

Appendix 4

ASB INTERIM PERFORMANCE REPORT

ASB Strategic Group

Performance Update
APR 24- SEP 24



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Safe Durham Partnership (SDP) Strategic Vision

Priority Outcome 1

Tackling Neighbourhood
Crime and Anti-social
Behaviour (ASB)

Priority Outcome 2

Community Cohesion
and Hate Crime

Priority Outcome 3

Tackling Violent Crime

County Durham ASB Strategy 2022-2025

'Improving Lives through tackling Anti-social Behaviour'

ASB is a cross cutting issue that impacts on all of the SDP priorities

Key Areas of Focus:

[PARTNERSHIPS](#)

[PEOPLE](#)

[PLACES](#)

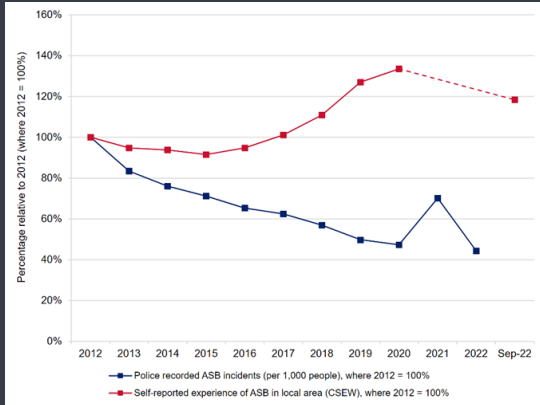


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National Picture

Latest national data (1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024) shows that around one million incidents of ASB were recorded by the police across England and Wales. This is broadly the same as the previous year.

The steady decline in ASB can be partly explained by improved police recording. This caused public order offences, which have seen an increase in recent years, no longer being recorded as anti-social behaviour.



The spike recorded in March 2021 is a consequence of the pandemic. Spending more time at home / in the local community meant people had more time to notice and report issues such as environmental cleanliness and noise. Mental health issues arising from the pandemic was driving some behaviour with people being less tolerant and situations escalating more quickly.

However, there is a growing gap between the ASB people are suffering, and what they report to police. This suggests that either people are increasingly unwilling to report anti-social behaviour to the police or they have a wider understanding of what constitutes ASB.



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National and Regional Picture

This gap is supported by the latest national data (1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024) that shows:

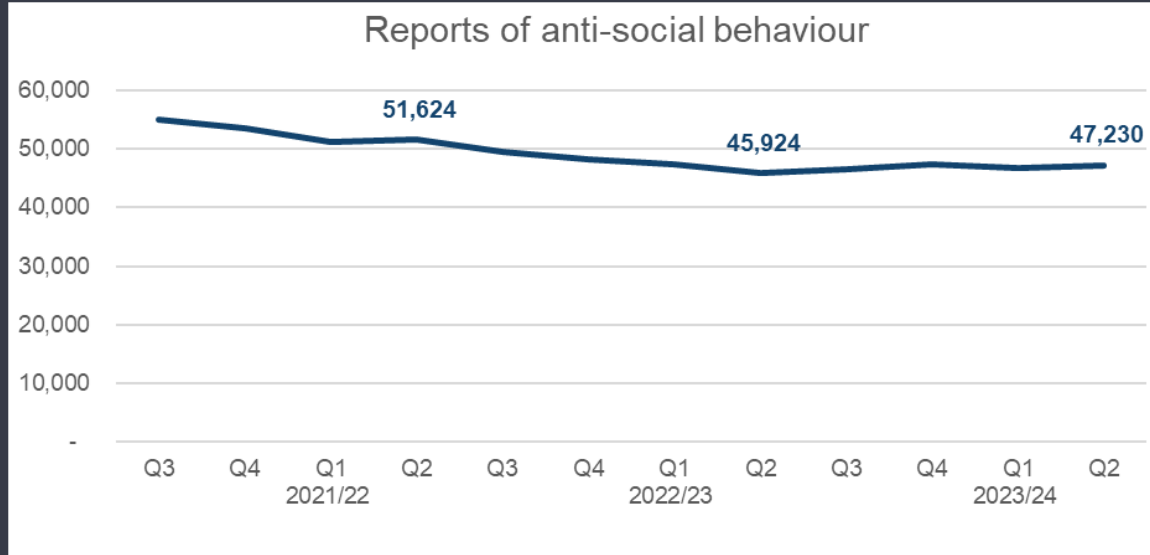
- 35% of adults (aged over 16) experienced or witnessed some type of ASB. This increased to 43% for the North East – the highest of all the regions.
- 25% of people perceived ASB to be a fairly or very big problem in their local area.
- 8% of people felt that their local area had a high level of ASB.

