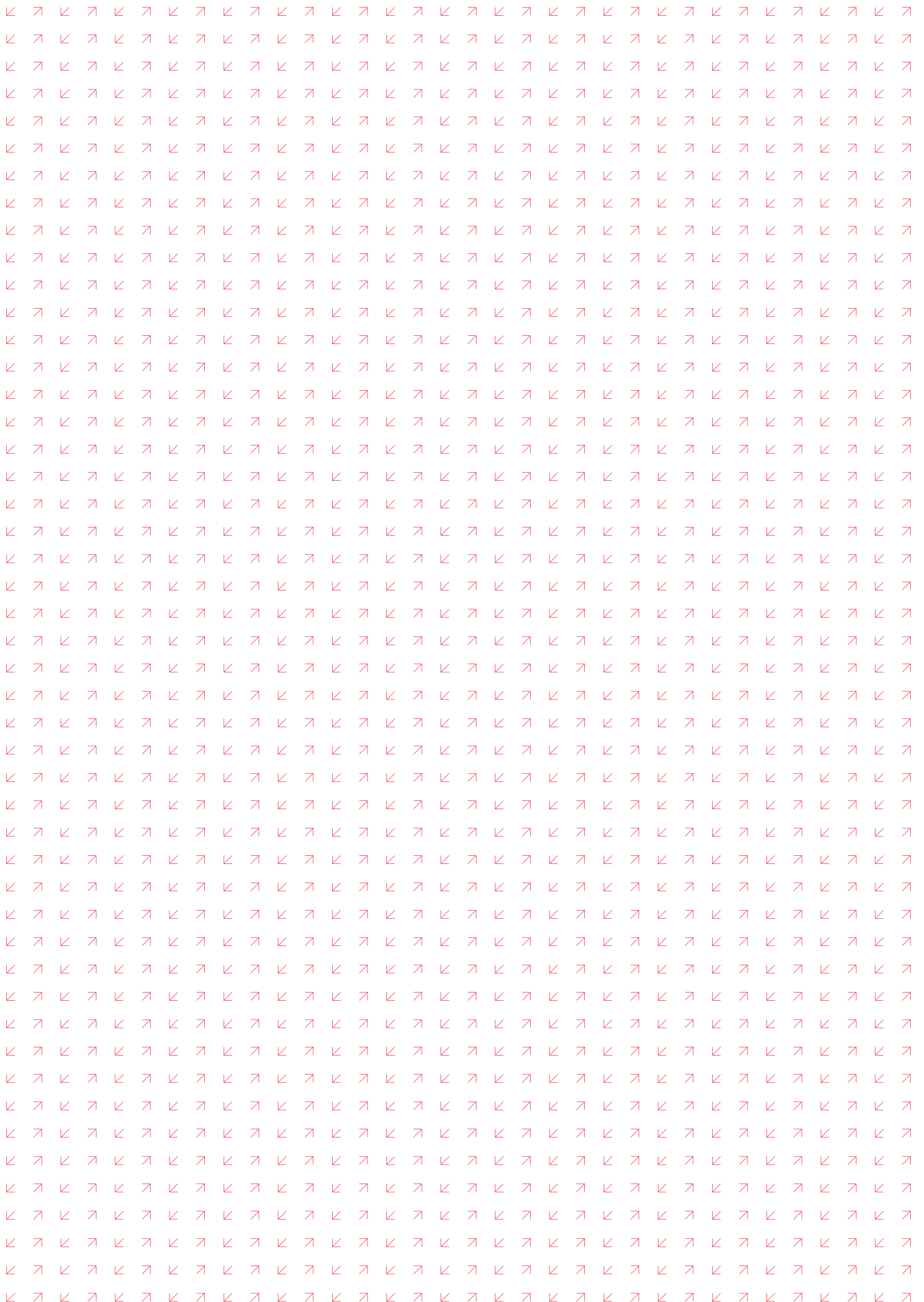




**ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR
(ASB) STRATEGY
2009 - 2012**



CONTENTS

VISION STATEMENT	04
INTRODUCTION	
- Defining anti-social behaviour	05
- National context	06
- Local context	07
- Performance measures	07
- Organisational context	07
STRATEGIC THEMES AND OBJECTIVES	
- Theme 1: Improving awareness, perceptions and confidence	09
- Theme 2: Prevention and diversion	12
- Theme 3: Enforcement	16
- Theme 4: Resettlement, rehabilitation and targeted youth support	18
- Theme 5: Protecting and supporting victims and communities	21
CONCLUSION	23
APPENDIX 1: PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	24
APPENDIX 2: DELIVERING THE STRATEGY - ACTION PLAN (2009-2012)	26
FOOTNOTES	30





VISION STATEMENT:

To prevent and reduce anti-social behaviour in Wirral by working together in partnership with the community to improve quality of life and make Wirral a safer place to live, work and visit.

FOREWORD:

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR IS A KEY CONCERN FOR WIRRAL RESIDENTS. IT CAN HAVE A DEVASTATING IMPACT UPON INDIVIDUALS' QUALITY OF LIFE AND COMMUNITIES.

Throughout the duration of the previous Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy (2006-2008), we have consistently reduced incidents of anti-social behaviour.

We have improved the way we work together as services so that we are more responsive to the changing needs of local communities. We are however acutely aware that this is an ongoing battle in which we cannot become complacent and must continue to seek new and innovative ways of dealing with some of the most challenging issues facing our communities.

We are committed to building upon the excellent partnership work already operating in the borough to ensure that we continue to drive down incidents of anti-social behaviour and improve public perceptions and confidence.

This Strategy looks at existing strengths, identifies gaps and sets out a programme of partnership activity under key themes. The Action Plan that accompanies this Strategy will be updated regularly in order that progress can be monitored by the public and published at www.wirral.gov.uk

Together, we can make Wirral a safer place to live, work and visit.

Cllr George Davies
Cabinet Member for Housing & Community Safety

INTRODUCTION

This Strategy has been produced by Wirral's Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP). We are a partnership of key agencies involved in tackling crime and disorder and improving community safety, involving elected members and members of the public. The CDRP is committed to building upon existing work to tackle anti-social behaviour (ASB) to deliver our vision.

Many of the recommended actions in the previous ASB Strategy (2006-2008) were successfully implemented and additional initiatives were also put into practice where a need was identified. A small number of recommendations were not actioned; this was either due to there no longer being a need to do so or due to other more pressing demands and priorities from central government. A very small number that were unable to be implemented but still continue to have merit, have been carried forward into the 2009-2012 ASB Strategy.

The CDRP has recently published a three year Crime & Disorder Reduction Strategy (2009 – 2012). In the forming of this Strategy, the people of Wirral were asked through a variety of means what the crime and ASB priorities were that they wished the CDRP to focus upon. All the responses were collated and analysed and show the community's top five priorities for 2009/10 to reduce crime and disorder to be:

1. ASB caused by groups of youths gathering in public places;
2. Inappropriate use of alcohol by young people;
3. Unlawful damage to people's property (criminal damage);
4. Anti-social use of vehicles;
5. Illegal use of drugs.

This process will be repeated annually.

This ASB Strategy (2009-2012) not only sets out to respond to locally established priorities for tackling ASB, but also reflects the CDRP's aspirations to make Wirral a safer place by creating safer and stronger communities. Tackling ASB is a key priority for Wirral's CDRP and this document builds upon the Crime & Disorder Reduction Strategy, setting out our strategy for dealing with ASB for the forthcoming three years.

The ASB Strategy (2009-2012) is linked and gives consideration to a number of other Wirral strategies and plans¹; focusing upon

five themes and thirty-four objectives. These objectives are the basis of a comprehensive programme of activity to which all the partners are committed and this Strategy is therefore a framework for action on ASB for Wirral. The Strategy is accompanied by an Action Plan which specifies the time periods being worked to for each individual objective that is to be achieved. The Action Plan is intended to be flexible and responsive and if additional issues are identified throughout the course of this Strategy, these will be added into the Plan.

This Strategy does not seek to focus in detail upon the very good work that is currently being undertaken in Wirral to tackle ASB by a range of partners, although that has been reviewed in the process of developing the Strategy and is set out in brief at the beginning of each 'strategic theme'. Many activities are applicable to multiple themes, but for ease they have been located in the most applicable theme; for example, the work around tackling graffiti impacts on all five themes in varying degrees, however for ease is detailed as current activity within the 'prevention and diversion' theme. This ASB Strategy focuses upon what still needs to be done and what steps we are committed to take to make Wirral a safer place in which to live, work and visit.

DEFINING ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

ASB is any activity that impacts on other people in a negative way and the key to categorising behaviour as anti-social must be consideration of its impact on others.

The term 'anti-social behaviour' includes a variety of behaviours covering a whole range of selfish and unacceptable activity that can blight the quality of community life. Other terms such as 'nuisance', 'neighbour disputes' and 'disorder' are also used to describe some of this behaviour.

For the purpose of this Strategy, the definition of ASB is consistent with that used in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and is as follows:

“behaviour which causes or is likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to one or more persons not of the same household as the perpetrator”.

NATIONAL CONTEXT

When ASB is allowed to continue unchallenged, the effects for individuals and communities can be devastating. The cost of putting right the damage to both individuals and property and the time spent dealing with the issues can be extremely costly. The effect that ASB can have on individuals and their families can be enormous.

If ASB is not tackled promptly residents lose confidence in the authorities. Some residents are forced to tolerate the behaviour in the absence of any effective action being taken, which has a detrimental impact on their quality of life. Some residents take matters into their own hands, which often fails to address the original problem and results only in consequences for those residents. Some residents choose to leave their homes. Empty properties can be a target for ASB leading to a downward spiral of neglect, further ASB and crime within an area.

A national one-day ASB count conducted by the Home Office resulted in 66,107 reports; that is one report of ASB every two seconds. This snapshot survey estimated the daily cost of ASB at £13.5 million, running into a yearly estimated cost of £3.4 billion.

Tackling ASB is one of the government's key priorities. The first significant piece of legislation, the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, placed a statutory duty on chief police officers and local authorities to work together to develop and implement a strategy for reducing crime and disorder; this Act also introduced Anti-Social Behaviour Orders.

In January 2003, the Home Office created a national Anti-Social Behaviour Unit to lead the government's overall fight to tackle ASB. It was set up to add value to the existing measures to tackle ASB and drive forward new policy and practice. One of the main roles of the Unit was to ensure the promotion of action to tackle ASB in every area of the country where it was needed. This was driven through the TOGETHER Campaign to tackle ASB. The work of the Unit culminated in the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003, which clarified, streamlined and reinforced the powers available to practitioners to tackle ASB.

