

Report

Report to:	Executive Committee
Date of Meeting:	6 November 2019
Report by:	Executive Director, Housing and Technical Resources

Subject:	South Lanarkshire Anti-social Behaviour Strategy 2019 to 2023
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ seek approval for the South Lanarkshire Anti-social Behaviour Strategy 2019-2023.

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that the South Lanarkshire Anti-social Behaviour Strategy 2019 to 2023, attached as Appendix 1, be approved.

3. Background

- 3.1. In South Lanarkshire, there is a long and well established history of partnership working to prevent and tackle the causes of anti-social behaviour and reduce the impact that it has on individuals and communities.
- 3.2. In 2004, the Anti-social Behaviour etc. (Scotland) Act introduced a requirement for local authorities, in conjunction with the local Police division to prepare, publish and review a strategy for dealing with anti-social behaviour in their local authority area.
- 3.3. This will be the fourth South Lanarkshire Anti-social Behaviour Strategy since 2004, with the previous three strategies developed as a partnership document between South Lanarkshire Council and Police Scotland, working with a range of other partner agencies.

4. Strategy development and consultation

- 4.1. The focus of the strategy is on preventative action through early intervention and resolution by changing behaviour. The strategy has been developed to form a component part of the wider priorities of the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) and its Strategic Framework, with the other priorities being:-
- ◆ Domestic abuse
 - ◆ Drug misuse
 - ◆ Road traffic accidents
 - ◆ Unintentional injuries

- 4.2. The strategy has also been developed to take account of the work being progressed in relation to Neighbourhood Planning, where local partners are supporting communities to develop local plans, “Our Place, Our Plan” to improve outcomes in their area. Over the course of the strategy the Anti-social Behaviour Strategy Implementation Group (ASBSIG) will ensure that appropriate links and channels of communication are further developed with Neighbourhood Planning.
- 4.3. The ASBSIG comprising partner agencies, including key council Resources, Police Scotland, the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and Victim Support, oversaw the development of the strategy. This included a priority setting process which partners participated in during early 2019, which risk assessed identified current and emerging issues/concerns and established priorities for the new strategy. Further details on this process together with a summary profile of anti-social behaviour in South Lanarkshire are contained within Appendix 1 of the strategy document.
- 4.4. To support the development of the draft strategy the ASBSIG consulted with a wide range of partners, stakeholders and interested parties. In addition, engagement events and meetings were held between members of ASBSIG and other key stakeholders and third sector partners.
- 4.5. The draft strategy was issued for consultation to a range of partner agencies, key stakeholders and local communities. The feedback received has been taken into account in the preparation of the final strategy document.
- 4.6. Consultation with the community included the 2019 “Positive Communities” events and survey which received 1082 responses from individuals who provided views on key anti-social behaviour issues and priorities.

5. Structure of the strategy

- 5.1. The strategy document comprises the following key sections:

- ◆ Background and context
- ◆ Our approach
- ◆ Strategic priorities and outcomes
- ◆ Implementation and monitoring arrangements
- ◆ Equalities and diversity

- 5.2. In addition to this, the document contains the following three appendices:

- ◆ Profile of anti-social behaviour in South Lanarkshire
- ◆ Outcome and action planning framework
- ◆ Links to other strategies and plans

6. Strategic priorities and outcomes

- 6.1. To enhance the understanding of anti-social behaviour issues across South Lanarkshire, a Strategic Needs Assessment and a process of priority setting was undertaken. From this process five strategic priorities were identified for anti-social behaviour, these are detailed in the table below alongside a summary of the reasons for their inclusion within the strategy:

	Strategic priority	Commentary
1.	Alcohol related anti-social behaviour	While public drinking crimes continue to reduce, residents continue to view alcohol as the main anti-social behaviour issue within local communities.
2.	Deliberate secondary refuse fires	Work has been ongoing since 2017 by the CSP to address the issue of refuse fires. While refuse fires attended by the Fire Service have positively reduced, the volume of deliberate fire-raising reported to the police has risen year-on-year. The high volume of littering and fly-tipping of household rubbish and items is a potential fire hazard and poses a threat of risk or harm.
3.	Domestic noise	The number of anti-social behaviour noise and neighbour nuisance incidents reported to the police are reducing; however, the number of noise complaints reported to the council is rising and domestic noise is one of the main anti-social behaviour issues affecting residents within local communities.
4.	Littering	Littering reported to the council's Environmental Services continues to rise. The levels of reporting continue to be high and littering is one of the main anti-social behaviour issues affecting residents in their local communities.
5.	Disorder	Disorder is a term used to describe a wide range of behaviours and issues that adversely impact on individuals and the wider community causing nuisance and concern. Disorder is one of the main anti-social behaviour issues affecting residents within local communities.

- 6.2. In order to address the range of anti-social behaviour related issues contained within these priorities, six strategic outcomes have also been developed as part of the strategy, these are:

Strategic outcomes	
1.	People behave responsibly in their attitude to alcohol
2.	People behave responsibly in relation to fire safety
3.	The impact of domestic noise is reduced
4.	Illegally discarded litter and household waste is reduced, improving the safety and attractiveness of communities
5.	Levels of disorder are reduced, improving safety within communities
6.	Partners engage with residents to promote and improve the availability of and access to services for those affected by antisocial behaviour

- 6.3. Appendix 2 of the strategy document contains an 'outcome and action planning framework', detailing how each of these outcomes will be delivered throughout the duration of the strategy.

7. Monitoring and review of the strategy

- 7.1. The strategy actions and outcomes will be subject to ongoing monitoring through the partnership Anti-social Behaviour Strategy Implementation Group (ASBSIG), with regular reports presented on progress in relation to each of the strategic priorities and outcomes.
- 7.2. This process will be supplemented with an annual review of the full strategy to take place at the end of each financial year. It is expected that the results of the review will be reported to key stakeholders, including ASBSIG, the Safer South Lanarkshire Steering Group and Safer South Lanarkshire Board.

8. Employee Implications

- 8.1. There are no employee implications arising from this report.

9. Financial Implications

- 9.1. There are no financial implications arising from this report.

10. Other Implications (Including Environmental and Risk Issues)

- 10.1. The content of this report will contribute to the evidence to support the requirements of the Annual Assurance Statement.

11. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 11.1. A screening determination was completed in relation to the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) which confirmed there is no need for a separate SEA for the Anti-social Behaviour Strategy.
- 11.2. An equality impact assessment (EqIA) was undertaken during the development of the Anti-social Behaviour Strategy to identify and mitigate any negative impacts and seek opportunities to promote equality. The assessment is that the proposals do not have any adverse impact on any of the protected characteristics groups.
- 11.3. To support the development of the draft the strategy consultation was undertaken with a wide range of partners, stakeholders and the community.

Daniel Lowe

Executive Director (Housing and Technical Resources)

14 October 2019

Link(s) to Council Values/Objectives

- ◆ Work with communities and partners to promote high quality, thriving and sustainable communities
- ◆ Support our communities by tackling disadvantage and deprivation and supporting aspiration

Previous References

- ◆ None

List of Background Papers

- ◆ Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy background paper
- ◆ South Lanarkshire Community Plan 2017-2027

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

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