

**Report to:** Community Protection Panel

**Date:** 2 June 2008

**Subject:** Draft revised Wigan and Leigh Anti-social Behaviour Strategy 2008 - 2011

**Report of:** Director of Environmental Services

**Contact officer:** Ian Harrison 01942 827915

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**Purpose / summary:** To seek the views of Panel of the draft revised Anti-social Behaviour Strategy 2008 - 2011

**Alternative options considered and reason for selecting the one recommended:** Not to have an Anti-social Behaviour Strategy.

**Recommendation / decision:** The Panel is asked to note the report, comment and approve further development of the strategy.

**Key Decision:** This report does not involve a key decision.

**Risks / Implications:**

Financial:	Within existing resources
Staffing:	Within existing resources
Policy:	Within the legislative requirements of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and the Anti-social Behaviour Act 2003
Equal Opportunities - Has a Diversity Impact Assessment been conducted?	Yes – as part of the development of the strategy.
Wards affected:	All

**Property Implications – Does the proposal involve a reduction, addition or change to the Council’s asset base or its occupation?**

No

**If yes, have the property implications been agreed with the Corporate Property Officer?**

**Does this proposal have significant implications for the Council and the local population?**

A diversity impact assessment is not necessary at this stage, however, equality and diversity implications have been considered when producing this report.

**Does this proposal involve a new policy or procedure or significant changes to an existing policy or procedure?**

A diversity impact assessment is not necessary at this stage, however, equality and diversity implications have been considered when producing this report.

Has the Service Director - Borough Solicitor confirmed that the recommendations within this report are lawful and comply with the Council's Constitution? **Yes / No \***

Has the Executive Director Business Support Services confirmed that any expenditure referred to within this report is consistent with the Council's budget? **Yes / No \***

Are any of the recommendations within this report contrary to the Policy Framework of the Council? **Yes / No \***

\* delete which applicable

**For Cabinet reports only :**

Categorisation of the report:	<b>x</b>
Discussion leading to a decision	
Monitoring	
Sharing for corporate understanding	

	<b>x</b>
Discussion	
Decision	
Information	

**Tracking/Process:**

	Consultation	Ward Members	Partners
Panel	Overview & Scrutiny	Cabinet	Council
CPP 2 June 2008			

There are no Background Papers to this Report within the meaning of Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

Proper Officer Martin Kimber

Date 6 May 2008

## **1 Background:**

- 1.1 The first Anti-social Behaviour Strategy 2006-2008 outlined the activity proposed to deliver actions targeted specifically in combating anti-social behaviour across Wigan. The revised document summarises strategic activity and actions in future progress for 2008 – 2011. This latest strategy continues to reinforce Home Office guidance maintaining a balance between prevention, enforcement and reintegration/rehabilitation with an evidence-based approach focusing on specific outcomes.

## **2 Introduction:**

- 2.1 Wigan and Leigh Community Safety Partnership maintains committed in addressing anti-social behaviour across the Borough. The Partnership recognises that anti-social behaviour is caused by a small fraction of the Borough's population but has an immense and damaging impact within communities, local businesses and visitors to the area. It is well established that to successfully tackle anti-social behaviour a joined-up, holistic process, which avoids duplication, must be continually delivered.
- 2.2 Anti-social behaviour can assume a variety of forms, ranging from excessive noise, youth nuisance, intimidation and vandalism. This latest strategy builds on the excellent achievements already previously made and will continue address all types of behaviour that can blight neighbourhoods and damage communities.

## **3 Delivery mechanisms**

- 3.1 Following the environment review resources have now been reorganised to carry out their various functions in a different and more effective way across three diverse disciplines becoming Neighbourhood Teams: anti-social behaviour, cleansing and minor highway repairs . This will enable a more efficient delivery of visible frontline cleansing and minor highway repair services combining a robust, pro-active and locally tailored response to antisocial behaviour and environmental crime.
- 3.2 In conjunction with Neighbourhood Teams the PACT (Partners and Communities Together) process will deliver on issues that matter most to local people. This process will use both statistics and consultation exercises to inform what improvements needs to take place to improve the quality within the local area. This will include a range of local intervention actions delivered towards local priority issues using a community engagement model combining evidence led research and analysis

## **4 Conclusions:**

- 4.1 Since the inception of the first Anti-social Behaviour Strategy partners have delivered across the three strategic themes: people, neighbourhoods and reassurance. This revised Strategy will build on the successes and continue to develop and scrutinise providing a more efficient and robust service delivery across the partnership.