In October 2004, Wirral was designated by the Home Office as a TOGETHER Action Area; an area demonstrating innovation and best practice in tackling ASB. This achievement came with a commitment to:

- take demonstrable action against the perpetrators of ASB
- communicate clearly to the public what can be done to tackle ASB and to publicise successes
- make services to tackle ASB accessible to the public
- ensure that all service providers are signed up to dealing with ASB
- continuously improve the services provided.

In September 2005, the government announced a new cross-departmental Respect Taskforce, based within the Home Office, with direct responsibility for delivering the Respect Agenda. Respect is about every citizen working together to build a society in which we can respect one another and communities can live in peace together. In January 2006 the Respect Action Plan was launched, which built upon the government's drive to tackle ASB

and reclaim communities for the law-abiding majority. The Respect Action Plan also explained why there was a need to deepen the approach by tackling the underlying causes of ASB, intervening early where problems occurred and broadening efforts to address other areas of poor behaviour. The Respect Action Plan placed greater responsibilities on agencies to tackle ASB.

In January 2007 Wirral was designated as a Respect Area, being at that time one of forty areas nationally who demonstrated a commitment and capacity to do more to tackle ASB and lead the rest of the country. This status required the commitment to deliver five non-negotiables:

- establish a Family Intervention Project (FIP) to challenge and change the behaviour of the most problematic households responsible for ASB;
- deliver parenting programmes for families at risk of or behaving anti-socially;
- demonstrate openness and accountability through 'Face the People' sessions (delivered in Wirral primarily through Area Forums and Neighbourhood Action Groups);
- make a renewed commitment to use the full range of available tools and powers to tackle both the causes and symptoms of ASB
- promote and ensure the adoption of the Respect Housing Management Standard by key landlords in the area.

In October 2007 the Youth Taskforce was created from the Respect Taskforce to build upon the Respect Programme and support local delivery of the government's vision for young people; putting an even greater focus on helping young people to achieve their potential, preventing them getting into trouble and giving and getting respect in their communities. The Youth Taskforce Action Plan was published in March 2008 which set out a triple track approach of tough enforcement action where behaviour is unacceptable; non-negotiable support to address the underlying causes of poor behaviour and better prevention to tackle problems before they become serious and entrenched and to prevent problems from arising in the first place.

The Casey Review published in June 2008 by Cabinet Office, entitled 'Engaging Communities in Fighting Crime' outlines thirty-two proposals around reducing crime, fear of crime and increasing public confidence. The proposals include, amongst other things, increasing the visibility of community sentences so that offenders 'payback' to the community, minimum standards for neighbourhood policing and dedicated funding to spend on community safety in local areas.

The Youth Alcohol Action Plan was launched in June 2008 by the Department for Children, Schools & Families, Home Office and Department of Health. This outlined the steps the government intended to take to address the drinking of alcohol by young people. This was followed by the cross-governmental Youth Crime Action Plan (July 2008). The Action Plan is a targeted effort to stop those under eighteen years old from committing crimes. Wirral is one of sixty-nine areas nationally to receive funding for a number of activities including increased outreach based youth engagement and provision of activities for young people on Friday and Saturday nights.

LOCAL CONTEXT

ASB remains a high priority for local communities, with on average 15%³ of all calls for service to the police being made in relation to ASB incidents.

In 2007/8 reports of ASB⁴ reduced by 17%; that is 3,793 fewer incidents (compared with 2006/7). 2008/9 saw ASB reduce by 16%; 2,890 fewer incidents (compared with 2007/8). These reductions are illustrated in Figure 1 below.

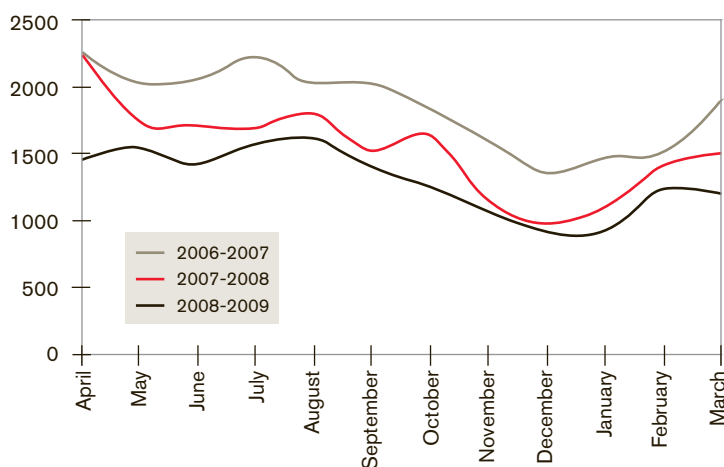


Figure 1: Three year comparison of ASB calls to the police (Wirral Police Basic Command Unit) 2006 - 2009

There are no national comparators for ASB incidents; however in July 2009 the Home Office launched the ASB Action website⁵ that compares the use of tools and powers to tackle ASB by individual CDRP areas. In addition, the social housing sector has access to HouseMark, which is a membership-based organisation helping the sector to improve performance and achieve value for money. This enables, amongst other things, benchmarking around ASB and the identification of good practice.

In 2007/8 offences of criminal damage reduced by 28%; that is 2,098 fewer incidents (compared to 2006/7). 2008/9 saw criminal damage reduce by 27%; 1,448 fewer incidents (compared to 2007/8).

The Home Office operates an internet-based analysis tool, iQuanta, which turns statistical data routinely collected by the Home Office into useful information for understanding and improving crime reduction and community safety performance. This tool is used, in this context, to compare performance around criminal damage offences with other similar CDRP areas. Wirral is the best performing CDRP in terms of criminal damage when compared with other similar CDRP areas⁶.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

The vision set out within Wirral's 2025 Sustainable Community Strategy is of a more prosperous and equal Wirral, enabling all communities and people to thrive and achieve their full potential. Local Area Agreements have been made between Wirral CDRP and Government Office. The LAA is the medium term delivery plan for the Sustainable Community Strategy and sets out the three year improvement priorities for Wirral Local Strategic Partnership (LSP). Alongside the introduction of one hundred and ninety-eight National Indicators, Wirral has identified 25 National Indicators and a number of Local Indicators which are priorities for improvement over the next three years. In addition to prioritising a reduction in violent crime, it is a priority to achieve further reductions in ASB also monitored by the LAA (see Appendix 1).

There are six relevant National Indicators that we are now required to address; these are largely based on levels of perception and understanding of ASB and satisfaction with services that aim to tackle and reduce ASB (See Appendix 1). Previous measures of perception showed an improvement; the results of Wirral's Citizen's Panel saw a 16.5% improvement in perceptions around youth disorder from January 2005 to January 2007⁷.

The Place Based Survey (2008) provides information on people's perceptions of their local area and the local services they receive. National Indicator 17 is measured through this survey, which is concerned with the percentage of the public who feel that ASB is a problem in their area. The results released in June 2009, show Wirral's perception percentage at 18.7%; this means 18.7% of those people surveyed considered ASB to be a problem in their area. Wirral's performance is better in this perception indicator than the averages for other Merseyside CDRPs, Metropolitan areas, North-West region and England respectively.

ORGANISATIONAL CONTEXT

This Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy will be delivered through cross departmental and multi-agency working. Delivery of the Strategy will be led by Wirral Anti-Social Behaviour Team. The Team is multi-disciplinary consisting of officers from a number of Council services and seconded officers from Merseyside Police and Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service.

STRATEGIC THEMES AND OBJECTIVES



THEME 1: IMPROVING AWARENESS, PERCEPTIONS & CONFIDENCE

THIS THEME FOCUSES UPON:

- RAISING AWARENESS ABOUT ASB AND HOW TO REPORT IT;
- HIGHLIGHTING THE CONSEQUENCES OF ENGAGING IN ASB;
- PROMOTING RESPECT AND PRO-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR;
- IMPROVING PERCEPTIONS OF ASB AND PARTICULARLY PERCEPTIONS OF YOUNG PEOPLE (INCLUDING PROMOTING YOUNG PEOPLE POSITIVELY);
- IMPROVING PUBLIC CONFIDENCE IN AGENCIES TO TACKLE ASB.

CURRENT ACTIVITY IN WIRRAL:

'It's Your Call' (606 2020)

'It's Your Call' is a borough-wide reporting and signposting service for ASB, introduced in Wirral in 2005 as part of a Home Office initiative. The service is delivered through the Council's Call Centre and One-Stop Shops across the borough.

Area Forums

Area Forums are the key community engagement method used by the Council at which local people have an opportunity to shape local services. There are eleven Area Forums in Wirral that each meet three times a year; they are a positive and active partnership of local people and organisations working together to tackle local issues. A Community Safety representative attends each and every meeting. In 2008, each Forum was allocated £20,000 to spend on additional Council services; through the campaign 'You Decide'. A number of additional ASB related services were bought by a number of Forums, including deployment of the Anti-Social Behaviour Team's Respect Bus staffed with Enforcement Officers and the Team's Youth Respect Team (youth outreach). The 2009 round of 'You Decide' was released in June.

Neighbourhood Action Groups

Each Police Neighbourhood within Wirral has regular meetings to discuss local issues and to set priorities in order to deal with these issues; these meetings are referred to as Neighbourhood Action Groups (NAGs). Issues related to ASB are frequently discussed.

Events

Public events are used to raise the profile of efforts to tackle ASB; highlight the consequences of engaging in such behaviour and promote pro-social behaviour (such as the annual Wirral Show that attracts over 250,000 visitors). Agencies regularly participate in national and local campaigns with ASB-related themes (such as the Home Office's 'Not in my Neighbourhood Week' and National Tackling Drugs Week).

Publicising enforcement activity

Activity taken against the perpetrators of ASB is often publicised through such means as the issuing of press releases and in some circumstances through localised leafleting to residents and businesses where appropriate. The purpose of this is to act as a deterrent to other potential perpetrators; demonstrate to residents that their concerns have been responded to; increase confidence in agencies' abilities to tackle ASB and enable relevant court orders to be effectively 'policed' by the public to allow the prompt reporting of any breaches. There are a variety of options when deciding how and when to publicise a case (including, but not limited to, the methods described above). Decisions are made on a case by case basis as to whether the action taken against a perpetrator should be publicised and if so, the nature of that publicity and how best to achieve the aims identified above having regard to a wide range of factors. Registered Providers of social housing have a key role in publicising successful outcomes to help build confidence and improve perceptions, not only in their own services, but the combined efforts of partners to tackle ASB.

Providing information and key messages to the public

Each Neighbourhood Police Inspector circulates a newsletter every month about activity in their respective neighbourhood, which includes issues relating to ASB. Each neighbourhood also has a dedicated area on Merseyside Police's web site to provide information about activity related to tackling ASB and crime.

