

Meeting: Safer Communities Executive Board

Date: 12 December 2008

Report Title: Key Issues from Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) Partnership Board

Report of: Otis Williams, Safer Communities Policy Officer

Summary

The ASB Partnership Board is responsible for taking forward partnership activity to contribute to the achievement of NI21 (dealing with local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by the local council and police - PSA 23). Good progress is being made on the completion of the board's action plan.

Other linked and relevant NIs include, 1, 3, 17, 24, 25, 27, 35, 38, 41, 42, 110, 111, 114 and 115.

Recommendations

This report is for information only.

Financial/Legal Comments:

N/A

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1. Background

- 1.1. The ASB Partnership Board meets every two months and is responsible for taking forward multi-agency activity to contribute to the achievement of NI21 (dealing with local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by the local council and police - PSA 23).
- 1.2. The Place Survey (currently in progress) is to provide results in the next couple of months which, once analysed, will be used to establish

a base line and future performance target (the performance target is then to be agreed with GOL). National Indicators (NI) 22 and 23 have been removed by Government due to their duplicating other NIs.

2. Key Issues

- 2.1. The ASB partnership board action plan is on-track with improved communication a pervasive element throughout.
- 2.2. The ASB Strategy 2009/11 is currently out for consultation and is on the forward plan. It is due to go to Cabinet on 18th December 2009. Feedback to date has been positive with the public endorsing the proposed approach of prevention and balanced enforcement. Both the summary and full version strategy is available from Otis Williams, CST, upon request.
- 2.3. The partnership developed a coordinated plan during the second quarter of 2008/9 for joint activity during the Halloween / Fireworks time period. This has been monitored and is currently being evaluated in the third quarter. This also ties in with the Home Office initiative – ‘Not in My Neighbourhood Week’ which took place during, 13-17th Oct.
- 2.4. A problem solving approach has been adopted to tackle intractable issues. Such as those in around the Wickes Dispersal Order currently in place. Further, all seven area based working groups will be trained in problem solving by the end of the financial year.
- 2.5. The use of Introductory Tenancies is currently being considered locally and is on the current forward plan (Cabinet – 16th December). This comprises of a probationary period for new housing tenants prior to full rights of tenure being acquired. The provision is endorsed by Government and an example of best practice in using all tools and powers to tackle ASB. It is also part of the Audit Commission’s Key Lines of Enquiry (KLOE 6 – Tenancy and Estate Management).
- 2.6. Improving the co-ordination of referrals between the ASBAT and mental health teams (MHT) is an ongoing piece of work which has commenced with the MHT signing up to the partnership Information Sharing Protocol. Further work is to be progressed concerning a clear protocol with an appropriate process of support for complainants and perpetrators (between ASBAT and MHT).
- 2.7. Local delivery of the Youth Taskforce Action Plan is on track. With a number of projects in progress. These include Challenge and Support, Youth Capital Fund Plus and the Youth Crime Action Plan.
- 2.8. Addressing the correlation between alcohol and ASB (links to Alcohol Strategy Action Plan) is a priority with a particular focus on monitoring trends and responses to street drinking (e.g. through use of Controlled Drinking Zones and support provision for those with particular needs).

- 2.9. The Hate Crime Steering Group reports to the ASB Partnership Board. Amongst its current projects is a publicity campaign (due to commence during quarter 4) to encourage people to report hate crimes they have witnessed or suffered. Statutory partner agencies as well as voluntary organisations are linked into this work.