

Anti Social Behaviour

1. At our last meeting members requested that an update on anti social behaviour be brought to this meeting. The report attached as Appendix A has been prepared to cover the period 1st October 2009 to September 2010.
2. In summary:
 - a. During this period we have seen a 15% reduction in ASB incidents reported to the Police. A bigger reduction has been seen for incidents reported to the ASB Team -27%.
 - b. 70% of incidents dealt with by the ASB Team were generated by AS 13s, alcohol confiscations and section 27s (i.e. proactive work by Police and Council, rather than purely relative to complaints) which could suggest that the additional uniformed presence on the streets is having an impact on residents' perceptions of ASB as a problem.
 - c. The top five wards have remained fairly consistent across all data sets with Stockton Town Centre as the top ward followed by Stainsby Hill, then Mandale and Victoria, Billingham Central then Hardwick. It is worth noting that with the exception of Hardwick each of these wards has a 'town centre' within it.
 - d. Anti social behaviour continues to be male dominated and largely youth related. Of note 27% of all people receiving either an AS13, section 27 or alcohol confiscation were council (THL) tenants, as well as 42% of those who signed an ABC and one person who was given an ASBO.
3. From the end of August through to the end of October we have been conducting consultation around the Crime and Disorder magazine to identify key priorities for residents and anti social behaviour has come out as the top priority for respondents. Agenda item 17 discusses this in more detail.
4. Consideration needs to be given on what kind of performance measures we can use to measure our success in this area of work. Because incidents are based on perceptions targets relating to processes, for example number of incidents reported to Police and ASB Team, are not particularly useful for this. Similarly setting output targets such as numbers of ASBOs, ABCs, AS13s etc. could be problematic as performance will be dependent on our ability to remain

as proactive as we currently are but we cannot guarantee consistency with this until the impact of the Comprehensive Spending Review is known.

5. Measuring perceptions is one possibility and there are a couple of ways we could do this. We have previously tried using customer satisfaction surveys after cases have been closed but numbers of responses were so low that this measure was not an effective means of measuring success. The Police Authority have a telephone survey that we have been advised could be used however we cannot guarantee that this will run for the full three years of the plan as this will depend on the Crime Commissioner who will be elected by May 2012. Another option would be to use the Council's Viewpoint Survey which incorporates focus groups and to ask a similar question to that previously asked in the Place Survey about satisfaction levels with how the Police and Council deal with anti social behaviour as well as asking the feelings of safety questions from the Crime and Disorder magazine and MORI. This service is free.
6. Members are asked to:
 - a) consider the reports
 - b) discuss and agree appropriate performance measures that can be used for anti social behaviour.

Community Safety Manager
29th October 2010