## Diversity Impact Assessment form

Section: Department of Environmental Services, Neighbourhood Services Division
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Policy/Service Area: Neighbourhood Services/Anti-social Behaviour
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Person Completing Form: Sandra Green	Date: 6 May 2008
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Do any of the below groups suffer specific disadvantage (please indicate)

	Yes	No		Yes	No
Race		√	Disability		√
Ethnicity		√	Gender		√
Age		√	Religion		√
Class		√	Sexual Orientation		√

Is there evidence of disadvantage or associated problems?
No

How was the information collected and/or who have you consulted with?
Information has been collected from Research and Information Section (Neighbourhoods Services Division) and also within Neighbourhood Teams.

Action Plan – <i>What specific actions are planned to tackle any disadvantage identified?</i>
Whilst at present no disadvantage has been identified, in relation to victim and person presenting anti-social behaviour will be personally tailored so special circumstances will be considered and needs addressed accordingly

Is the policy in line with current equality legislation and relevant codes of practice?
Yes

Timescale	
Responsibility	
Comments	

**Are the actions specified included in any other documents/plans?**

Departmental Service Plan	No
Section/Team Plan	Yes
Other (Specify)	ASB Process

Date for further review: 1 April 2009



## Wigan and Leigh Community Safety Partnership Anti-social Behaviour Strategy 2008-2011

Contact    Neighbourhood Teams  
              Unity House  
              Westwood Park Drive  
              Wigan  
              WN3 4HE

Tel:            01942 404021 (fax: 01942 767332)



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# FOREWARD

## **Mission Statement**

The Partnership will plan, deliver and evaluate positive action that reduces crime, fear of crime, drugs related harm and offending behaviour through multi-agency work acting alongside local residents – with the aim of creating safe, healthy and thriving communities

## **1 Background**

- 1.1 With the commencement of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 local authorities and the police have a statutory duty to work together to tackle crime and disorder and the fear of crime. The first Anti-social Behaviour Strategy 2006-2008 outlined the activity proposed to deliver the strategy. The Strategy reinforced Home Office guidance around prevention, enforcement and reintegration/rehabilitation with an evidence based approach focusing on specific outcomes.

## **2 Introduction**

- 2.1 Wigan and Leigh Community Safety Partnership are committed to addressing anti-social behaviour in the Borough. This second strategy will continue to promote the use of a twin track approach, which will balance enforcement with effective support intervention, tackle anti-social behaviour and disorder with swift, proportionate and effective action to challenge unacceptable behaviour whilst providing support to individuals and families.
- 2.2 Anti-social behaviour committed by a small fraction of the Borough has an immense damaging impact within communities, local businesses and visitors to the area. The Partnership recognises that anti-social behaviour cannot be tackled in isolation and embraces a joined-up process, avoiding duplication and ensuring a holistic and meaningful response is delivered.
- 2.3 The individuals who make up our communities each have different lifestyles, expectations and tolerances levels. Wigan and Leigh Community Safety Partnership helps neighbourhoods adopt a consensus view of what is and is not acceptable. Anti-Social Behaviour can cause individuals and communities despair and unhappiness.
- 2.4 A local area agreement (LAA) is a three year agreement that sets out the priorities for a local area agreed between central government and a local area.
- 2.5 From 1 April 2007, Local Area Agreements (LAAs) were increased to every local authority area in England and each LAA is required to include an outcome that will create respect in communities and reduce anti-social behaviour. LAA will develop the way by which the National Respect drive will be delivered in local communities.
- 2.6 Previously LAAs were divided into 4 thematic 'blocks' to which funding streams were attached. In the new process of LAA the 4 themes remain as a guide to ensure national priorities are considered within the target setting but that the funding will no longer be limited to these themes. This new process gives the Partnership greater flexibility on how resources are apportioned to meet the local needs. The themes have now been altered to include an environmental theme. The four themes are as follows:
- Children & Young People
  - Safer & Stronger Communities

- Healthier Communities and Older People
- Economic Development and the Environment

### **3 Definition of anti-social behaviour**

3.1 Anti-social behaviour is a general term used to describe a whole range of behaviours and activities that may effect the quality of life of individuals or communities. The legal definition of Anti-social Behaviour is: **‘acting in an anti-social manner that caused or was likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to one or more persons not of the same household as the complainant’**

Examples of anti-social behaviour may include:

- Swearing
- Shouting
- Dropping litter/rubbish/fly tipping
- Being aggressive towards people
- Alcohol related
- Sexual acts
- Noise
- Vandalism
- Graffiti

