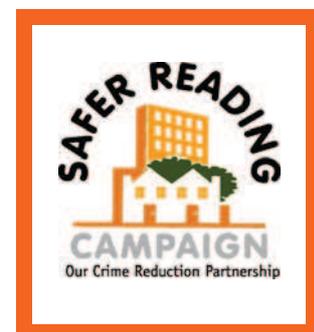


Safer Reading Partnership

Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy 2008 - 11

Version date: 21 November
2008

Review Date: 14 October
2009



1. Introduction

- 1.1 This document sets out the Safer Reading Partnership's response to the issues of anti-social behaviour (ASB) aimed at ensuring a peaceful environment for people who live, work and visit Reading.
- 1.2 The strategy takes account of a number of existing local and national strategies, policies and procedures (see annex A).
- 1.3 How people feel about their neighbourhood or where they work within Reading is affected by how safe they feel and how confident they are that they can go about their daily lives without being harassed or threatened. This may be due to environmental factors or from perceived or the actual responsiveness of services to any problem they might experience.

- 1.4 The Safer Reading Partnership's Mission Statement states:

"We will continue to make Reading a safer place for those who live, work and visit here through a reduction in crime and disorder.

We will do this by:

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| Reducing the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour |
| Tackling drug and alcohol-related criminality through treatment and enforcement |

- 1.5 Anti-social behaviour can range from dropping litter to serious harassment. Most people are therefore affected by anti-social behaviour to some degree or another. People's expectation that anti-social behaviour will be dealt with has generally increased but there are very different tolerance levels and expectations. Those with the lowest tolerance levels can have the highest expectations, while those with the highest tolerance levels can have the lowest expectations. The balance needs to be right - for some people anti-social behaviour is infrequent and mildly irritating but for others it has a serious adverse effect on their health, peace of mind and quality of life.
- 1.6 The Safer Reading Partnership has adopted a definition of anti-social behaviour that reflects both the quantity and the seriousness of the anti-social behaviour¹. The level of intervention taken by the

¹ Reading Crime and Disorder Partnership minutes (August 2005)

Partnership or an individual agency will be dependent on these two factors. The definition is:

*“Behaviour causing damage, disturbance, distress, harm or fear which has a **significant effect** on people’s lifestyles, routines or their environment. **Persistence, intensity and the number of incidents involved are relevant factors. The behaviour need not be a breach of the criminal law**”.*

- 1.7 Reading’s Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership’s (CDRP) strategic assessment identified that anti-social behaviour was high on local peoples priority. National comparators from 2005/06 show Reading in the bottom quartile for a range of neighbourhood indicators including percentage of land and highways from which unacceptable levels of graffiti are visible, and the percentage of residents who find the following to be a very or fairly big problem in their area - abandoned cars, numbers of rough sleepers, noisy neighbours, alcohol related disorder, drug using and dealing and vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage to property.

In tackling nuisance behaviour in all its forms, Reading CDRP needs to look at the wider picture and recognise that whilst there is no excuse for such behaviour, there may be some reasons why it is happening in the first place. There are clear correlations, for example, between anti-social behaviour hotspots and areas of socio-economic deprivation and areas that have high rates of young people not in education, training or employment.

In some areas of the Borough there is a tendency towards a high expectation, low tolerance culture amongst many adults which shows itself in issues around ball games in the street, youths gathering etc that are not automatically linked to anti-social behaviour. Areas with a high percentage of old and young people tend to have particularly high rates of anti-social behaviour reported.

Data on neighbourhood issues is collected in a variety of formats and by a number of different agencies. There are particular overlaps in areas such as criminal damage (most incidents of graffiti are reported to the council, rather than to the police, and similarly most cases of arson are reported to the fire services).

2. Objectives of the Strategy

2.1 Through working together in partnership we will:

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| Effectively tackle the causes and deal with the consequences |
| Take appropriate action against perpetrators and support victims and witnesses |

2.2 There is often no simple solution to the problem of anti-social behaviour. This strategy therefore identifies those options currently being used by partner agencies, which may be pursued either individually or in combination, in order to achieve the desired outcome.

2.3 The strategy sets these out in four main areas:

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| Prevention |
| Intervention |
| Enforcement |
| Witness and Victim Support |

Figure 1 indicates how this fits together and shows graphically where the majority of work is likely to take place.