Merseyside Police has also recently launched a Force wide campaign; 'It All Adds Up'. The campaign is focused upon demonstrating how the Police and other agencies' performance can make a real difference to people's lives. The campaign delivers messages at a local level that enable local communities to make the link between the information and how it has made a difference to their community (for example, x number of people in this area have been issued with Anti-Social Behaviour Orders). The means of delivering the message is often through the use of 'ambient media', which put simply are messages delivered in unusual and innovative ways (for example, seized motor vehicles on display outside police headquarters).

The press is regularly used as a vehicle to deliver information to the public around ASB. More recently Bluetooth proximity marketing has been used to deliver messages to both adults and young people. The technology enables animated messages and information to be sent to mobile telephones within a particular radius. People can choose to accept or reject a message and over time the technology will be used for social marketing purposes delivering information about ASB related issues such as alcohol misuse.

Branding

All partnership activity is branded with the Safer Wirral logo, representing the partners' commitment and joint working to tackle crime and disorder. This partnership approach does not prevent the work of individual efforts to tackle ASB, such as a specific project, from being branded independently of the partnership. It is important, in particular, that Registered Providers of social housing are seen to be effective in tackling ASB, particularly in relation to lower level breaches of tenancy. As regulated services, it is important that Registered Providers build on confidence by actively promoting their respective ASB service to customers and partners.

HATE Crime Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Committee (MARAC)

A HATE Crime MARAC provides a co-ordinated approach to increasing confidence in reporting HATE related incidents and in doing so identifies areas of concern that can be monitored and responded to in order to tackle such incidents. HATE related incidents include those related to disability, race, religion or belief, gender, sexual orientation and age; this co-ordinated approach is led by the Joint Community Safety Team. All incidents are recorded and monitored on a multi-agency web based database which is developed and supported by the Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership's Information, Communication & Evaluation Team (see THEME 3).

Housing Market Renewal Initiative (HMRI)

Housing Market Renewal is a £175 million pound regeneration programme which will improve the housing offer in Birkenhead, Rock Ferry, Tranmere and Wallasey through rebuilding, refurbishment and improved management of areas. It is delivered by Wirral Council and partners, such as private developers and housing associations in consultation with the community, working towards revitalising important local communities on the eastern side of Wirral and making places where people want to live, are proud of their home and enjoy a great lifestyle. With continuing levels of crime and ASB being a real problem within the HMRI area, a need for a more preventative, strategic approach was identified. This resulted in HMRI funding being used to pay for a dedicated Enforcement Officer and two Youth Respect Workers (from Wirral Anti-Social Behaviour Team) to tackle the cause and effect of ASB in HMRI neighbourhoods, helping communities through potentially difficult times. This work focuses around engagement with communities to increase confidence in reporting ASB, working in partnership with other agencies and community groups including the Live Wirral Wardens to identify and tackle crime and ASB.

Monitoring satisfaction levels

The police and Anti-Social Behaviour Team respectively both monitor satisfaction levels of ASB complainants and use this data to shape future service delivery where relevant. Similarly, customer focused monitoring is carried out by many Registered Providers of social housing and by building upon the partnership's monitoring, Registered Providers can assess the impact of their own work and tailor resources to improve customer perceptions and the delivery of ASB services.

Monitoring perceptions and views on ASB

Residents' perceptions around ASB are regularly monitored, primarily in hot spot areas to which the Community Mobile Police Station is deployed (see THEME 5). Views are formally sought across the borough on an annual basis as to the public's priorities around ASB and crime for the forthcoming year.

OBJECTIVES - WHAT WE WILL DO:

Whilst we understand most of the reasons that discourage the public suffering ASB from contacting agencies, we will undertake **consultation to formally identify the reasons why the public do not report ASB [OBJECTIVE 1]**; this will be linked into the areas where our Community Mobile Police Station is deployed (see THEME 4). Positive steps will be taken to challenge these barriers and based upon our consultation, we will undertake where possible targeted campaigns to encourage reporting and provide reassurance about our abilities to tackle ASB. Not least, we will also seek to encourage reporting amongst minority and disadvantaged groups.

The more that people know about action to tackle ASB and crime, the more confidence they are likely to have in their local services and the more likely they are to get involved by reporting crime and acting as witnesses. The Home Office notes that a strong communication strategy will seek to⁹:

- Inform - tell the community what action is being taken to reduce ASB
- Explain - what we do to tackle ASB and how it works
- Reassure - showing that we are genuinely concerned and have the interests of the community at heart
- Engage - gain greater understanding of local priorities and concerns by providing opportunities for community involvement and that this is valued
- Provide a supportive response - support to victims and witnesses
- Help prevent ASB - preventative and diversionary work.

There is a need to extend further the provision of information to the public informing them of efforts to tackle ASB and reassuring them that we are responding to their concerns. We will produce a **twice yearly newsletter [OBJECTIVE 2]** highlighting work undertaken to tackle ASB. This will be distributed to community groups; local politicians and other relevant groups and individuals and will also be disseminated through the Area Forums and Neighbourhood Actions Groups. We will also **update the Council's web pages [OBJECTIVE 3]** to include wider information about ASB, which will include a directory of ASB related services.

We will also **utilise new technologies [OBJECTIVE 4]** to deliver informative messages to communities, including but not exclusively, details of efforts to tackle ASB in their areas and related activities taking place. Internet based social networking and communication sites such as YouTube, Facebook and Twitter will also be used to provide updates on activity to tackle ASB and generate debate and discussion about ASB related issues.

We will **strengthen our use of Problem Solving Groups [OBJECTIVE 5]** (see THEME 2), which are multi-agency meetings to tackle locational issues of ASB. We will ensure that in areas where we have convened a Problem Solving Group, local residents will receive notification that agencies are working together to address their issues; this will assist in reassuring residents that we are responding to their concerns. Furthermore, whilst residents are currently represented on Problem Solving Groups on an ad hoc basis, we will commit to ensure that residents are routinely engaged in this process and represented on the Groups.

We will increase our efforts to strengthen communities and support the work of the Anti-Social Behaviour Team's Enforcement Officer dedicated to the Housing Market Renewal Initiative (HMRI) area, through the use of a **Community Reassurance Vehicle [OBJECTIVE 6]**. The vehicle is equipped with CCTV and will be used to provide reassurance to communities in the HMRI area, acting as a deterrent for anti-social and criminal behaviour and fulfilling the role of an information point in the area for residents and agencies. Work will take place from the vehicle that will raise levels of awareness amongst adults, children and young people around ASB and its consequences. This vehicle will also be used where capacity allows in wider areas and for attendance at evictions and the service of legal orders on perpetrators.

A week long multi-agency event was operated as a pilot in 2007 under the banner of Respect Wirral, co-ordinated by Wirral Anti-Social Behaviour Team. This included an Information Day for members of the public, community clean ups and environmental activity and a conference for community groups and local politicians. The event was successful in raising the profile of efforts to tackle ASB, but due to capacity issues was not possible to be run in 2008. We will commit to make **Respect Wirral [OBJECTIVE 7]** an annual event.

We will provide a programme that sees local politicians formally briefed on the processes for tackling ASB and tools and powers available; through a **Respect Programme for Elected Members**. We will also provide formal **training for Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs)** around ASB and policies and processes to tackle it **[OBJECTIVE 8]**.

The positive promotion of young people is currently undertaken on an ad hoc basis. We will seek to **promote young people [OBJECTIVE 9]** who have made a positive contribution or made an achievement at every opportunity. The Council's Press & Public Relations Team, in partnership with the Youth & Play Service, has recently appointed a Web Editorial Officer to develop and maintain a website aimed at young people in the Wirral area. This will include details of positive contributions made by young people and community-based activity undertaken. Both the Council and Police Press Offices will routinely monitor the number of articles generated by their respective organisations that positively promote young people. Furthermore, we will formally recognise the positive contribution made by young people and the dedicated individuals who work with them to guide and support them. This will be through an **annual Recognition Event [OBJECTIVE 10]** hosted jointly by Merseyside Police and Wirral Council.

Following the ongoing reconfiguration of the Youth & Play Service, we will increase our use of **inter-generation work [OBJECTIVE 11]** between young people and adults, with each youth unit (club or street work based) having been set targets to ensure that intergenerational work takes place and is celebrated across Wirral in all four districts of the borough. This work typically will involve young people giving a service to the wider community.

THEME 2: PREVENTION & DIVERSION

THIS THEME FOCUSES UPON:

- PREVENTING ASB FROM OCCURRING IN THE FIRST PLACE;
- PREVENTING ASB BY BOTH ADULTS AND YOUNG PEOPLE;
- DIVERTING YOUNG PEOPLE FROM ASB.

CURRENT ACTIVITY IN WIRRAL:

Information, Communication & Evaluation (ICE) Team

Work to tackle ASB is supported by the ICE Team based within the Joint Community Safety Team. The ICE Team co-ordinates all intelligence and performance analysis across Wirral's Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP). The main task of the ICE team is to combine data from agencies within Wirral CDRP to create a holistic picture of crime and disorder hotspot locations and to identify vulnerable victims and persistent offenders. Wirral Police Resource, Tasking & Intelligence Unit (RTIU) and the ICE Team work as a Joint Intelligence Group on all strategic and tactical intelligence data and analysis.

ASB Governance Group

A multi-agency ASB Governance Group meets on a monthly basis to develop and implement plans to tackle ASB in 'hot spot' locations across the borough. These hot-spots are identified through analysis undertaken of Police, British Transport Police, Fire Service and Wirral Community Patrol data by the Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership's ICE Team. The Group also provides a response to any emerging issues that are identified by agencies and focuses upon repeat victims. The ASB Governance Group is chaired by the Partnership Development Officer (Chief Inspector) within the Joint Community Safety Team.

Problem Solving Group (PSGs)

Long-standing and/or problematic locational issues that cannot be resolved at the ASB Governance Group are devolved to a multi-agency Problem Solving Group (PSG). The members of the PSG work together over a period of time to address entrenched hot-

spot locations, developing short and longer term responses and sustainable outcomes. It is at these Groups that the use of Section 30 Designated Dispersal Areas⁹ will be considered and implemented if appropriate. The PSGs are chaired by the Prevention Co-ordinator within Wirral Anti-Social Behaviour Team.

Respect Consortium

In June 2007 eighteen Registered Providers of social housing signed up to the government's Respect Standard for Housing Management as part of a local Wirral Consortium. The standard is aimed at social landlords and those who signed up made a public commitment to deliver good services to help stop anti-social behaviour and create a culture of respect. A monthly meeting of representatives from Registered Providers of social housing, co-ordinated by Wirral Anti-Social Behaviour Team, share information and intelligence related to ASB. Monthly analysis is undertaken by the ICE Team that identifies all offenders that have committed offences connected to Registered Provider stock, enabling social landlords to consistently investigate and, where appropriate, take action against their tenants for breach of their respective tenancy agreements. Whilst Registered Providers are key partners working towards achieving a safer Wirral, they must also be seen by their customers and regulators as an effective service that builds confidence and works effectively at managing their customers' perceptions of how, as landlords, they tackle ASB.

