25th May the terms of reference for the group were agreed as outlined in the last report to the committee in April.
- 6 The new ASB dashboard, which is to be used as both a performance and analytical tool has now been developed and includes data from the Council, Police, Fire and Rescue Service and all the main registered social landlords.
- 7 The tool uses a local definition for Anti-social behaviour split into three areas as below:

Personal:

- Intimidation / harassment / abuse

Environmental:

- Criminal damage / vandalism / graffiti
- Environmental cleanliness
- Abandoned cars
- Pollution

Nuisance:

- Noise
 - Rowdy behaviour
 - Nuisance behaviour
 - Drug and substance misuse / dealing
 - Loitering / pestering
 - Animal nuisance
 - Deliberate fires
 - Vehicle nuisance
- 8 This method of recording is being adopted by the registered social landlords to help provide consistency in recording across all partners.
 - 9 The dashboard will be provided for all relevant partners to access at both an operational and strategic level so it can be used to help direct actions on the ground as well as inform the longer-term strategic approach.
 - 10 The governance arrangements for the groups that sit under the ASB Strategic group is also under review to avoid duplication and help streamline processes and meeting attendance. Once done the results

will be fed back the SDP Board for comment and approval. Following this an update will be provided to the committee.

- 11 A SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities & Threat) analysis is also underway which will feed into the ASB Strategy currently in development.
- 12 The ASB Strategy timeline has now been agreed for a 6 week public consultation on from the 26th September 2022 and the final Strategy to be agreed at the SDP Board on the 27th January 2023.
- 13 A number of recent and ongoing consultations are being used to help inform the strategy prior to the formal consultation. These include:
 - The Econ-versation.
 - The two PSPO (Public Spaces Protection Orders) consultations:
 - Durham City Centre Consultation on making drinking alcohol in public and aggressive begging in Durham City an offence
 - Low Force, Gibson's Cave Proposed PSPO to restrict ASB Activity
 - Housing Targeted Delivery Plan - consultation on working together to improve your local area.
 - Growing up in County Durham Strategy.
 - AAP Priorities.
 - Student voice survey 2022.
 - Rural crime survey.
- 14 A review is also underway in relation to the mediation service that is offered to help resolve disputes that often aren't suitable for enforcement action but still impact negatively on the lives of those involved. The outcome of this review will be included in a subsequent update report to the Committee in due course.

Main implications

Crime and Disorder

- 15 Information within this report aims to contribute to objectives within the existing Safe Durham Partnership Plan to reducing crime and disorder and anti-social behaviour.

Conclusion

- 16 The report provides an opportunity for Members to receive an update on the work of the newly re-established ASB Strategic Group and feed into the relevant processes.

Background papers

- [Safe Durham Partnership Plan 2021-25](#)
- [County Durham Vision 2035](#)

Other useful documents

- None

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Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. Duty to consider crime and disorder implications.

Finance

None.

Consultation

Consultation will take place on the developing Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy.

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

None.

Human Rights

None.

Climate Change

None.

Crime and Disorder

Information with this report provides an overview of the newly re-established ASB Strategic Group, a sub group of the Safe Durham Partnership and the actions agreed from the discussion items within the agenda to help positively impact on Crime, Disorder and Anti-Social Behaviour within the County.

Staffing

None.

Accommodation

None.

Risk

None.

Procurement

None.