

Harborough District Council



Report to Cabinet Meeting of 10th February 2025

Title:	Anti-social Behaviour Policy Refresh 2025
Status:	Public
Key Decision:	No
Report Author:	Sarah Pickering, Community Safety Partnership Manager
Portfolio Holder:	Cllr Jim Knight
Appendices:	A. Draft ASB Policy 2025 B. EIA for ASB Policy C. Quarter two ASB figures

Executive Summary

- i. This report presents the proposed HDC Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Policy 2025 which is reviewed every 5 years.
- ii. There have been some minor amendments with the addition of obnoxious odours and Neighbour disputes in the list of types of ASB that should be reported to HDC.
- iii. Names of partners have been updated and Weblinks added.
- iv. The Community Trigger has changed its name to the ASB Review.

Recommendations

- :
1. That Cabinet approves the HDC ASB Policy 2025.

Reasons for Recommendations

- I. To ensure HDC has a robust ASB policy in place, to help achieve sustained low levels of anti-social behaviour thus creating a safer environment.

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. To approve the refreshed HDC ASB Policy 2025

2. Background

HDC Anti-Social Behaviour Policy

- 2.1. The policy was last reviewed in 2019 and is reviewed every 5 years. There have been no major national legislative changes regarding ASB since the last policy, but the Community Trigger has changed its name to the ASB Review. The ASB Case Review, is a statutory process for victims of anti-social behaviour or hate incidents who believe they have not had a satisfactory response to their complaints. Where a locally determined threshold is met, victims can require the relevant bodies in the local area to undertake a formal review of the case, and those bodies have a statutory duty to undertake that review. Further details on the ASB Review can be found on the Council's web-site: [What is an ASB Case Review? | ASB Case Review | Harborough District Council](#)
- 2.2. The draft policy has been agreed at the Council's internal Corporate ASB group which includes, Environmental health, Environmental Services, Community Safety and planning Enforcement. It has also been presented to CMT and has been through Scrutiny in October 2024.
- 2.3. The Community Safety Team deal directly with around 100 ASB cases per year, these are case managed on a LLR wide system shared with the police – Sentinel. The Council also work jointly with Housing Associations and the police on cases that need multi-agency input. Police figures for ASB for last year to end March 2024 for the Harborough District were 383, down from 397 the year before.
- 2.4. High Risk cases and ASB hotspots are taken to a monthly Joint Action Group (JAG) for multiagency input and a Housing Liaison meeting meets monthly to discuss lower level ASB cases involving Housing Association properties to ensure joint working.
- 2.5. As well as enforcement tools and powers as set out in the ASB Policy the Council work closely with the Community Safety Partnership members including Leicestershire Police, with ASB being one of the main priorities of the present Three-Year Plan. This includes use of the CSP Vehicle to visit Towns and Villages across the District engaging with residents, to reassure and give advice. The Council also have a re-deployable camera that can be deployed in hotspot areas where there is suitable infrastructure. The CSP Vehicle and camera were part of a partnership plan to reduce ASB on Wellington place in Market Harborough earlier this year, along with the placing of signage regarding the use of motor vehicles and police patrols, resulting a reduction of calls to both HDC and the police.

3. Details

HDC ASB Policy 2025

- 3.1 There have been some minor amendments with the addition of obnoxious odours and Neighbour disputes in the list of types of ASB that should be reported to HDC - this will take into account the action the Council can take around the smell of cannabis using the incremental approach. Names of partners have been updated and Weblinks added. The Community Trigger has changed its name to the ASB Review.
- 3.2 The cessation document is under review at the moment by LCC and the final version of this will be added via a weblink. It may be that this process has been superseded by the ASB review process.

4. Implications of Decisions

Corporate Priorities

4.1. This report promotes the following corporate priorities of the Council:

Priority 2: Promoting health and wellbeing and encouraging healthy life choices

Priority 4: Supporting businesses and residents to deliver a prosperous local economy

Consultation

- 4.2. Consultations took place as below, with some minor amendments and additions to wording requested and completed.
- 4.2.1. Presentation of draft and discussion at internal corporate ASB group with Environmental Health and Planning Enforcement,.
- 4.2.2. Presentation of draft and discussion at Corporate Management Group.
- 4.2.3. Presentation of draft and discussion at Scrutiny October 2024

Financial

- 4.3 No direct financial implications arising from this update. There are no changes to the Community Safety Team budget required, with enforcement being delivered within existing resources.

Legal

- 4.3. The Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 provides the police, local authorities and other local agencies with flexible tools and powers that they can use to respond quickly and effectively to antisocial behaviour.
- 4.4. The Crime & Disorder Act 1998 sets out the legal requirements for local authorities, the police and other key partners & agencies to work together to tackle crime and disorder in their area in partnerships. Under the Police and Justice Act 2006, a duty was placed on the partnerships to join together in a formal strategic group to undertake frequent strategic assessments of levels and patterns of crime and drug

misuse in their area and to produce annual rolling Three-year community safety plans.

Environmental Implications

- 4.5. There are no implications to achieving net zero within the refreshed ASB policy.
- 4.6. The Council aim to be as environmentally sustainable as possible, in the work around anti-social behaviour.

Risk Management

- 4.7. There is also a wider General Enforcement Policy for HDC.

Equalities Impact

- 4.8. An Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) was undertaken for the ASB Policy – please see Appendix B.

Data Protection

- 4.9. There are not any impacts or issues relating to data protection arising from the report.

5. Alternative Options Considered

- 5.1. No alternatives were considered.

6. Recommendation

- 6.1. The Anti-Social Behaviour Policy is approved for the next 5 years.

7. Background papers

- 7.1 None