Anti-Graffiti Policy & Strategy

Wirral Anti-Social Behaviour Team, the Council's Streetscene service and Together Neighbourhood Management Pathfinder developed a new comprehensive policy and strategy to prevent and tackle graffiti, launched in September 2008. The policy extended a free graffiti removal service to private residential dwellings and small businesses. The Strategy, which is overseen by an Anti-Graffiti Steering Group, focuses upon six themes including strategic management; graffiti removal; proactive graffiti management; enforcement action; legalised graffiti sites and wider environmental issues.

Mediation

Whilst mediation is not appropriate in some instances of ASB it can be an effective way of preventing situations from escalating and avoiding more stringent action and additional strain on limited resources; it is therefore particularly effective with low level ASB issues. In Wirral, mediation is delivered by Wirral Mediation Service¹⁰, who deploys trained mediators to facilitate the reaching of a mutually acceptable agreement between parties to a dispute or community issues.

Safer Schools Programme

Merseyside Police currently has seven schools officers embedded within secondary schools that support the schools in the delivery of ASB and crime prevention messages. They also deliver key messages in terms of personal safety and good citizenship.

After-school police patrols

The police officers referred to above also patrol local communities pre and post school time. They also have a presence on the transport system both buses and trains to reduce ASB and bullying.

Respect Programme for Primary Schools

This seven-week interactive modular programme is delivered in primary schools (two at any one time) by Wirral Anti-Social Behaviour Team, aimed at Year 5 and 6 pupils. The programme is aimed at making pupils aware of what ASB is and the possible consequences. The programme includes a number of classroom sessions and location-based activities, including a trip to a decommissioned courtroom where the pupils take part in a mock trial. The programme is led by an Education Social Worker and Police Officer seconded to the Anti-Social Behaviour Team and key elements are delivered by other services including Arriva, Merseyrail, Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service, HM Courts Service, Tranmere Rovers FC and the Council's Dog Wardens.

Youth Inclusion Support Panel (YISP)

The YISP is a preventative project aimed at young people (aged 5-17) who are likely to become involved in anti-social and/or criminal behaviour in the future. Young people are referred by agencies and parents and can make self-referrals. An allocated YISP key worker will, in conjunction with other services, draw up an Integrated Support Plan which includes the young person's behaviour at home, school and in the community; also addressing any parenting requirements. Interventions are usually time limited to twelve weeks and young people will be signposted to other agencies who can continue to offer support if necessary.

Connexions

Connexions is a free and independent information, advice, guidance and support service for 13 to 19 year olds offering an extended service up until the age of 25 for young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. It provides access for all 13-19 year olds to a Personal Adviser who will help them work out what information or support they need to make successful transition school to employment or further training/education. The service is differentiated according to need; some young people only require minimal intervention while others have to be able to overcome a number of barriers. Personal advisers work closely with specialist workers from other organisations and can help these young people get the extra help they need.

Youth Clubs

Youth Clubs are in each of the four districts across Wirral. Some owned and managed by the Youth & Play Service¹¹ work in partnership with the voluntary and faith sector by supplying staff and in some cases grants. Youth Clubs are places where young people come to meet friends and socialise and are also places of informal education and learning. Youth Workers, through identifying the learning needs of young people, design a programme of activity to meet their wants and needs. Young people through experience learn skills that equip them for later life.

Positive Activities for Young People (PAYP)

Positive activities also take place in communities where a range of partners work with young people delivering the same opportunities as in youth clubs but in settings out in the community. This could be on the streets, in parks or at specific venues around a particular activity. Since April 2009, positive activities are commissioned through the Council.

Youth Sports Nights

The Youth Sports Nights project, delivered by the Council's Sports Development Unit¹², currently provides seven sessions per week across six locations enabling young people to learn in a new environment and achieve awards and qualifications in sport through training and educational programmes. The principal aim is to raise the educational aspirations and levels of physical activity of disengaged young people, who might otherwise be marginalised from society. This project highlights the benefits of sport and physical activity and the sessions are enhanced by a training and education programme. Through the attainment of awards, young people are able to make a positive contribution, both for themselves and for the communities in which they live.

Youth outreach and engagement

Youth outreach activity is currently undertaken by the Council's Youth & Play Service (aimed at 13-19 year olds) and Wirral Anti-Social Behaviour Team (through its Youth Respect Team aimed at young people of any age).

Mobile diversionary sporting activity

Using a van equipped with a wide variety of sports equipment and roof-mounted lighting rig to light dark or unlit areas, diversionary sporting activity is deployed in 'hot-spot' locations of ASB. The 'Sportsmobile' uses Sports Instructors (Community Sports Development Unit) to deliver sessions together with Youth Respect Workers (Wirral Anti-Social Behaviour Team) delivering key messages about ASB and respect.

Operation SafeSpace

This annual operation, comprising Merseyside Police, Merseyside Fire & Rescue and Merseyside Councils, has the specific focus of tackling ASB. Multi-agency activity is targeted in 'hot-spot' parks and open spaces across Merseyside to prevent and reduce ASB by young people throughout the summer months.

Training off-licences regarding under age sales

As part of a Wirral NHS funded project Trading Standards provide training to licence premises staff to reduce incidents of sale of alcohol to under 18s. Trading Standards also signpost off-licences who are concerned about young people gathering outside their premises to the Youth & Play Service's Response service (see THEME 4).

Swings & Roundabouts

Due to its success, Wirral Youth Theatre's¹³ 'Swings & Roundabouts' production is in its second year. The play was devised by young people for young people (primarily aged 12-14 years) and considers risk taking behaviour around alcohol and drugs. This hard hitting but funny play has targeted young people in schools, youth clubs and parks. This year has also seen the production support parents and carers with information, advice and guidance available from professionals following the show.

Police Cadets

Two groups involving a total of approximately fifty Wirral young people meet once a week and are involved in various community activities at weekends and at specific events (such as the Wirral Show).

Hillside Arson Reduction Initiative

Analysis shows that during the summer months grassland fires historically increase in hillside areas in Wirral (such as Caldys and Bidston Hill). An Arson Reduction Officer from Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service and Wirral Community Patrol conduct regular cycle patrols throughout the summer months in identified areas at peak times to raise awareness with members of the community around innocent activities that can cause grassland fires, such as the careless use of cigarettes and barbecues. Young people are also engaged with to discourage anti-social fire starting.

Dog fouling

Concerted efforts continue to be made to encourage responsible dog ownership and to reduce irresponsible and anti-social dog fouling. The 2009/2010 'Don't give a dog a bad name' campaign introduced a rolling summer programme of increased evening and weekend enforcement activity focusing on country park areas and the Wirral waterfront promenade areas. The campaign has promoted a new Council reward card scheme to encourage responsible ownership. Increasing enforcement activity to combat fouling and to promote responsible dog walking continues to benefit from the cross-discipline support of Environmental Health staff, Park Rangers, Community Patrol Officers and Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs).

West Kirby & Hoylake Shore Initiative

Wirral Council's Community Patrol and Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service have recently launched an initiative targeting West Kirby and Hoylake shorelines, which will see the patrols in the areas. The aim is to engage with young people about fire safety, alcohol and ASB. Work will also be undertaken with dog walkers linking into the 'Don't give a dog a bad name' campaign.

Fixed and mobile CCTV

Wirral has over a hundred CCTV cameras linked to both the Council and Police respective CCTV Control Rooms. The cameras have full 'pan-tilt-zoom' facility and record twenty-four hours a day, with images stored for a minimum of twenty-eight days. The cameras are used for both crime and disorder and traffic monitoring purposes. In 2007, Wirral was selected by the Home Office as one of only twenty areas in the country to receive funding to introduce 'Talking CCTV' and broadcasting systems are attached to eight cameras in ASB hot-spot areas. This allows CCTV operators to broadcast key messages directly to members of the public or challenge unacceptable behaviour. Additionally, Wirral has twelve 3G mobile cameras in operation in hot-spot locations of crime and ASB. These are deployed by Tranmere Neighbourhood Management Pathfinder and Woodchurch Neighbourhood Management area through their respective Neighbourhood Action Groups and/or Liveability meetings. Wirral Anti-Social Behaviour Team has a separate camera for deployment to support casework or for addressing serious locational issues of ASB.

OBJECTIVES - WHAT WE WILL DO:

Designated Public Places Orders (DPPOs)¹⁴ are a tool that can be used by local authorities to deal with the problems of anti-social alcohol drinking in public places. Once a DPPO is in place the police can use their confiscation powers to enforce the restriction. It is not an offence to consume alcohol within a designated area, but failure to comply with an officer's request to stop drinking and surrender alcohol without reasonable excuse is. DPPOs have been used in Wirral in specific areas to deal with alcohol-related ASB problems. We are currently **investigating the feasibility of covering the entire borough of Wirral with a Designated Public Place Order (DPPO) [OBJECTIVE 12]**.

One of the keys to success in tackling ASB is educating children at as young an age as possible as to rights and wrongs and what society expects of them as citizens. Whilst there continues to be the deployment of many interventions in schools around ASB and crime, this has been on an ad hoc basis. This is not routinely co-ordinated between agencies, with some schools receiving significant input and some receiving little or none. A Police Officer seconded to Wirral Anti-Social Behaviour Team will **co-ordinate all input into schools [OBJECTIVE 13]** in order that areas where there is limited intervention and potentially duplication can be identified.

The use of high-frequency sound equipment, detectable only to young people, has been utilised in Wirral by private businesses to deter young people from congregating in inappropriate public areas; the units are referred to as Mosquito devices. It is not known however, how many devices are in operation within Wirral. An informal analysis was conducted by the Anti-Social Behaviour Team on the purpose and use of Mosquito devices in 2007; it was concluded that, as a general rule, their use would not be advocated by the Team unless in exceptional circumstances. This was based on the view that there were more effective ways of dealing with locational issues of ASB perpetrated by young people; this was not however taken through any formal committee process. Merseyside Police operate a mobile unit installed in a vehicle, which is deployed into hotspot areas across the county. This has from time to time been used in Wirral and the police now use an escalation policy before deployment that requires authorisation by an officer ranked Inspector or higher.

The use of such equipment in Wirral has been requested by a number of residents. However concern has been expressed nationally about the use of the equipment by lobby groups and other organisations. The **use of Mosquito Devices will be investigated [OBJECTIVE 14]** giving full consideration to any health and safety and human rights issues. As part of this process, thought will be given to whether there is a need to 'regulate' the use of this equipment across the borough and if so, how that might be achieved.

