

THURSDAY, 19 OCTOBER 2017

REPORT OF THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR COMMUNITIES**CORPORATE ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR POLICY****EXEMPT INFORMATION**

None

PURPOSE

To secure Members' approval to adopt the proposed Corporate Anti-Social Behaviour policy which outlines a "whole Council" approach to tackling Anti-Social Behaviour

RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are asked to

1. Approve the revised Corporate Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) policy.
2. Approve a corporate mandate to progress towards integration of ASB procedures within the Council and with partners subject to future reports on this matter as appropriate.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The proposed revised corporate ASB policy for the first time includes the approach the Council will take in tackling issues across all Council departments, including that of Landlord Services and our approach to working with Community Safety Partners including Staffordshire Police.

Historically the Council has taken a departmental approach to tackling ASB with each department responsible for receiving, assessing, investigating and closing cases. There is little evidence of a corporate approach with each department having different systems and processes to record and manage ASB incidents.

This policy outlines the new approach and processes and procedures will be put in place via the Community Safety Partnership Hub to ensure:

- Staff are trained to effectively deliver the new ASB policy
- Development of partnership procedures to underpin the policy principles
- Development of a high level ASB process with related performance indicators
- Structuring the Community Safety team with detailed recommendations for the housing element.
- Developing shared systems and information sharing in line with the Staffordshire One protocols to which all agencies are signed up to
- Identifying and tackling hot spot locations based on community need

The policy is attached as Appendix 1.

OPTIONS CONSIDERED

None

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

To move towards integration of ASB procedures and closer partnership working following the introduction of powers under the ASB, Crime and Policing Act 2014, a review of all processes and staffing structures within the Community Safety service is ongoing to ensure it is fit for purpose. Resources will be met within current staffing budgets

LEGAL/RISK IMPLICATIONS BACKGROUND

This policy has been developed with due regard to legal powers.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

The policy will be reviewed at least every three years to ensure its accuracy and fit for purpose to ensure a robust continuing approach to preventing and tackling ASB.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

ASB has consistently been identified as one of the key areas of concern by residents and is included in the Community Safety Partnership plan.

There has been a reduction in recorded ASB incidents over the last 5 years; however a key component in improving our services to victims is to adopt a robust process to assess the vulnerability of victims via partnership meetings.

The risk to an individual can be heightened by mental health or capacity, physical health or demographics; however how a person is affected by anti-social behaviour regardless of this determines their risk and the actions which may be taken.

Traditionally ASB policies have been perpetrator focused, whilst maintaining this, we also need to take a victim centred approach.

The introduction of the ASB, Crime and Policing Act 2014 has required a new approach to the tools and powers available and requires agencies to work closely in partnership. The Council adopted the approach it would take to the implementation of the Act in June 2015.

A risk assessment tool is being developed to with partners to understand:-

- How the ASB is affecting the victim or their family
- Increasing frequency of escalation of nature of incidents
- Any additional factors (Hate Crime, disability, mental health, substance misuse)
- History of the perpetrator
- Support services which may be available

The ongoing development of the Community Safety Multi-Agency Teams ensures that information is shared on a timely basis and there is an accurate and timely record of any agency intervention to an incident. It will enable a more professional approach to identify repeat victims, perpetrators and locations in accordance with the policy principles.

REPORT AUTHOR

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LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Draft Tamworth Borough Council Corporate Anti-Social Behaviour Policy

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