

REPORT TO CABINET

REPORT OF: CORPORATE DIRECTOR (COMMUNITY SERVICES)

REPORT NO: DCS28

DATE: 10th October 2005

TITLE:	SOUTH KESTEVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL ACTION PLAN FOR DEALING WITH ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR
FORWARD PLAN ITEM:	Yes
DATE WHEN FIRST APPEARED IN FORWARD PLAN:	17 th March 2005
KEY DECISION OR POLICY FRAMEWORK PROPOSAL:	Yes

COUNCIL AIMS/PORTFOLIO HOLDER NAME AND DESIGNATION:	Councillor Peter Martin-Mayhew
CORPORATE PRIORITY:	Anti-social Behaviour – Priority A
CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS:	Meets the Council's requirements under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT IMPLICATIONS:	Recognised in the appendix to the report
BACKGROUND PAPERS:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Report DCS 10 Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour2. South Kesteven District Council's Anti-Social Behaviour and Enforcement Policy

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Combating Anti-Social Behaviour was approved by the Council as a Category A Priority in May 2004, and the Council's Anti-Social Behaviour and Enforcement Policy was approved by Council on the 28th April 2005.
- 1.2 This action plan deals with anti-social behaviour. For the purpose of this action plan and for the purpose of tackling anti-social behaviour South Kesteven District Council has adopted the formal definition included in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, which defines anti-social behaviour as:

“Any person acting in a manner that caused or was likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to one or more person not of the same household as himself”

- 1.3 The Home Office have developed a typology for anti-social behaviour and this is useful to help draw up a working definition of anti-social behaviour, the purpose of the typology is to provide a practical framework and guide to the main categories of behaviour that are widely accepted to be anti-social by both practitioners and the public. The categories are divided into four core areas according to whether they occur in a public space, whether they have a direct or indirect victim and whether the behaviour impacts on the environment. The core area categories are: misuse of public space; disregard for community and personal well being; acts directed at people; and environmental damage.
- 1.4 Under each of these categories there are a number of definitions which include a range of behaviours including the disorder associated with the evening economy and alcohol, drug misuse, aggressive begging, street drinking, prostitution, abandoned cars, vehicle related nuisance and inappropriate vehicle use, vandalism, rowdy behaviour, noise, nuisance behaviour such as urinating in public, hoax calls, animal-related problems, intimidation and harassment, littering and dumping rubbish, neighbour and general public nuisance in both private houses and on the council's housing estates and in the council's sheltered housing schemes.

1.5 The Challenge

Communities are complex and interdependent; the work of one agency affects the work of another, however when agencies work together they are much more effective. There are many challenges in dealing with anti-social behaviour, and there are also many tools for dealing with anti-social behaviour, one of the most important tools for dealing with anti-social behaviour are partnerships at both the strategic and operational level.

1.6 Some Fact and Figures

Our town centres have undergone a renaissance in recent years, and people are returning to live, work and spend their leisure time in them. A key feature has been the growth of the evening economy between 5pm and the night time

economy after 9pm. National research has shown that this expansion has benefits at a local level for example:

- The average pub injects £73,000 a year into the local economy.
- Cinema attendance has more than doubled since 1990.
- Since the late 1990's an increasing proportion of shopping centres and leisure development have been undertaken in town and city centres.

1.7 Alcohol-related Crime, Disorder and Anti-Social Behaviour and the Cost

Although much has been done to improve the powers available, there is too much violent crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour caused by alcohol, let's look at some more national data:

- In 2002 – 2003. 1.2 million violent crimes were alcohol-related, that's 44% of all violent crime.
- One in five violent incidents takes place in or around clubs and pubs, accounting for 13,000 incidents each week.
- Underage drinking causes particular problems, in undercover tests in 2004, one in three attempts by underage people to buy alcohol were successful.
- This puts pressure on all public services especially the police, accident and emergency, cleaning and environmental services and this Council, lets look at some of the costs taken from national figures:
- Alcohol -related anti-social behaviour costs £7.3 billion a year.
- Litter from drinks increased 23% in the last year and litter from fast food outlets increased 12% in 2002 – 2003.
- Local authorities spend £100 million on tourism promotion, which is put at risk by town centres being perceived as poorly managed and dangerous, deterring potential and repeat visits.
- Up to 35% of accident and emergency attendances and ambulance costs are estimated to be alcohol-related, and between midnight and 5am, up to 70% of visits to accident and emergency departments are alcohol-related.