Ball games, particularly football, engaged in by children and young people frequently results in reports of ASB and is a source of annoyance and frustration for many residents, particularly during the summer months. Whilst children and young people have a right to play safely in their neighbourhood, residents have a right to live peacefully in their homes. There are also occasions when this extends beyond playing and enters into the realms of criminal damage, vandalism, trespass, abuse and intimidation. Issues around

ball games are responded to on an ad hoc basis and often results in unsuccessful attempts to simply move the children elsewhere and causes conflict within the community. We will develop and implement **a comprehensive and responsive approach to nuisance and annoyance caused by ball games [OBJECTIVE 15]**.

Parkour (often called freerunning) is a form of human movement in which the participants attempt to pass obstacles in the most efficient and fluid way possible. They use such movements as vaulting, jumping, climbing and swinging to conquer obstacles. Parkour is considered to be a discipline rather than an extreme sport; it is a way of thinking and a way of training. It is a method by which to develop spirit and inner strength through movement. Media coverage has shown individuals scaling tall buildings, jumping across vast chasms and performing seemingly superhuman feats. We will **continue to work with members of the British Parkour Coaching Association and Beechwood & Ballantyne Community Housing Association to develop the sport in Wirral [OBJECTIVE 16]**, which is a focal point for this activity due to one of the most well known and internationally renowned practitioners heralding from the area. We will continue to be supportive of this activity insofar as it does not impact upon our ability to adequately deal with any ASB that may arise from participants' behaviour.

Young people are often expected to manage their first tenancy with little or no support. The provision of social housing for young people in Wirral is limited and supported accommodation for this age group is even more restricted. Often unsupported young people can fail to manage their tenancies satisfactorily and nuisance and disorder result. Work will be undertaken by Wirral Anti-Social Behaviour Team with Registered Provider, Forum Housing¹⁵, to develop an **accredited Respect Programme [OBJECTIVE 17]** with their tenants.

A police officer can confiscate alcohol from individuals aged under 18. This power extends to individuals over 18 where a police officer reasonably suspects that the alcohol is intended for a person aged under 18 or has recently been consumed by a person aged under 18. This activity is undertaken routinely by neighbourhood officers, but as part of a wide range of policing duties and priorities. We have recently begun a pilot scheme, using short-term funding from the Youth Taskforce¹⁶ to tackle alcohol fuelled ASB over the summer months. This has seen a roaming patrol of two officers engaged solely in the **confiscation of alcohol from young people [OBJECTIVE 18]**; branded as the 'Confiscation Cops'. This is targeted in hot spot areas of alcohol related ASB by young people at peak times. The aim is to mainstream this dedicated activity for use at peak times of the year.

Due to demand, we will **extend the opportunities for young people to volunteer [OBJECTIVE 19]** in activity to prevent and tackle ASB that will enable them to use their skills and experiences to make a positive contribution. The Youth Respect Team will be used as the primary vehicle for this activity.

THEME 3: ENFORCEMENT

THIS THEME FOCUSES UPON:

- **PROMPT AND ROBUST ENFORCEMENT ACTION AGAINST THE PERPETRATORS OF ASB, INCLUDING ADULTS AND YOUNG PEOPLE.**

CURRENT ACTIVITY IN WIRRAL:

Wirral Anti-Social Behaviour Team

The Team was created in January 1998 to tackle ASB amongst Council housing tenants. Over time the Team has expanded and in 2003 offered its services in the private sector; to owner-occupiers and private tenants. Since the transfer of the Council's housing stock in 2005, it is contracted to provide enforcement services to Wirral Partnership Homes and Beechwood & Ballantyne Community Housing Association. All other Registered Providers of social housing deal with their own ASB cases.

Use of tools and powers

The tools and powers available to tackle ASB are used; these include but are not limited to warnings, Acceptable Behaviour Contracts; Anti-Social Behaviour Orders, Demotion Orders; Possession Orders; Anti-Social Behaviour Injunctions; Premises Closure Orders and Section 30 Dispersal Orders.

Housing Benefit Sanctions

Wirral was selected as one of only eight areas nationally to participate in a two-year pilot scheme for the sanctioning of Housing Benefit in relation to ASB. The scheme, launched in November 2007 allows for tenants who have been evicted for ASB and who refuse support to address the underlying causes of their behaviour, to see a deduction in their housing benefit or see it ultimately stopped. The sanctions are designed to tackle ASB by discouraging unacceptable behaviour and encouraging tenants to address the causes of their behaviour, providing a longer-term and more sustainable reduction in ASB.

Surveillance

Overt and covert surveillance is used to gather evidence of anti-social and criminal behaviour. Covert surveillance is used in compliance with the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA). Surveillance has been used successfully to take action against the perpetrators of ASB.

Liaison with CPS

A seconded police officer within Wirral Anti-Social Behaviour Team is a designated point of contact with Merseyside's Crown Prosecution Service, facilitating the effective communication of agency information in relation to various court orders and their enforcement.

Tackling truancy

A range of tools are deployed to tackle truancy; these include casework by Education Social Workers, group work within schools, parenting support, the Konnecta Bus project and truancy sweeps which are undertaken in conjunction with Merseyside Police. The powers used to tackle truancy include the use of Fixed Penalty Notices and ultimately prosecution.

Under age sales

Trading Standards works with Police Licensing to conduct test purchasing operations to detect the sale of alcohol to under 18s. Offenders face Fixed Penalty Notices or prosecution. Increasing use is being made of powers in the Licensing Act 2003 to bring offending businesses' alcohol licences into review. The Council's Licensing Panel can suspend or revoke a licence or apply additional conditions to prevent the risk of alcohol being sold to

young people. Work is also undertaken to address the problem of proxy purchasers (adults buying alcohol for young people).

Noise nuisance

The Pollution Control Section (based within Environmental Health) responds to complaints regarding statutory noise nuisances (such as noise from barking dogs, DIY, loud music and commercial/industrial activities). Information and advice is provided in response to around one thousand requests for service each year. Complainants are usually required to keep a log of the noise nuisance as and when it occurs and in appropriate cases noise monitoring equipment will be installed to obtain evidence. Intervention and enforcement action will be taken to abate noise nuisances where required which includes the seizure of noise making equipment and prosecution.

Unwitnessed Criminal Damage Initiative

Following identification that social housing suffers higher levels of criminal damage an initiative was created in the spring of 2007 between the police, Registered Providers of social housing and Wirral Anti-Social Behaviour Team to tackle unwitnessed criminal damage amongst social housing stock. This sees joint visits to tenants' homes and in circumstances where a complaint of unwitnessed criminal damage is found to be false, the issuing of Fixed Penalty Notices (for wasting police time) and tenancy enforcement action by the landlord.

Tackling vehicle nuisance

Merseyside Police uses confiscation powers to deal with nuisance caused by mini motos. In addition, Operation Tango specifically targets uninsured cars.

Operation Banger

An annual multi-agency planned response to ASB issues connected to Mischief Night, Bonfire Night and Halloween. This includes the removal of fire making material and bonfires by offenders engaged with the National Offender Management Service (Probation); work with shops and businesses related to the sale of eggs and flour to young people and robust enforcement activity, including action to seize illegal or improperly stored fireworks.

ASB Taskforce

The ASB Taskforce is a joint initiative between Merseyside Police and Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service launched in 2006. The Taskforce is deployed into hotspot locations across the county and incorporates specifically designated ASB Advocates within Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service. The remit of the Taskforce is to tackle ASB related behaviour that includes secondary fires, hoax calls, incidents of violence at work and malicious criminal damage; the Taskforce takes an approach of both engagement and enforcement. The team works closely with the Fire Service's Arson Reduction Advocates and Police Officers and Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs).

Landlord Accreditation Scheme

Much work has been undertaken with private landlords through the established Landlord Accreditation Scheme (LAS). The Scheme is voluntary for private landlords, designed to recognise good quality, well managed accommodation in the private sector.

OBJECTIVES - WHAT WE WILL DO:

We will procure an **electronic case management system [OBJECTIVE 20]** to assist in the efficient and effective management of cases dealt with by Wirral Anti-Social Behaviour Team, which are currently managed through a paper-based system. This will be a joint venture with Wirral Partnership Homes which will provide the additional benefit of electronic data being available in all cases referred to the Team through its ASB Contract with the social landlord.

Discussions have recently taken place between the Anti-Social Behaviour Team and Birkenhead County Court to review how **cases are progressed. Working practices with HM Courts Service are to be agreed [OBJECTIVE 21]** to ensure that cases move through the system as efficiently as possible. We will also formally **evaluate breaches of enforcement orders and contracts [OBJECTIVE 22]** to review their continued effectiveness, addressing any issues as and when they arise.

Evidence is crucial to successful enforcement action and directed surveillance is utilised by Wirral Anti-Social Behaviour Team to corroborate evidence provided by witnesses. An assessment will be made of the demand for the **provision of directed surveillance as a fee-based service [OBJECTIVE 23]** to Registered Providers of social housing.

In circumstances when the Anti-Social Behaviour Team has been working in an area, a number of instances have been identified whereby the ability to issue (or warn about issuing) Fixed Penalty Notices would have been effective in tackling ASB. We will investigate the possibility and appropriateness of Enforcement Officers within the Team being able to **issue Fixed Penalty Notices [OBJECTIVE 24]** to increase the robustness of its activity.

Links with private landlords will continue to be developed [OBJECTIVE 25] in terms of their role in dealing with tenants who engage in ASB, which will include the development of an information guide for private landlords that includes advice on how to deal with anti-social tenants and templates of relevant documents for use. This will be supported by specialised surgeries to provide support and assistance to landlords in managing their tenancies effectively.

Efforts to tackle truancy will be strengthened [OBJECTIVE 26] with Safer Schools Officers better linked into enforcement activity tackling unauthorised school absence. Additionally, truancy sweeps will become a more prominent feature in multi-agency events and activity to tackle ASB, such as the deployment of the Community Mobile Police Station (see THEME 5). Activity will be further strengthened through specifically targeting the Housing Market Renewal area with additional activity; this will include using the proposed Community Reassurance Vehicle for tackling truancy (see THEME 1).

As part of the 2009/10 work programme for 'Environmental Health Merseyside', Pollution Control officers across the Greater Merseyside and Cheshire region will carry out a review of current working arrangements between each Authority, investigating current and future opportunities for partnership working with other agencies in respect of noise issues. Findings from the review will be collated and used to prepare, as a tool for improved engagement, a **good practice report on noise related ASB issues [OBJECTIVE 27]**.