From the Crime Survey for England and Wales



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Local Picture



Our local ASB trend shows a 2.8% increase in reports which may be as a result of increased ASB awareness of reporting arrangements and proactive hot policing patrols but it is still 8% lower than the spike during 2021



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Local Picture

The SDP mutually agreed definition of ASB in three categories which vary in prevalence and severity:-

Environmental:

When a person's actions affect the wider environment, such as public spaces or buildings. For example, littering, criminal damage, pollution. Environmental ASB makes up **82%** of reports.

Nuisance:

When a person causes trouble, annoyance or suffering to a community. For example, excessive noise, deliberate fires, throwing things. Nuisance ASB makes up **14%** of reports.

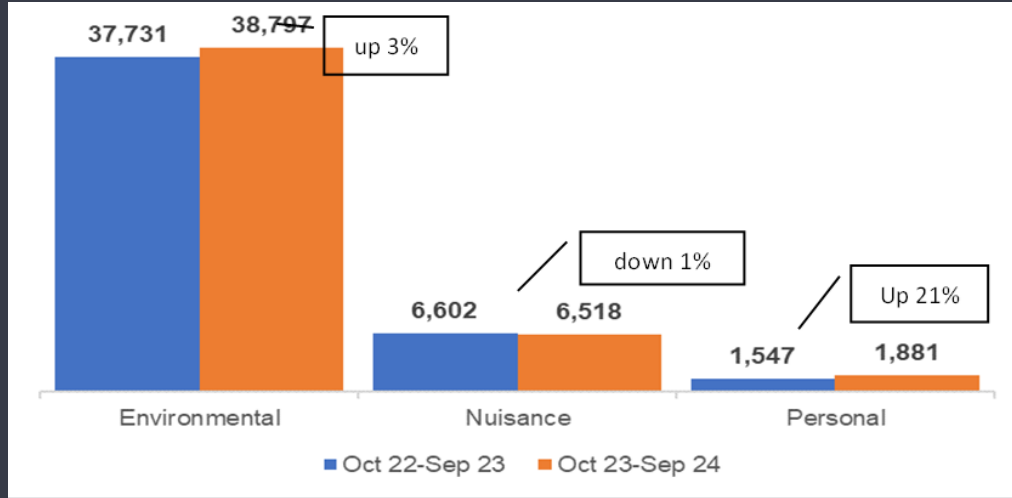
Personal:

When a person targets a specific individual or group.
Personal ASB makes up **4%** of reports.



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Local Picture



There is consistency in ASB hotspots across the county. Possibly driven by poverty and deprivation, and the lack of structured activities and youth spaces for children and young people. There are relatively high levels linked to public buildings (such as libraries) and derelict buildings. There is also a problem with off-road bikes countywide.



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Area of focus: PARTNERSHIP

- 1. Enhanced Partnership arrangements** - Governance & Oversight; ASB Strategic / sub groups, CSP established links with Darlington BC and shortlisted for the Resolve National ASB Awards under 'Exemplary Partnership Award'.
- 2. Take a focused approach to resolve ASB** - ASB Delivery Plan 2024-25, Theory of Change , Key Priority Actions to target resources more effectively, Community based projects e.g. CAT, Horden Together and Student Noise Initiative
- 3. Adopt preventative measures to tackle anti-social behaviour** – Early intervention/awareness campaigns, CCTV upgrades, Safer Streets programme, Safety of Women and Girls
- 4. Use of digital technology and share information with our partners** - Data hub; Intelligence Sharing and performance management



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Highlight Report: PARTNERSHIP

Action through Multi-Agency Problem Solving (MAPS) Groups.

