

# Report

# 13

Report to:	<b>Housing and Technical Resources Committee</b>
Date of Meeting:	<b>13 July 2011</b>
Report by:	<b>Executive Director (Housing and Technical Resources)</b>

Subject:	<b>Anti-social Behaviour Annual Report 2010/2011</b>
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## 1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ advise the Committee of the publication of South Lanarkshire's Anti-social Behaviour Annual Report 2010/2011

## 2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) that the publication of the Anti-social Behaviour Annual Report 2010/2011 and the proposed arrangements for its distribution be noted.

## 3. Background

3.1. The South Lanarkshire Anti-social Behaviour Strategy emphasises our commitment to promoting awareness of services and the actions that the Council and its partners take to tackle anti-social behaviour. The Anti-social Behaviour Annual Report plays a key role in helping to progress this objective.

3.2. The content of the Annual Report for 2010/2011 has been prepared to reflect the outcome of the first annual review of South Lanarkshire's second Anti-social Behaviour Strategy.

3.3. The key purpose of the Anti-social Behaviour Annual Report is to:-

- ◆ provide information on our approach to dealing with antisocial behaviour and the services we provide
- ◆ advise the community and partners of the progress being made
- ◆ set out our priorities for the year ahead

## 4. The Anti-social Behaviour Annual Report 2010/2011

4.1. The Annual Report confirms that our approach to tackling anti-social behaviour is founded on partnership working and is fundamentally based around:-

- ◆ Problem Solving
- ◆ Neighbourhood Management
- ◆ Community Policing
- ◆ Community Engagement

- 4.2. Section 4 of the Annual Report provides a profile of the extent and nature of anti-social behaviour in the year. The analysis confirms that the reduction in anti-social behaviour crimes which was documented in the Anti-social Behaviour Strategy, 12% over the 5 year period between 2004 and 2009 has continued into 2010/2011. A comparison of the level of anti-social behaviour crimes in 2009/2010 with that for 2010/11 showed that a further reduction of 7% took place in the period.
- 4.3. The Anti-social Behaviour Strategy emphasises that monitoring the level of anti-social behaviour in our communities helps us to identify the impact of the actions we are taking. It also notes the importance of gauging people's perceptions and views on the impact which antisocial behaviour has on their lives. The residents' survey carried out in 2010 confirmed a number of positives in terms of people's perceptions of their neighbourhood and their safety, including:-
- ◆ people's perception of the place in which they live continues to be extremely positive with 88% of people across South Lanarkshire rating their neighbourhood as a very/quite good place to live (compared with 89% in 2008)
  - ◆ in terms of perception of neighbourhood, the gap between the most disadvantaged communities in South Lanarkshire and the area as a whole has been reduced. In the 15% most disadvantaged neighbourhoods in South Lanarkshire (as identified through the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation) there was an increase of 4% in the percentage of residents who rated their area as a very/quite good place to live from 68% in 2007 to 72% in 2010
  - ◆ when residents were asked what anti-social behaviour issues they had personally experienced in the past year, 70% of residents had not experienced any problems
  - ◆ 50% of residents who were surveyed recognise the Council's efforts in dealing with community safety issues as very/quite good compared to 43% in 2007

## 5. Progress and Achievement in 2010/2011

5.1. The Annual Report provides a summary of progress and achievements in the year. A summary of the initiatives and programmes featured in the report are highlighted below.

### 5.2. Joint Initiatives

5.2.1. During 2010/11 we continued to work with the police and our partners to target resources to address anti social behaviour issues in specific areas. Operation Sentinel was established to tackle problems of drug use, vandalism, graffiti and general disorder caused by local youths and gangs in the Overton area of Cambuslang. The operation was led by the Council's Anti-social Investigation Team with partners from Strathclyde Police, Criminal Justice Services, local Problem Solving Group, Street Base, Move the Goal Posts, Trading Standards, and Community Wardens

Significant reductions were achieved through the initiative in relation to crime in the area. After the completion of the operation a resident's survey was carried out, which revealed positive results.

### 5.3. Alcohol Drama

- 5.3.1. During 2010/2011 an interactive play was delivered to S1 pupils in 11 secondary schools and 2 Additional Support Needs schools across South Lanarkshire.

The play tackles the issues of alcohol consumption amongst young people and the anti-social behaviour that occurs as a result of this, it also encourages young people to think about making positive lifestyle choices in relation to alcohol and positively influencing their future actions and behaviours. To continue to reinforce this positive lifestyle message to young people, the drama will be rolled out during 2011/2012 to all secondary schools across South Lanarkshire.

### 5.4. Intensive Family Support Project

- 5.4.1. In 2006 South Lanarkshire Council was selected to be one of three national "Breaking the Cycle" family support pilot. Following a successful evaluation the work of the pilot has been continued through our Intensive Family Support Project. The project provides intensive family support to a limited number of families who have failed to respond to other support provisions due to their extreme behaviour and chaotic lifestyles. Over the last year 17 families have been supported with significant reductions achieved in the level of anti social behaviour complaints received in relation to them. At the same time, children within the families increased their rate of school attendance by 87%.

