

Agenda item:

[No.]

CABINET

On 26th January 2009

Report Title. ASB Strategy 2009-2011

Report of. Sharon Kemp - Policy, Performance, Partnerships & Communication

Signed :

Contact Officer : Otis Williams – Community Safety Team

Wards(s) affected: **All**

Report for: **Key Decision (approval)**

1. Purpose of the report

1.1 Following work to help launch the ASBAT and raise the profile of ASB during 2003, approval is now sought from Cabinet for the current ASB Strategy (2009-2011). This provides an update on the previous (2003) and details our approach and areas of focus. Actions to achieve delivery will be detailed in the 2009/10 action plan.

2. Introduction by Cabinet Member

2.1 We are pleased to introduce Haringey's second Anti-social Behaviour Strategy which covers 2008 – 2011.

2.2 In revising this strategy, we have held discussions with all key partners and colleagues, and have opened our findings up for public comment. We have established that our original priorities are still current and much of this strategy is a continuation of the good work already underway across the Borough.

2.3 We have re-defined our overall approach as striking the balance between prevention, mediation and enforcement. We have recognised the need to improve the co-ordination of targeted support to young people and to develop our approach within the context of area-based working, problem-solving and addressing the causes of anti-social behaviour at an early stage.

2.4 Our vision - which supports that of our general Safer for All Strategy - is to have 'a safer Haringey where residents, visitors and workers can have an improved quality of life without the fear of being subjected to anti-social behaviour'.

2.5 The ASB Partnership Board – referred to as the Partnership in this document - will work together to ensure that the community in Haringey feels secure and protected from the negative effects of anti-social behaviour. This strategy set outs a programme of delivery which includes the following areas of work:

- Improving the exchange of information about reported anti-social behaviour
- Accessing partnership resources to increase service provision and improve responses to complaints of anti-social behaviour
- Seeking the realignment of mainstream resources to improve multi-agency service delivery and responses to antisocial behaviour
- Improving multi-agency working by developing common protocols, assessment pathways and joint service delivery
- Building the skills, capacity and confidence of all key staff

2.6 As always, we will seek to work constructively with residents, prioritise and support victims and survivors and reward those who are willing to be courageous and take a stand.

3. State link(s) with Council Plan Priorities and actions and /or other Strategies:

3.1 Relevant Council Plan Priorities:

Creating a Better Haringey - Cleaner, Safer, Greener:

The council has considerable statutory responsibilities for preventing and reducing crime, the fear of crime, the harm caused by drugs and alcohol, and anti-social behaviour. Collectively, these remain top priorities for our residents.

Delivering Excellent, Cost Effective Customer Services:

Delivering excellent, customer focused value for money services, is essential both in itself and to promote trust in the council and the borough. The engagement of the community promotes community cohesion and integration.

NB: There is also a direct link to the Safer For All Strategy 2008/11 (ASB – re priority - *a focus on children and families, housing and public spaces*) and Alcohol Strategy 2008/11.

4. Recommendations

4.1 To approve the current ASB strategy (2009-2011) which is an update on the previous (2003) and details our approach and areas for focus. Actions to achieve delivery will be detailed in the 2009/10 action plan.

5. Reason for recommendation(s)

5.1 The Strategy is in line with national guidance and best practice.

6. Other options considered

Not applicable

7. Summary

7.1 The Partnership has to deal with a wide spectrum of anti-social behaviour (ASB), including activities that call for different legal remedies and informal solutions.

7.2 Key changes since the previous 2003 Strategy:

- Roll out of Safer Neighbourhood Teams
- Roll out of the ASBAT Service borough wide
- Development of national agenda to primary focus on young people (Youth Task Force) under DCSF
- Joint enforcement activity
- Three year partnership plan cycle and national strategies 2008-2011
- Move towards area-based working and problem-solving
- Prevention emphasis e.g. parenting support / Good Neighbour Agreements
- Introduction of the Community Justice Courts
- Greenest Borough strategy
- Emphasis on perception targets in the national indicator set, e.g. NI21
- Improved data capture

7.3 An updated Strategy is required to capture the developments above and best practice. In addition to the current approach/resources in place to deliver. The report and Strategy is to go to Cabinet on 26th January 2009.