THEME 4: RESETTLEMENT, REHABILITATION & TARGETED YOUTH SUPPORT

THIS THEME FOCUSES UPON:

- TACKLING THE UNDERLYING CAUSES OF ASB;
- PROVIDING TARGETED SUPPORT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE;
- TAKING AN INDIVIDUAL AND WHOLE FAMILY APPROACH TO TACKLING ISSUES.

CURRENT ACTIVITY IN WIRRAL:

Wirral Family Intervention Project (Wirral FIP)

The Family Intervention Project, launched in October 2007, works with the most problematic families to bring together the assertive delivery of support services with sanctions and possible enforcement action to increase a family's motivation to change their behaviour. The FIP is delivered on behalf of the Council by registered charity Action for Children and considers the needs of the whole family balanced with the needs of the community.

Parenting

Parenting support is available to parents of young people involved, or at risk of being involved, in anti-social and/or criminal behaviour. There are many facets to parenting including one-to-one support, parenting groups, telephone support and drop-in sessions. The support helps to build confidence by raising parents' self-esteem; improving communication; balancing 'love with limits'; provide alternative parenting methods and effective strategies to manage challenging behaviour while promoting positive, caring family relationships. Effective parenting acts as a protection against poverty and unemployment, social exclusion, poor academic achievement and involvement in crime and ASB.

Challenge & Support Project

Wirral is one of fifty-two areas nationally delivering a Challenge & Support Project, which is a multi-agency process of intervening with young people engaged in ASB or at risk of engaging in ASB in terms of both challenge (enforcement) and support (intervention and diversion). Any agency can refer a young person into this process and representatives meet at a monthly Respect Panel to determine the most appropriate course of action in respect of each young person.

TEAM Initiative

This activity is run by the Army (Mercian Regiment) targeted at young people engaged in the Challenge & Support process. A one-week residential insight course is supplemented with mentoring for those young people who wish to join the Army.

Youth Inclusion Programmes (YIPs)

The aim of the YIPs is to engage young people in five areas of deprivation in positive activities. Hosted by Wirral Youth Offending Service, a Junior YIP (JYIP) operates for children aged 8-12 years and a Senior YIP for (13-17 year olds), working with forty-five and fifty young people (plus 15-20 peers) respectively at any one time. The young people complete activities to increase self-esteem and build positive relationships with peers and family. One-to-one work is completed with young people they have identified as being "high risk". This work is identified through assessment and could range from anger management, peer pressure and tackling ASB. JYIP's Prevention Programme on the Wirral is time limited; the time allocated to working with a young person is twelve weeks, although this is often exceeded because of need.

Positive Futures

Positive Futures is a national social inclusion programme using sport and leisure activities to engage with disadvantaged and socially marginalised young people. The aim is to have a positive influence on young people's lives by widening horizons and providing access to new opportunities within a culturally familiar environment. Sport and leisure activities are used as a catalyst to encourage project participation and young people are steered towards education, training and employment. Wirral's Positive Futures project is managed by the Council's Sports Development Unit and has strong partnership links with Wirral Drug & Alcohol Action Team and Wirral Anti-Social Behaviour Team. Activities are primarily focused upon Friday and Saturday evenings.

Response

Response is part of Wirral Youth & Play Service, providing a borough-wide service for young people aged 13-19 years and providing specialist support to vulnerable young people including those at risk of substance and alcohol misuse, homelessness, sexual exploitation, teenage pregnancy, low self-esteem, stress, abuse, poor health and poverty. Many of the young people referred have complex needs, requiring intensive support from the service and young people are catered for on an individual basis to address a wide variety of needs. The drug and alcohol services within Response provide specialist interventions for targeted young people including case work, care plans, brief interventions following alcohol related offences, bespoke education sessions, an alcohol drop-in service, diversionary activities and outreach services and information and advice and support to young people who have attended Accident & Emergency.

Multi-Systemic Therapy (MST)

An evidence based method of intervening with young people (aged 11 -17 years) who are at risk of care or custody, with the aim of improving the lives of individual children and their families, reducing ASB and making a contribution to reducing high cost care placements outside of Wirral. The pilot commenced in 2009 and is a partnership between Wirral Children & Young People's Department, Youth Offending Service, Primary Care Trust and the Cheshire & Wirral Foundation (NHS) Trust.

Mentoring

Mentoring is a well established practice within Wirral Youth Offending Service and is a process by which young people are supported by a designated mentor with the aim of reducing offending and the risk of reoffending and increasing self-esteem, motivation and self-confidence. Mentors within the service are volunteers from the community who undergo a comprehensive training programme. Mentors are also used as part of the Youth Offending Service's preventative work.

Young Person's Alcohol Intervention Project

This is a multi-agency partnership that sees young people either found in possession of alcohol or engaging in alcohol fuelled ASB by the police, confiscated of alcohol and referrals made to Response for an intervention related to alcohol misuse and/or Challenge & Support. Parents are contacted as part of this process.

Operation StaySafe

The Operation is a multi-agency response to unsupervised young people who are out at night and at risk of becoming victims of crime or of being drawn into criminal behaviour. Targeted operations are conducted to take young people found at risk to a place of safety to be collected by their parents/carers using safeguarding laws¹⁷. The Operation sees a range of follow-up actions put in place to stop problem behaviour from recurring, including referrals to Response and into Challenge & Support where appropriate. 2009/10 will see a total of twelve targeted StaySafe Operations in hot spot locations across the borough.

Tackling alcohol misuse

Through a range of innovative services, NHS Wirral is working with partners to reduce alcohol misuse to prevent and tackle local problems, reduce health inequalities and contribute to tackling crime and disorder. Over the past year a number of innovative services have been introduced including:

- The provision of advice, information and public awareness campaigns for the general public about sensible drinking levels;
- A new local service, including a range of organisations and involving twenty-seven pharmacies, set up to screen a minimum of two thousand people, providing brief advice and support;
- 1,348 people receiving specialist treatment for more serious alcohol problems;
- A new community based alcohol project to provide day and aftercare for high risk and dependent drinkers;
- Development of crisis intervention services to support vulnerable and dependent drinkers.

Integrated Offender Management

In November 2008, an Integrated Offender Management approach to reducing re-offending was implemented. This is built upon the success of the Prolific and other Priority Offender (PPO) scheme and the Drug Intervention Programme (DIP) to identify, prioritise and manage those individuals responsible for prolific offending and ASB. The Integrated Offender Management approach focuses on targeting the resources of partner agencies at offenders causing the most concern to our communities; who pose the highest risk of re-offending. It manages a selected and locally defined cohort of offenders who are in the community. Aimed at addressing issues believed to be the 'drivers' for their criminality, the approaches look at the individual in a holistic way, including their families and consider interventions relating to drugs, alcohol, mental health, employment, training, housing and benefits. A 'Repeat Offender' Multi-Agency Risk Assessment meeting is held each month to consider referrals, agree an action plan for each individual, review outcomes and monitor progress.

Integrated Youth Support (IYS) & Targeted Youth Support (TYS)

Integrated Youth Support (IYS) is the name given to the government approach to youth policy. It is about ensuring that the right services and support are available to all young people at the right time, in order to meet their needs and support their progression into adulthood. IYS focuses on young people aged 13–19 but also includes young people up to the age of twenty-five who have learning difficulties or disabilities or who are in the care system. Integrated Youth Support recognises that there are services and support that all young people should be able to access (known as universal services), but also that there should be focused support for young people in particular need or for young people who are at risk of poor outcomes (known as targeted youth support). In April 2008, Wirral published an Integrated Youth Support Strategy that outlined its approach.

OBJECTIVES - WHAT WE WILL DO:

The Family Intervention Project's current focus is around ASB. Through funding provided to support implementation of the Youth Crime Action Plan, we will **extend the Family Intervention Project [OBJECTIVE 28]** to include provision for families engaged in, or at risk of engaging in, crime. This will include an additional element targeting families displaying specific risk factors associated with offending behaviour, such as mental ill health and domestic violence. Responsibility for the operation of the FIP will be transferred from the Regeneration Department to the Children & Young People's Department. Further work will involve seeking funding to ensure the longer-term sustainability of the FIP. The development of a core residential unit for the most problematic families requiring twenty-four hour supervision and visitor control will be investigated further and a decision made as to its feasibility.

Wirral has a good range of parenting support and intervention across the borough, both in the statutory and voluntary and faith

sectors, providing support to parents/carers in raising their children and young people. Wirral recently appointed a Parenting Development Co-ordinator to review existing provision, identify gaps in service delivery and work towards developing a co-ordinated approach ensuring the accessibility of services at all levels of need. We will continue to work together to **ensure that a co-ordinated approach to parenting support and intervention is implemented across the borough and embed the 'Think Family' Reforms [OBJECTIVE 29]**. The Reforms are about ensuring that services work together to make sure that families at risk are provided with support at the earliest opportunity; the full range of needs within each family are supported and the ability of family members to provide care and support each other is strengthened. This involves co-ordinating work across the Children & Young People's Department, Adult Social Services, Family Intervention Project, Wirral Anti-Social Behaviour Team, Youth Offending Service and other related services.

All CDRPs are required to complete an annual Strategic Assessment¹⁸. This presents and interprets the summary findings of an intelligence (data and information) analysis and assists in identifying current and possible future crime, disorder and substance misuse issues. Wirral's most recent Strategic Assessment was produced in January 2009¹⁹. As part of this process, whilst it was identified that there was a deal of good work in targeting offenders, a **more co-ordinated approach Offender Management [OBJECTIVE 30]** was required, particularly for those not at the highest levels of risk. Merseyside Police is taking the lead in driving forward this piece of work.

In October 2008, the Council's Children's Services and Lifelong Overview & Scrutiny Committee produced a Scrutiny Report following a review of youth outreach provision in Wirral to ensure the provision of a modern service that gives value for money. A number of recommendations stemmed from the report. These recommendations are currently being reviewed in the context of Wirral's overall approach to Integrated Youth Support and a proposed way forward in terms of the **delivery of targeted youth support services [OBJECTIVE 31]** is to be taken to Cabinet in the autumn of 2009.

THEME 5: PROTECTING & SUPPORTING VICTIMS AND COMMUNITIES

THIS THEME FOCUSES UPON:

- PROVIDING PROTECTION AND SUPPORT FOR VICTIMS OF ASB;
- PROVIDING PROTECTION AND SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITIES FROM ASB;
- REDUCING THE NUMBER OF REPEAT VICTIMS;
- PROVIDING LONG TERM SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS TO ASB ISSUES.

CURRENT ACTIVITY IN WIRRAL:

Wirral Community Patrol

This Service operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to provide security and response patrols to schools, public buildings and parks. The team of over twenty officers are also tasked to incidents of ASB by the public and other services. The service responds to ten thousand incidents a year on average, with approximately four and a half thousand relating to incidents of ASB.