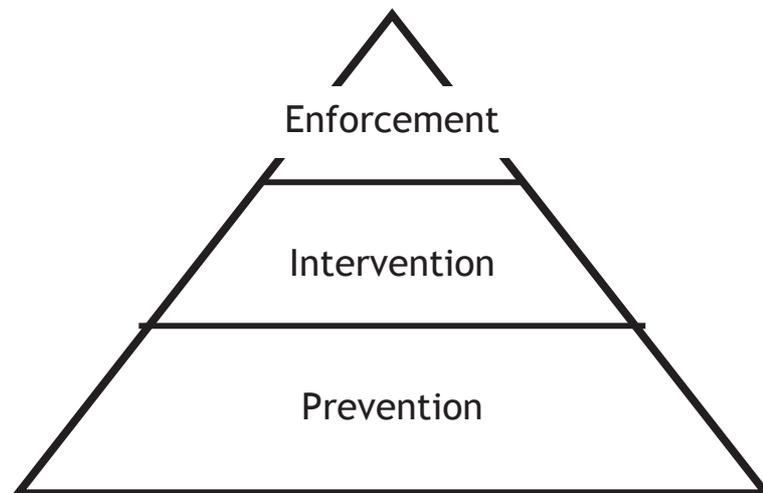


Figure 1: Anti-social behaviour Triangle

2.4 The prime objective is to use a problem solving approach. Legal action should only be pursued if this offers the most appropriate and

effective course and normally after other measures have been considered and/or failed.

It should be remembered that swift legal action in serious cases could provide an effective respite for victims whilst other preventative and intervention action is put in place.

The problem-solving triangle (figure 2) may be a useful tool in ensuring all options are considered.

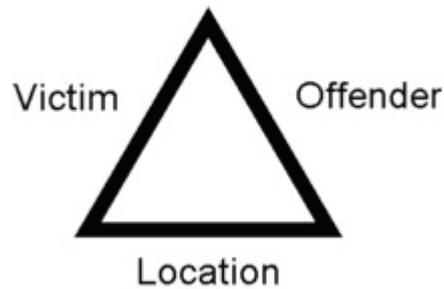


Figure 2: Problem Solving Triangle

3. Achieving our Objectives

3.1 Working in partnership with all appropriate agencies we will:

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| Provide a non-emergency point of contact available to all those living, working or visiting Reading. |
| Identify areas subject to anti-social behaviour and those responsible. |
| Through community based forums and panels such as Neighbourhood Action Groups and Safer Reading Forums, involve local communities in identifying priorities and solutions to anti-social behaviour in their area. |
| Through the Anti-Social Behaviour Action Groups (ASBAGs), Prevention Panels and the Borough Enforcement Group (BEG) consider, implement and monitor appropriate intervention measures to tackle anti-social behaviour. |
| Through the Anti-Social Behaviour Multi Agency Panel consider, agree and monitor appropriate legal intervention measures ² . |
| Pursue a single agreed approach to tackling anti-social behaviour within Reading, which takes account of all partners' local and national targets. |
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² This group does not cover legal action taken under housing legislation.

Annex B outlines how these groups interact.

4. Working in Partnership

- 4.1 Only through working in partnership and close co-operation with the widest range of organisations - public, private and voluntary, community and faith sectors - will we be able to achieve our objectives.
- 4.2 Consultation amongst the partners on options to be pursued in individual cases is essential. Factors that could influence their decision include the:

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| Views of the victims |
| Views of other agencies and stakeholders involved |
| Seriousness of the problem |
| Feasibility of the suggested intervention |
| Proportionality of the suggested remedy in relation to the problem |
| Likelihood of the proposed remedy proving effective |

It may prove difficult to identify all those partners or stakeholders who have an interest in the problem. This may be especially true where the perpetrator is known. Where this is the case and the perpetrator is under 18 then the Common Assessment Framework (CAF) should be considered. Where the perpetrator is over 18 other information sharing protocols should be used to facilitate the free flow of information. This strategy acknowledges the desire to work within any future Information Sharing Agreement (ISA).

- 4.3 The role of the voluntary, community and faith sector should not be underestimated. This sector provides an enormous amount of universal and targeted work both with young people and other vulnerable groups within Reading. These groups and organisations regularly work with thousands of people and provide hundreds of hours of valuable service to the community each week.

5. Prevention

The section sets out the current services partners use to tackle anti-social behaviour.

The Partnership recognises the importance of keeping a balance between prevention, intervention and enforcement. The majority of its work will fall within the prevention and intervention criteria, with only a small number of cases requiring enforcement. All of this work

must consider the effect of the anti-social behaviour on the victim and community.

5.1 Young People

The Partnership acknowledges that young people are sometimes the cause or the victims of anti-social behaviour. We will continue to work in partnership to develop interventions and a common approach to tackling issues for young people that may be at risk of becoming, or are already, anti-social behaviour victims or perpetrators.