### **4 Measurement of ASB within Wigan and Leigh**

**DATA TO BE INCLUDED IN FINAL VERSION.**



## **5 Strategic Aims and Outcomes**

- 5.1 This strategy sets out the Wigan and Leigh Community safety Partnership's approach in dealing with anti-social behaviour between 2008 – 2011. The strategic aims are linked to LAA targets and also Public Service Agreement Targets, which are as follows:
- Dealing with local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by the local council and police
  - Perception of anti-social behaviour
  - Satisfaction with the way the police and local council dealt with anti-social behaviour
  - Satisfaction of different groups with the way police and local council dealt with anti-social behaviour
  - Understanding of local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by the local council and police
  - PSA 23 Tackle the crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour issues of greatest importance in each locality, increasing public confidence in the local agencies involved in dealing with these issues
- 5.2 Underpinning this strategy will be the development of an action plan created to address neighbourhood priorities. It will deliver along specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time limited (SMART) objectives based on a problem methodology, ensuring more responsive and holistic outcomes.

## **6. Current Activity**

- 6.1 Building on work currently delivered on behalf of the Partnership a recent review of the process has been undertaken and accepted by the Community Protection Panel and Children and Young People Panel. The process is largely informed by the Contact Cards System is operated by Greater Manchester Police in conjunction with Neighbourhood Teams. Contact cards are issued to any person acting in an anti-social manner and provides an intelligence led process. It also alerts parents/guardians and partners, of problems at early stages ensuring an early intervention approach is carried out. This case management system also forms the basis of any enforcement action in a quick and balanced manner.
- 6.2 The updated process now encourages consistency across the borough and allows individuals to be assessed with appropriate interventions being delivered in line with the seriousness and type of anti-social behaviour present. Vital within this updated process is that it creates the right balance between preventative intervention and specific enforcement action to address the most prolific and serious anti-social behaviour.
- 6.3 The process deters silo working and avoids duplication, encourages a more streamlined focused delivery of the service.

## **7 The Way Forward**

- 7.1 The Environment Review identified opportunities to organise resources to carry out their various functions in a different and more effective way. The introduction of Neighbourhood Teams will enable more efficient delivery of visible frontline cleansing and minor highway repair services . It will also provide a more robust, pro-active and locally tailored response to antisocial behaviour and environmental crime.
- 7.2 Resources from Cleansing, Highways and the ASBU have been shifted into Neighbourhood Teams to allow us to meet community need. Neighbourhood Teams will deliver core cleansing and highways repairs and retain co-ordination of the Anti-social Behaviour contact card system and process. It also has an additional core remit, which includes litter and dog fouling enforcement, and a supportive role to assist specialist services, including the fly tipping investigation and environmental education teams.
- 7.3 Alongside Neighbourhood Teams the PACT (Partners and Communities Together) is a process that partner agencies and communities will take together to identify and deal with issues that matter most to local people. This process will use both statistics and consultation exercises to inform what improvements needs to be done to improve the quality within the local area. This will include a range of local intervention actions delivered towards local priority issues using a community engagement model combining evidence led research and analysis.

## **8 Strategic Links**

- 8.1 The National Respect Action Plan builds on the drive to tackle anti-social behaviour and emphasises the need to develop solutions in dealing with the underlying causes delivering an early intervention approach where problems occur tailored to specific need. Linking into the six main strands of the Respect Action Plan the focus on prevention, enforcement and resettlement/rehabilitation underpins the delivery of this anti-social behaviour strategy. These themes are as follows:
- Supporting families
  - A new approach to the most challenging families
  - Improving behaviour and attendance in schools
  - Activities for children and young people
  - Strengthen communities
  - Effective enforcement and community justice.

8.2 “Aiming high for young people: a ten year strategy for positive activities” is a strategy delivering the transformation of facilities and support services for young people in England, in particular those in deprived areas. It drives forward the notion of young people being able to take part in enjoyable and purposeful activities within their free time, developing new skills and ultimately raise their aspirations.

8.3 “Every child matters: Change for Children” is the national framework for local change programmes building services centred around the needs of the children and young people, embedding a minimising risk and maximising opportunity strategy. The outcomes are:

- Be healthy
- Stay safe
- Enjoy and achieve
- Make a positive contribution
- Achieve economic well being

## **9 Review of the Delivery**

9.1 Wigan Council’s performance management process will be used to monitor each year the strategic aims alongside internal Departmental Performance Reviews.

9.2 The Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) is responsible for ensuring the delivery of the LAA is undertaken. The LSP has incorporated the Local Strategic Management Group, made up of key Chief Officers and guarantees that there is a clear accountability and scrutinize function making sure that services are dovetailed to address the local priorities and targets within LAA.