Neighbourhood Policing

Neighbourhood Policing has been in place across the borough since 2000, with every neighbourhood having a dedicated Neighbourhood Inspector with focus upon local priorities identified by the community.

Citizen Focus

Merseyside Police conducts independent surveys on a monthly basis of victims of ASB. They are questioned about the quality of some critical stages of service (such as the ease of contact; action taken; follow up; whether the police made further contact; investigation; treatment and the whole experience). The police aims to ensure that every victim of ASB (when details are provided) receives either a further contact call by phone or personal visit.

Repeat Victimisation Strategy 2007-2009

Merseyside Police reinforces its Citizen Focus through a strategy for repeat victimisation. This Victims' Charter categorises incident

responses for crime in priorities, in terms of gold, silver and bronze. It aims to reduce the number of incidents of ASB categorised as 'repeat' and prevent victims suffering repeat victimisation.

Operation Monroe

A dedicated team consisting of a police sergeant, four constables and a radio room operator respond to incidents of ASB reported to the police. The sergeant's role is one of co-ordination of not only police resources but also of Council wardens and youth outreach teams. Although the sergeant does not direct non-police resources, there is a better response to ASB by having shared knowledge of each service's activity in an area and the ability to make changes where required. The Operation takes place every Friday, Saturday and Sunday evening.

Respect 'Weeks of Action'

Routinely multi-agency activity takes place in neighbourhoods led by the police under the banner of Respect. These include a range of activity from providing advice and information through to enforcement action; the focus being on community reassurance.

Witness Support Network

The Network is run by Wirral Mediation Service (part of registered charity Involve North-West) and provided to complainants of ASB in the private sector referred to Wirral Anti-Social Behaviour Team. The Service uses trained volunteers to provide support.

Witness Support Package (WASBT)

Wirral Anti-Social Behaviour Team offers a comprehensive package of support to all its witnesses in cases it is investigating. The Team's strategy has four main aims in relation to witnesses: to keep them fully informed about the procedures and processes when dealing with cases involving ASB; to support them fully throughout their involvement with the Anti-Social Behaviour Team, both physically and emotionally; to update them frequently and promptly about the progression of the case and to recognise that the fast progression of cases is paramount.

Respect Watch Schemes

Respect Watch Schemes are a Wirral initiative designed to protect residents who have already suffered ASB so serious that it has warranted legal action by the Anti-Social Behaviour Team. The Schemes have elements that include a) a Local Lettings Agreement with local residents and landlords, committing to take steps to ensure that applicants guilty of previous unacceptable behaviour will not be offered property within the area; b) branding within the area affected by the Scheme with the additional benefit that this may also act as a deterrent to future ASB and c) regular meetings with residents to discuss any issues that have arisen in the preceding period and hopefully enable the early identification of any further ASB to ensure prompt intervention.

Witness Support (Registered Providers of social housing)

Registered Providers actively support complainants involved in ASB cases.

Community Mobile Police Station (CMPS)

The CMPS is a partnership between Wirral Council and Merseyside Police, managed by Wirral Anti-Social Behaviour Team. The CMPS is a 40x12x10 foot converted shipping container, introduced in Wirral in January 2006. This specially made unit is equipped with a public enquiry desk and a wide range of literature for community safety, support groups and local activities and located into the most problematic 'hot-spots' of ASB. The impact of the CMPS has recently been improved through a four month rolling programme of secondment (Police Community Support Officer) to work with the Station, from the respective neighbourhood to where the CMPS is being deployed next.

Wirral Family Safety Unit (FSU)

The FSU is a multi-agency team based within the Joint Community Safety Team that co-ordinate a package of care, safety and support for individuals and their children experiencing domestic abuse. Support is given based on risk and need; this may include housing, solicitors, placement in the Refuge, counselling and target hardening. Clients are offered the services of an Independent Domestic Violence Advocate, who work directly with survivors to provide advice and support, helping them make safety plans and understand the options they have. They also assist in accessing the full range of legal and non-legal services and resources and engage proactively in multi-agency work to keep survivors and their children safe. Additional support is provided to clients through the Wirral MARAC (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Committee). This is a formal conference that meets every two weeks to ensure a multi-agency management plan is agreed to support those at very high risk of experiencing further abuse.

Reparation

Reparation can help prevent reoffending by enabling the perpetrator (young person) to take responsibility for the offence and its consequences and to make amends, repairing some of the harm caused. Reparation can take the form of a letter of apology, a restorative meeting involving the victim, a direct apology and/or practical activity to benefit the victim or local community (community reparation). Community reparation should build on the young person's skills and learning, reducing the risk of reoffending. Reparation also restricts and reduces leisure time of a young person and can reduce the opportunities for further offending behaviour. Reparation should be a fundamental part of any community court sentence and be proportionate to the offending behaviour.

Restorative Justice (RJ) and Family Group Meetings

Restorative Justice gives victims the chance to tell offenders the real impact of their crime, to get answers to their questions and to receive an apology. It gives the offenders the chance to understand the real impact of what they have done and to do something to repair the harm. Restorative Justice holds offenders to account for what they have done, personally and directly, and helps victims to get on with their lives. A dedicated Restorative Justice (RJ) Co-ordinator, based within Wirral Youth Offending Service, coordinates RJ conferences. Family Group Meetings are also offered to all families engaged in the Youth Inclusion Support Panel (see THEME 2), which enables family members and friends to come together to find out what is happening in the family and to talk about how to sort out any problems.

OBJECTIVES - WHAT WE WILL DO:

As part of Wirral's most recent Strategic Assessment²⁰, it was also identified that Wirral required a **more co-ordinated approach to victim support [OBJECTIVE 32]** at all levels of victimisation. Wirral's Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership Executive Group will take the lead in driving forward this piece of work.

We will extend the use and visibility of reparation [OBJECTIVE 33] in our communities, strengthening the work led by Wirral Youth Offending Service and ensuring that communities' views influence the work that is undertaken by young people.

Respect Watch Schemes will be developed [OBJECTIVE 34], subject to the needs of communities, to include wider activity. This may extend to the provision of parenting support groups, greater reparation activity and wider preventative work.

CONCLUSION

We have made some significant improvements to residents' quality of life, consistently reducing incidents of anti-social behaviour and improving perceptions. There is however always more that can be done and we will not rest on our successes. Further improvement will only be made if we continue to be supported by local residents. It is important that residents continue to report incidents of anti-social behaviour and tell us what we are doing well but more importantly where we are failing to meet their expectations.

**By working together we will make Wirral
a safer place to **live, work and visit.****



APPENDIX 1: **PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**



PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

National Indicator Reference	Indicator Title	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
PI 4269	Vehicle Nuisance	1,420	1,400	1,380
PI 4270	Criminal Damage	4,915	4,670	4,436
PI 4206*	Anti-Social Behaviour incidents	17,558	17,207	16,863
NI 17	7 Strands of ASB (PT)	Reduce by 2%	Reduce by 2%	Reduce by 2%
NI 21	Dealing with crime and ASB that matter (PT)	Increase by 8%		
NI 23	Treating people with respect (PT)	Reduce by 2%	Reduce by 2%	Reduce by 2%
NI 27	Views taken re crime and ASB that matter	Increase by 2%	Increase by 2%	Increase by 2%
NI 41	People drunk or rowdy in public places	Reduce by 2%	Reduce by 2%	Reduce by 2%
NI 42	Perceptions of drug use or drug dealing as a problem	Reduce by 2%	Reduce by 2%	Reduce by 2%

* Local Area Agreement aligned target

**APPENDIX 2:
DELIVERING THE STRATEGY -
ACTION PLAN (2009-2012)**



DELIVERING THE STRATEGY - ACTION PLAN (2009-2012)

Objective number	Action	Evidence of Progress	Anticipated completion date	Responsibility
AWARENESS, PERCEPTIONS & CONFIDENCE				
1	Consultation to identify barriers to reporting ASB and produce targeted campaigns to challenge those barriers	Embedded in all deployments of the Community Mobile Police Station	30 November 2009	WASBT (Council)
2	Production of a 6-monthly ASB newsletter	First edition produced	30 April 2010	WASBT (Council)
3	Increased information on the Council web site related to ASB	Directory of ASB published	30 April 2010	WASBT (Council)
4	Extend the use of technology to promote efforts to tackle ASB and provision of information to internet based social networks	YouTube, Facebook and/or Twitter in use.	30 November 2009	WASBT (Council)
5	Strengthen the effectiveness of Problem Solving Groups	Notification sent to residents in areas for all newly convened PSGs of the work of the partnership Invitations made to resident representatives in all newly convened PSGs to participate	30 November 2009 30 November 2009	WASBT (Council) & Merseyside Police
6	Launch the HMRI community reassurance vehicle	Vehicle in use	30 November 2009	WASBT (Council) & Housing Strategy Section (Council)
7	Respect Wirral to become an annual event	Respect Wirral event held	30 March 2010	WASBT (Council) & Merseyside Police
8	Provide ASB training to Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) and local councillors	PCSOs Training provided to councillors	31 March 2010 31 December 2010	WASBT (Council)
9	Positively promote young people	Publicise young people at every opportunity and monitor the number of positive press articles generated	30 November 2009	Press & PR, Youth & Play Service & WASBT (Council) & Merseyside Police Merseyside Police &

Objective number	Action	Evidence of Progress	Anticipated completion date	Responsibility
10	Annual awards ceremony to celebrate the achievements of young people and recognise the individuals who work with them	First event held	31 March 2010	WASBT (Council)
11	Promotion of inter-generational work with young people and adults	Each Youth Unit to deliver an intergenerational project	31 March 2010	Youth & Play Service (Council)
PREVENTION & DIVERSION				
12	Investigate the feasibility of covering the entire borough with a Designated Public Place Order	Feasibility assessed and decision made as to course of action	31 December 2009	Wirral Council (Legal Services)
13	Co-ordinate the provision of education and awareness activity related to ASB in schools by agencies	Activity reported into Police Youth Engagement Officers on a regular basis	31 December 2009	WASBT (Council) & Merseyside Police
14	Determine an approach to the use of Mosquito devices	Recommendations made	31 March 2010	WASBT (Council)
15	Develop a comprehensive response to nuisance caused by ball games	Response developed	31 April 2010	WASBT (Council)
16	Continue to work to develop Parkour within Wirral	Workshops embedded in mainstream activity	31 July 2010	BBCHA, WASBT, Youth & Play Service, Cultural Services, including Sports Development Unit (Council), Merseyside Police & British Parkour Coaching Association
17	Develop an accredited Respect Programme for young tenants	Programme developed	31 April 2009	WASBT (Council) & Forum Housing
18	Mainstream the dedicated police patrol focused upon the confiscation of alcohol from young people	Patrol available for activity following conclusion of the pilot scheme	30 November 2009	Merseyside Police
19	Extend the opportunities for young people to volunteer	First cohort of volunteers appointed	31 March 2010	WASBT & Youth & Play Service & Sports Development Unit (Council)
ENFORCEMENT				
20	Implementation of an electronic case management (ECM) system	Procurement of an ECM system Training of WASBT Officers Implementation of system	28 February 2010 30 May 2010 31 August 2010	WASBT (Council) & WPH
21	Agreement of working practices with HM Courts Service	Agreement reached	30 November 2009	WASBT (Council)
22	Evaluate the use of ASB related enforcement orders and contracts	Initial evaluation undertaken Regular review	30 November 2009 Ongoing	WASBT (Council) & Merseyside Police
23	Assessment of demand for provision of a fee-based directed surveillance service to Registered Providers of social housing	Assessment made	30 September 2010	WASBT (Council)