### 5.5. Hamilton Safer Streets

- 5.5.1. 2010/2011 was the fifth year in which the 'Hamilton Safer Streets' has been in operation. The initiative which has operated between December and January since 2005 has achieved significant reduction in anti-social behaviour within Hamilton town centre. Over the past two years (2009/2010 and 2010/2011) a survey was carried out to assess the impact of the initiative and identify how people using Hamilton town centre felt about the effectiveness of the programme. A comparison showed:-

- ◆ an improved awareness of the high police presence when visiting Hamilton Town Centre during the initiative (69% for 2010 compared with 55% for 2009)
- ◆ an increase in the proportion of those surveyed who felt that the level of anti social incidents had reduced since the initiative began (54% in 2010 compared with 43% in 2009)

Last year the initiative won the 'Rest of the UK' Regional Award from the Home Office Tilley Awards for its 'problem solving orientated' approach.

### 5.6. Particip8 Overton

- 5.6.1. The South Lanarkshire Community Safety Partnership was successful in a bid to the Scottish Government's 'Community Wellbeing Champions Initiative' to take forward a Participatory Budgeting pilot in Overton, Cambuslang. Overton was identified for the pilot to allow us to build upon the work that had been carried out through Operation Sentinel (see above) and increase resident participation in the community.

The pilot was designed and implemented according to the needs of the area, and the view expressed by its residents; and has demonstrated the overarching principles and approach to roll out the pilot into other communities, something we will be looking to do during 2011/2012.

## 5.7. Young Person's Support Project

- 5.7.1. The Clydesdale Young Person's Project set up through the Clydesdale Problem Solving Group aims to meet an identified gap in services provided for young people aged 16-25 years old. The key focus for the initiative is to prevent targeted young people from becoming homeless and help them successfully sustain a tenancy in their own right.

Referrals are taken directly from the Council's Homeless Team and Social Work Resources for young people leaving care. Over the last year the project received 18 referrals with 13 successfully supported into their own homes with 1 young person currently on the housing waiting list.

## 5.8. Anti Sectarianism Initiative

- 5.8.1. Supported by the Larkhall Problem Solving Group around 250 pupils from local primary schools in Larkhall and Stonehouse staged a showcase event at St Machan's Church in Larkhall to celebrate their work in tackling sectarianism.

A DVD and electronic workbook is currently being produced to be distributed to other schools as a learning resource ensuring that the subject of sectarianism continues to be tackled positively.

## 6. **Priorities for 2011/2012**

- 6.1. The report also sets out the priorities for the year ahead in continuing to tackle anti-social behaviour across South Lanarkshire, some of the key initiatives and programmes to be progressed in 2011/2012 are:-

- ◆ To roll out 'Participatory Budgeting' initiatives in other local communities who are experiencing high levels of anti-social behaviour
- ◆ To raise awareness of the dangers of alcohol consumption and the impact it has on communities by rolling out the alcohol drama 'Is This Me...?' to all secondary schools
- ◆ To continue the 'Hamilton Festive Initiative' - this successful initiative helping people safely enjoy Hamilton town centre over the festive period will be staged for the sixth successive year between December 2011 and January 2012.
- ◆ To further develop the way in which we engage communities to help us tackle anti-social behaviour and its underlying causes through our "Positive Communities" programme;
- ◆ During 2010/11 we established a protocol with Clyde Valley Housing Association to assist them to investigate some of their more complex cases of anti social behaviour. Over the coming year, we will look to continue to develop joint working to tackle anti social behaviour and enter into further agreements with other housing associations.
- ◆ To continue to tackle and reduce the incidence of violent crime and carrying of weapons by developing an action plan with our partners
- ◆ To reduce the incidence of Harassment and 'Hate' Crime with our partners in the Diversity Monitoring Group (DMG)

## 7. **Distribution of the Annual Report**

- 7.1. The Annual Report 2010/2011 will be distributed to partners and local community groups and copies of the annual report have been placed in the members' areas. The report will also be available to local residents within Q and As and local housing offices and on the Council website.

## **8. Employee Implications**

8.1. There are no employee implications.

## **9. Financial Implications**

9.1. The cost of publication of this document will be met within existing budgets.

## **10. Other Implications**

10.1. There is a risk to the Council that anti-social behaviour could increase if monitoring, via the Annual Report is not undertaken.

10.2. There are no issues of sustainability with the contents of this report.

## **11. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements**

11.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy and, therefore, no impact assessment is required.

11.2. There is no requirement to undertake any consultation in relation to the content of this report.

**Lindsay Freeland**

**Executive Director (Housing and Technical Resources)**

10 June 2011

### **Link(s) to Council Values/Improvement Themes/Objectives**

◆ Improving Community Safety

### **Previous References**

◆ H&TR Committee 25 November 2009 - ASB Annual Report 2009

### **List of Background Papers**

◆ Anti Social Behaviour Strategy 2010-2014

### **Contact for Further Information**

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

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