

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

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek agreement of Wirral's Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy (2009-2012), produced on behalf of the Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP).

2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 In 2006, Wirral published its Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy (2006-2008). Many of the recommended actions in the Strategy were successfully implemented and additional initiatives were also subsequently put into practice where a need was later 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 draft 2009-2012 Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy.

2.2 In the drafting of the latest Strategy, the people of Wirral were asked through a variety of means what the crime and anti-social behaviour priorities were that they wished Wirral's Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) to focus upon. All the responses were collated and analysed and the community's top five priorities for 2009/10 to reduce crime and disorder are:

- ASB caused by groups of youths gathering in public places (with a recognition that young people can also be victims of crime);
- Inappropriate use of alcohol by young people;
- Unlawful damage to people's property (criminal damage);
- Anti-social use of vehicles;
- Illegal use of drugs.

2.3 In the formation of the Strategy, reference was made to other Wirral-based strategies and plans; an audit of existing work to prevent and tackle anti-social behaviour was undertaken (and set out in brief in the Strategy) and gaps and areas for improvement identified.

2.4 The Strategy (attached as Appendix 1) focuses upon five themes and thirty-four objectives. These objectives are a framework for action on anti-social behaviour for Wirral. The Strategy is accompanied by an Action Plan which specifies the time periods for each individual objective. The Action Plan is intended to be flexible and responsive and if additional issues are identified throughout the lifetime of this Strategy, these will be added into the Plan. The Action Plan will be published on the Council's web pages and regularly updated.

2.5 The draft Strategy was issued for consultation in September 2009. It was published on Wirral Council's and the Local Strategic Partnership's web sites respectively. It was also

widely circulated by email to stakeholders. Responses received were considered in the preparation of the final draft.

2.6 The draft Strategy was approved by Wirral's Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership on 18 November 2009.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report, however a proportion of the activity outlined is made possible through time limited funding streams; the majority of which are due to end in March 2011.

4.0 STAFFING IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no staffing implications arising from this report.

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 A draft Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) was completed and circulated for consultation with the draft Strategy. A final version of the EIA will be published separately on the Council's web site shortly.

6.0 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Execution of the Strategy will continue to lead to improvements in the community safety of local neighbourhoods and assist in preventing and reducing anti-social and criminal behaviour.

7.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

7.1 Improvement in the quality of life for local neighbourhoods.

8.0 PLANNING IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There are no planning implications arising from this report.

9.0 ANTI-POVERTY IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no anti-poverty implications arising from this report.

10.0 SOCIAL INCLUSION IMPLICATIONS

10.1 Within the activity outlined, areas suffering the highest levels of anti-social behaviour are targeted for intervention. These are typically areas suffering multiple social issues such as higher levels of deprivation and unemployment and lower levels of educational attainment and income.

11.0 LOCAL MEMBER SUPPORT IMPLICATIONS

11.1 There are no specific local Member support implications arising from this report.

12.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

12.1 None.

13.0 **RECOMMENDATIONS**

13.1 Members are asked to agree Wirral's Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy 2009-2012.

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