Objective number	Action	Evidence of Progress	Anticipated completion date	Responsibility
24	Determine the appropriateness of an extension of powers to Anti-Social Behaviour Team Officers	Decision made	31 May 2010	WASBT (Council) & Merseyside Police
25	Increase support to private landlords	ASB Information Pack for private landlords available	31 August 2010	WASBT (Council)
		Rolling programme of advice surgeries for private landlords commenced	31 August 2010	WASBT (Council)
26	Strengthen work around truancy	Safer Schools Officers involved in sweeps	30 November 2009	WASBT & ESW Service (Council) & Merseyside Police
		HMRI community reassurance vehicle in use for sweeps	30 November 2009	
		Truancy sweeps feature of multi-agency activity to tackle ASB	30 November 2009	
27	Good practice report developed in relation to tackling noise related ASB	Merseyside-wide report produced	31 March 2010	Pollution Control (Council)
RESETTLEMENT, REHABILITATION & TARGETED YOUTH SUPPORT				
28	Extend the (ASB) Family Intervention Project	Transfer of responsibility for the operation of the FIP to the C&YPD	31 December 2009	C&YPD (Council)
		Referral criteria extended to include crime and structures in place for delivery	31 March 2010	Action for Children, C&YPD & WASBT (Council)
		Identify longer-term funding for the FIP and assess the feasibility of the development of a core residential unit	30 March 2011	Action for Children, C&YPD & WASBT (Council)
29	Embed the Think Family Reforms and ensure that a co-ordinated approach to parenting support and intervention is implemented across the borough	Clear governance (responsibility) arrangements for the Parenting & Family Support Strategy in place	30 November 2009	C&YPD, DASS, YOS, & WASBT (Council), Action for Children, Health, DAAT & Voluntary Sector
		Parenting & Family Support Strategy and Action Plan refreshed to ensure a co-ordinated approach	30 November 2009	
		Parenting Early Intervention Programme (PEIP) Project Staff in place and Evidence Based Parenting Programme initiated working in partnership with Health, DAAT and the voluntary sector to deliver	31 December 2009	
		Improved links with the Department of Adult Social Services and a joint working protocol developed	31 March 2010	
30	Develop a co-ordinated approach to the management of offenders at all levels of risk	New process in place	30 March 2010	Merseyside Police
31	Recommendations made regarding the restructure of Wirral's approach to the delivery of targeted youth support	Report submitted to Cabinet	31 December 2009	C&YPD (Council)

Objective number	Action	Evidence of Progress	Anticipated completion date	Responsibility
PROTECTING & SUPPORTING VICTIMS AND COMMUNITIES				
32	Develop a co-ordinated approach to victims of crime and ASB	New process in place	31 March 2010	CDRP Executive Group
33	Extend the use and increase the visibility of reparation activity	Increase the frequency of reparation undertaken directly in communities Ensure residents' views are factored into decisions around the type of reparation engaged in by young people	30 March 2010 31 August 2010	YOS & WASBT (Council) YOS & WASBT (Council)
34	Enhance the operation of Respect Watch Schemes	Enhanced version in operation for any designation after proposed completion date	31 December 2009	WASBT (Council)

FOOTNOTES:

¹ Including - Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy 2007-2010; Anti-Graffiti Strategy 2008; Children & Young People's Plan 2008-2011; Crime & Disorder Reduction Strategy (2009-2012); Integrated Youth Support Strategy 2008; Local Area Agreement Delivery Plan 2009/10; Merseyside Police Youth Strategy 2006-2009; Parenting & Family Support Strategy 2008-2011; Sustainable Community Strategy - Wirral 2025; Wirral Youth & Play Service Development Plan 2009/10.

² www.respect.gov.uk/members/article.aspx?id=7538

³ Police data.

⁴ Police categories that constitute ASB: Abandoned vehicles (not stolen / causing obstruction); Animal problems; Begging / Vagrancy; Hoax call to emergency services; Inappropriate use/sale/possession of fireworks; Malicious communications; Noise; Prostitution related activity; Rowdy / Nuisance - Environmental damage/littering; Rowdy / Nuisance - Neighbours; Rowdy / Nuisance - Rowdy or Inconsiderate Behaviour; Street Drinking; Substance Misuse; Trespass and Vehicle Nuisance / Inappropriate Vehicle Use.

⁵ www.respect.gov.uk/sasurvey.aspx?id=12864

⁶ 1st July 08 - 31st June 09.

⁷ LSP's bring together the key stakeholders operating in an area, including for example the local authority, police, primary care trust, private businesses and representatives from voluntary and community groups. The aim of the LSP is to bring together these key people to represent their organisations and discuss strategic issues that affect the area.

⁸ Data was not collected in 2008.

⁹ Communicating for Confidence: A Practical Guide. Home Office 2009

¹⁰ A Section 30 Dispersal Order gives the police the power to disperse groups in a designated area where an officer has reasonable grounds for believing that their presence or behaviour has resulted, or is likely to result, in a member of the public from being harassed intimidated, alarmed or distressed.

¹¹ Part of registered charity Involve North-West.

¹² Council's Children & Young People's Department.

¹³ Council's Regeneration Department.

¹⁴ Part of the Council's Youth & Play Service.

¹⁵ Available under Section 13 of The Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001 as amended by Section 26 of the Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006 and the "The Local Authorities (Alcohol Consumption in Designated Public Places) Regulations 2007".

¹⁶ Forum Housing Association has been a specialist provider of supported accommodation to young people aged 16-25 for forty years.

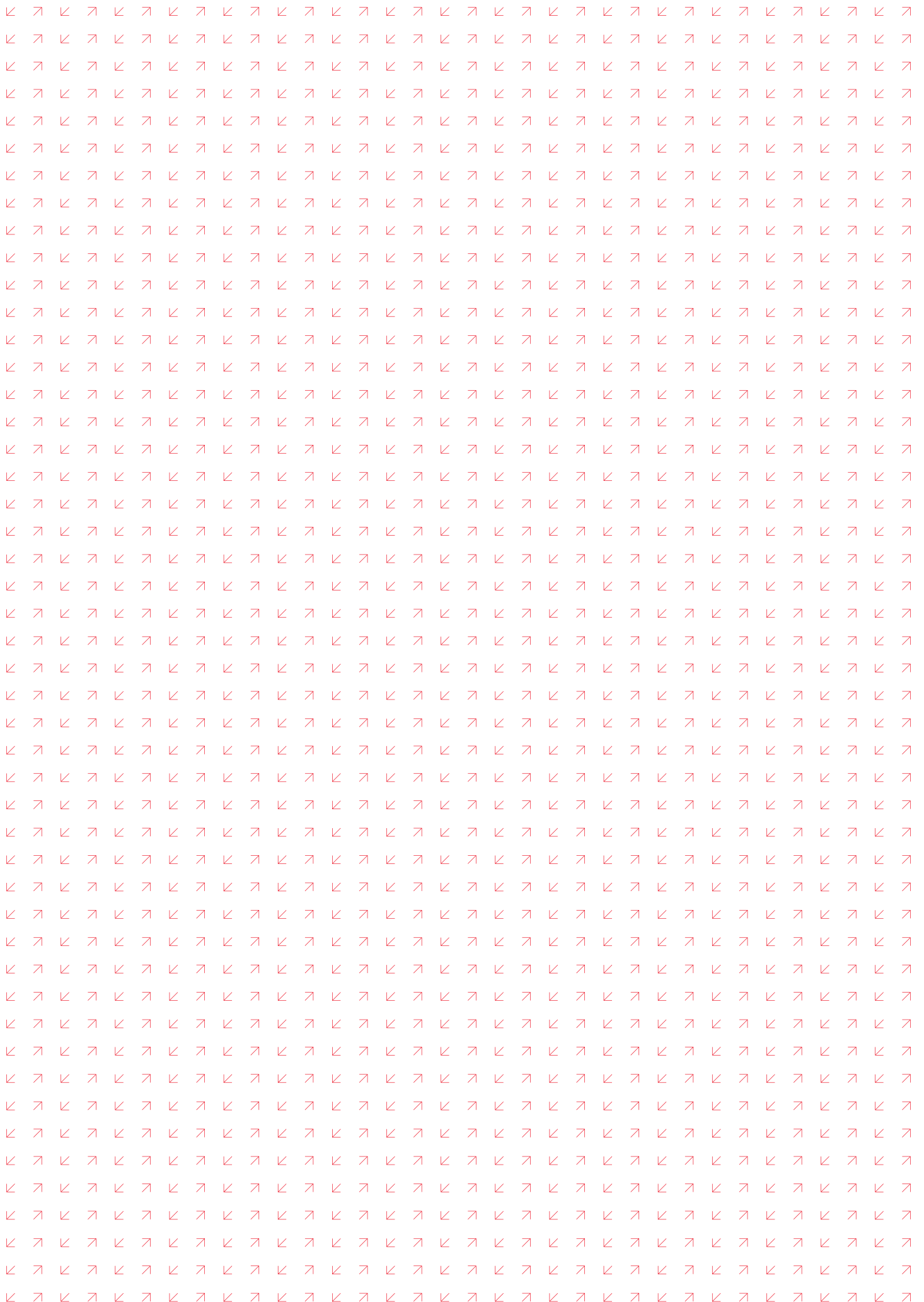
¹⁷ Department for Children, Schools & Families

¹⁸ Section 46 Children Act (1989).

¹⁹ Police and Justice Act (2006).

²⁰ Studying the period January 2008 to December 2008.

²¹ Most recently produced in January 2009, this assists in identifying current and possible future crime, disorder and substance misuse issues.





Any queries relating to the Strategy can be directed to the Manager of Wirral Anti-Social Behaviour Team at: **neighbour.nuisance@wirral.gov.uk**

The Equality Impact Assessment in relation to the Strategy can be found at: **www.wirral.gov.uk**