Between 1 April and 30 September 2024, working together to tackle ASB with additional walkabouts to increase visibility, community clean-ups and days of action, and ASB campaigns (including national stalking awareness, knife crime, off-road bikes, firestoppers) including:-

- Tackling Off Road Bikes at Eldon – Shildon
- Community Reassurance Event at Anfield Plain Library
- Durham City Youth Project



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Area of Focus: PEOPLE

- Champion the victim's voice and build an environment where victims and witnesses feel confident and safe in coming forward to report anti-social behaviour. We have seen an increase in ASB incidents being reported which has been assisted by signposting through the PCC web site and increased visible hot spot policing
- Provide victim centric case review (formerly community trigger) & Community Remedy processes is now well established and between July 2023 to date there have been 34 case reviews held. As time progresses however we are seeing the number of case reviews reduce as access to services and support for victims improves. A further report which considers and evaluates Victim Impact is intended to be brought to a future meeting of the Board.
- Immediate Justice (Trailblazer TLP) – A new Immediate Justice hub will listen to the victims of ASB and provide meaningful ways for offenders of ASB to visibly repay the community for harm caused 25 Referrals for Durham Youth Justice (Apr-Sep)
- Student Noise Intervention Programme – Positive feedback from residents, reduction in repeat offending and better outcomes for young people



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Areas of focus: PLACES

- **Selective Licensing** (42% private rented sector stock April 2022) 58% stock now licensed or subject to enforcement actions, ASB Co-ordinator
- **Public Space Protection Order – October 2024** to tackle behaviours including begging, urinating in the street and the use of intoxicating substances
- **Safer Streets Scheme (TLP - £452k)**
Focusing on tackling ASB in the areas of Blackhall, Wheatley Hill, Thornley, Trimdon Colliery, Murton, Darlington Park East and Banktop. Actions include deploying CCTV cameras, recruiting three new ASB engagement officers, putting up barriers to prevent off-bike riding and home security upgrades.
- **Trailblazer (TLP £2 Million / 2 Yrs)**
This project is providing funding for projects to tackle ASB. It has provided funding to Multi Agency Problem Solving (MAPS), Housing Associations, VCS, Town and Parish Councils and funds for problem Solving POP initiatives to improve hotspot areas.



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Highlight Report :PLACES

Hotspot Response. We are deterring ASB through more proactive patrols, increased visibility, and greater community engagement in hotspot areas involving a variety of officers from partners organisations including police officers, community safety officers, neighbourhood wardens, ASB prevention officers, environmental crime officers.

Q1 Summary

5254 hours and 18 minutes of additional patrols

- 53 Arrests
- 32 Stop and Search
- 64 Informal Warnings
- 9 Community Protection Warning
- 6 Community Protection Notices
- 1 Dispersal Notice
- 42 enforcement actions due to PSPOs
- 51 Fixed Penalty Notices

Q2 Summary

4554 hours and 39 minutes of additional patrols

- 35 Arrests
- 15 Stop and Search
- 75 Informal Warnings
- 10 Community Protection Warning
- 4 Community Protection Notices
- 5 Dispersal Notice
- 79 enforcement actions due to PSPOs
- 36 Fixed Penalty Notices



Durham and Darlington Data



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Challenges and opportunities

Funding

Increasing budgetary pressures on the key ASB partners presents a risk to the delivery of the ASB Delivery Plan and sustainability of existing key projects and initiatives particularly those time limited projects where funding is allocated over a short term with tight spending deadlines.

National Strategy/Policy

Some changes that have been made to national policy which could impact, both the prevalence of and our ability to tackle ASB include

- Crime and Policing Bill: containing new police powers to help tackle ASB including Respect Orders for persistent adult offenders, fast-tracked Public Spaces Protection Orders for rapid escalations in street drinking, and new powers to tackle off-road bikes.
- Victims, Courts and Public Protection Bill: will help ensure victims of ASB receive the necessary support. The bill will strengthen the powers of the victims' commissioner, require offenders attend their sentencing hearings and reduce delays in the courts system.
- High street rental auctions.



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ASB delivery Plan 25/26

- Performance Review – Evidence / Gap analysis / Theory of Change
- Objective setting - local strategy and emerging national policy
- Available resources - (existing resources and future funding opportunities)
- Innovation and new ways of working
- Realistic goals and achievable actions



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