8. Chief Financial Officer Comments

8.1 Annex F of the ASB Strategy document sets out the detailed action plan for the period of the strategy and performance will be monitored via the ASB Partnership Board and the Safer Communities Executive Board against agreed National Indicators. The majority of resources available to fund this activity derive from specific and area based grant, which increases the risk in sustained ability to deliver the strategy. However, the on-going emphasis on increased partnership working around information sharing, resource sharing and further joining up protocols should go some way to addressing this.

9. Head of Legal Services Comments

9.1 The Head of Legal Services has been consulted in the preparation of this report, and makes the following comments.

9.2 There is a statutory duty on the Council to have in place, and publish, its policy and procedures for dealing with anti-social behaviour. There is also a continuing duty to keep those documents under review, and to publish revisions.

9.3 The Head of Legal Services advises that the strategy attached to this report is compatible with the requirements under relevant legislation, to include the Anti-social Behaviour Act 2003. The strategy is also compatible with guidance issued by the Home Office with reference to the Respect and Youth Task Force agendas.

10. Equalities & Community Cohesion Comments

10.1 The priorities and proposals contained in the draft ASB Strategy have been framed to address the fundamental issues around crime and ASB the effects of the same in Haringey, including the disproportionate incidence and effects of crime and ASB across community and groups in Haringey. Anti-social behaviour will continue to be addressed through a focus on children and families and partnership work to tackle some of the underlying deprivation such as poor housing and improvement in public space. Where there are significant disproportionate effects between communities /groups, initiatives will be put in place to find out why and what actions could be taken to address them.

11. Consultation

11.1 We consulted the public at a number of Area Assemblies during cycle two 2008-9 - which included, St Ann's & Haringay, Wood Green, Muswell Hill, West Green & Bruce Grove and Crouch End) and on-line via the Council website. The Police have consulted through Ward Panels and KIN networks. We have also consulted members. There has been very positive feedback to date with people agreeing the approach we are taking.

11.2 Periodic public consultation surrounding crime and ASB has also helped to establish Ward priorities for the Police Safer Neighbourhoods Teams. Throughout the process of the Strategy is delivered through relevant action plans, consultation will continue to track public concerns, e.g. through the Place Survey and in particularly regarding NI 21 (detailed in section 12 below).

11.3 The Strategy was also supported by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at the 12th January 2009 meeting.

12. Service Financial Comments

12.1 The Safer Communities theme board allocates a significant amount of funding to preventing and dealing with Anti-Social Behaviour. Among other things, this work contributes to one of Haringey's 35 improvement targets: NI 21 - Perceptions of how well the police and local authority deal with crime and ASB in their area. Proposals for 2009/10 have yet to be finalised but include

the following:

- Responding to serious and persistent ASB via the ASBAT Service (£324,500*)
- A contribution towards policy co-ordination for ASB and Hate Crime (£ 20,000)
- Capital improvement fund (£121,000)

12.2 The Home Office will be funding a post up to 2010 to raise confidence and co-ordinate all programmes with a public interface that impact on perceptions of crime and justice locally (£ 50,000). * This is a proposed increase on 08/09 to address the higher case load. Homes for Haringey currently funds the work of the ASBAT to the amount of approximately £300,000 annually.

12.3 A problem-solving pot (£100,000) will be reserved for multi-agency use on an area-based model which is likely to deal largely with ASB. In the interests of value for money, Safer Communities is looking to use budgets from Neighbourhood Management to match fund investment in agreed solutions.

12.4 Like other areas of the country, all wards in Haringey have a dedicated Safer Neighbourhood Team policing team. The annual budget for 08/09 this service was just over £6 million.

12.5 The Youth Summit recently agreed to fund a Youth At Risk Co-ordinator for 09/10 for £50,000 and this will directly support one of the main recommendations in the ASB Strategy that there be co-ordinated youth support.

12.6 Enforcement services and, in particular, the Tactical Enforcement Team contributes to the ASB agenda significantly in delivering high quality and targeted services dealing with waste, trading standards, litter/dumping/graffiti and the Eyesores programme.

12.7 During 2008/09, several new funding streams have come on line from central Government departments in support of families, parenting support and youths at risk including those committing or at risk of committing ASB and lower level crime. Haringey's Youth Offending Service will be the beneficiary of a considerable portion of these funds (e.g. under the Youth Taskforce Action Plan).

13. Use of appendices /Tables and photographs

Not applicable - see ASB Strategy Document

14. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

See ASB Strategy Appendices (attached)