1.8 How is Anti-Social Behaviour different from Crime?

Even given the above remarks at paragraph 1.2 above anti-social behaviour is a difficult concept to define, the same action could be considered by different people to sit anywhere on the behaviour spectrum from normal to anti-social to

disorderly to criminal. Also the types of behaviour that are reported as being anti-social vary from one person to another. From this a number of different themes emerge about anti-social behaviour. These themes inform our understanding of ways in which people experience anti-social behaviour differently from being a victim of crime. For the purpose of this action plan and in order to have a starting point for tackling anti-social behaviour South Kesteven District Council will adopt the concept:

1.9 *"That anti-social behaviour typically manifests itself in high volume, low level incidents involving repetitive and cumulative incidents. People are aware that some behaviour that concerns them might be considered trivial when considered in isolation, however when experienced on a regular daily basis it could become unbearable"*

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 The Cabinet is requested to:

- (a) Approve and adopt the Action Plan noting that the financial implications estimated to be £60,000 will be brought forward for consideration as part of the Council's budgetary processes.
- (b) Encourage Portfolio Holders and Services Managers to make provision for service specific actions identified in the Anti-Social Behaviour Action Plan within their Service Plans.
- (c) Note that the document is subject to amendment and review in line with changes in Government legislation.
- (d) Note that the document is subject to development, amendment and review following ongoing consultation with; the Council's CDRP partners, the community and with other statutory and non-statutory agencies, any amendment will be reported back to Cabinet for approval.

3.0 DETAILS OF REPORT

3.1 The Council's Action Plan for dealing with Anti-Social Behaviour is attached at Appendix 1.

3.2 Anti-Social Behaviour is a high priority for the Council and in line with this priority the action plan has four key performance areas for tackling anti-social behaviour, as follows:-

- To improve community safety.
- To reduce crime and disorder.
- To reduce the fear of crime.
- To create public reassurance.

In line with the four performance areas the aim is to tackle anti-social by:

- Working with high-risk children and young people to prevent them from becoming involved in anti-social behaviour.
- Making perpetrators aware of the impact and consequences of their behaviour.
- Using Anti-Social Behaviour Orders and informal agreements to establish standards of acceptable behaviour within the community.
- Identifying and working with key partners to jointly resolve anti-social behaviour.
- Working with the community to create social cohesion and inclusion.
- Identifying the resources needed.

3.3 From the above there are four key action areas: enforcement, community support and engagement, prevention and education. There are three components inherent in the relationship for anti-social behaviour to take place: the victim, the offender and the location, these comprises the seven key elements of the community safety matrix. These seven key elements have been set out in a community safety matrix to help arrive at a priority ranking. The matrix is shown at appendix 2.

4.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND ASSESSED

4.1 In addition to the above it should be noted that people's understanding of what constitutes anti-social behaviour is also determined by a series of factors including context, location, community tolerance and quality of life expectations. Also the subjective nature of the concept makes it difficult to identify a single way of tackling anti-social behaviour. To overcome this issue a wide range of approaches and methods are proposed.

5.0 COMMENTS OF DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND STRATEGIC RESOURCES

5.1 I have been consulted on the development of this action plan. Its proposals will be considered as part of the Budget Development for 2006/2007.

6.0 COMMENTS OF CORPORATE MANAGER, DEMOCRATIC AND LEGAL SERVICES (MONITORING OFFICER)

6.1 None.

7.0 CONCLUSIONS

7.1 There is an increasingly high emphasis being placed by the Government on anti-social behaviour and the methods to tackle it. This is particularly evident through the setting up of the Anti-Social Behaviour Unit within the Home Office, the launch of the anti-social behaviour "Together" Action Plan and the introduction of the Anti-Social Behaviour Act during 2003, added to this is anti-social behaviour is a key concern to the public.

- 7.2 In order to tackle anti-social behaviour effectively it is important that the Council has a clear action plan this action plan defines a range of approaches that can be used to tackle anti-social behaviour
- 7.3 The action plan identifies four actions that will require additional resources. The cost of implementing the Action Plan is estimated to be £60,000 full year cost.

8.0 CONTACT OFFICERS

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Funding Source	Requirement	Installation Costs Data transfer means, camera, recording and display equipment	Revenue Costs British Telecom Camera Maintenance	Monitoring Costs
Local Authority	Requirement generated by application from local community/residents group or from internally at the authority. Application backed up by supporting data from Lincolnshire Police and Community Safety Manager	LA-from existing budget	LA	LA
Cameras gifted / part gifted by third party	New Scheme- No stand alone locations to be considered Evidence reflecting the actual/fear of crime Link up with existing scheme	Third party or shared with the LA	Service Level Agreement in place Picked up by third party or shared with the LA	LA
Section 106 Agreements	Supporting evidence in place Link up with existing scheme	Developer	10yrs costs paid up front by the developer After 10 yrs picked up by LA	LA
External Client	Monitoring of third party cameras on behalf of client. Industrial estates, private housing developments, hospitals, other LA's	Client	Client Service Level Agreement in place	£3,750 Per camera pa Yearly uplift

Mark Jones
CCTV

Manager