Where unacceptable behaviour is identified, the Partnership will support the most appropriate intervention to redress the behaviour. It will develop and maintain a problem solving structure/approach to deal with youth related anti-social behaviour through multi-agency action. This strategy will take account of new structures within the Integrated Youth Development Service, including locality teams, the Children’s Action Teams and Prevention Panels.

The Partnership will support the education of young people regarding anti-social behaviour and its impact on individuals and their communities. It will continue to support consultation with young people about their needs and fears, whilst seeking their engagement (see Section 9).

The Partnership will look to take forward the Youth Taskforce Action Plan approach and as such any response must combine a “triple track” of:

- **Tough enforcement** where the behaviour is unacceptable or illegal;
- **Non-negotiable** support to address the underlying causes of poor behaviour or serious difficulties;
- **Better prevention** to tackle problems **before** they become serious and entrenched, and to prevent problems arising in the first place.

Current interventions include:

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| Delivery of street based out-reach work (Integrated Youth Development Service/Source Team/Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector) |
| Street Games (Sport Reading) |
| Development and delivery of targeted youth support for vulnerable young people (Integrated Youth Development Service / Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector) |
| 1-1 work with young people who are at risk of becoming involved in crime or anti-social behaviour through the Youth Inclusion and Support Panel (YISP) (PAYP/Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector) |

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| Provision of holistic and intensive support to enable young people to remain engaged or engage in employment, education or training opportunities (Integrated Youth Development Service/ Connexions) |
| Open and targeted programmes (Positive Futures/Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector) |
| Working in schools around citizenship. (RBC Housing/Safer Communities/Wardens/Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service/ Integrated Youth Development Service/School Improvement) |
| Safer Schools Partnership (Thames Valley Police) |
| Young Fire Fighter (Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service) |
| Warden Scheme environmental initiatives (Wardens) |
| Play Rangers (TBC) |
| Delivery of activity programmes targeting young people at risk of anti-social behaviour and crime, including junior Youth Inclusion Programme, Positive Futures activities (Integrated Youth Development Service/Connexions/Sports Development/NACRO) |
| Multisystemic Therapy Treatment (Integrated Youth Development Service) |
| Kickz Project (Voluntary Sector) |

5.2 Civic Pride

Local pride in a neighbourhood is likely to reduce overall levels of anti-social behaviour, the Partnership will work with Reading's current Civic Pride initiative "Your Reading" and any future initiatives. We recognise the need to work with all members of the community of all age groups to encourage an ownership and pride in their area. Current initiative include:

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| Targeted and general social education (Environmental Services ³ / Voluntary, Community and Faith Groups) |
| Robust and well-funded programmes such as the graffiti clean up programme. (Environmental Services/ Parks/Highways) |
| Environmental days (Fire and Rescue Service/Wardens/Police/ Environmental Services/Voluntary, Community and Faith Groups/ Housing) |
| Reading in Bloom (ENCAS) |
| Estate/Good Neighbour Agreements (Housing) |
| MORE - Reward scheme for good behaviour (Housing) |
| Promotion of Residents/Tenants Groups (Housing/Voluntary, Community and Faith Groups) |
| Festivals/Community Events (Marketing and Promotions/ Voluntary, Community and Faith Groups) |
| Action Weeks (Housing) |
| Estate walkabouts/inspections (Housing/Environmental Services/ |

³ Environmental Services in this context refers to the wider environmental services which may include all or some of the following agencies (Environmental Health, Trading Standards and Streetcare)

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| Wardens) |
| Neighbourhood Management Action Plans (Housing) |
| Good Neighbour schemes (Housing) |
| Parks strategy (Parks) |
| Continue to promote and raise awareness of the single line of reporting (All) |
| Promote young people's involvement in their community and celebrate their achievements (Reading Youth Council, Integrated Youth Development Service) |

5.3 Alcohol Strategy

The Partnership recognises the role alcohol plays in relation to anti-social behaviour. It will look to the wider Berkshire West and Reading-based Alcohol Strategies to include measures to reduce alcohol related anti-social behaviour. The Partnership acknowledges the importance of any local strategy to reflect the national aims as set out in "*Safe, Sensible, Social. The next steps in the National Alcohol Strategy*" and the priority actions of:

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| Tougher enforcement to ensure under 18s are not sold alcohol |
| Support for parents to take responsibility for their children's drinking |
| Clamping down on irresponsible alcohol promotions |
| Targeted enforcement and support for alcohol-related offenders |
| Sustained challenge to our culture of drinking to excess |
| Ensuring that the alcohol industry plays its part in reducing harm |

The Strategy will work to the guidance set out in the Youth Alcohol Action Plan and the Governments plans to:

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| Work with the police and the courts to stop and make it clear that unsupervised drinking by young people under-18 in public places is unacceptable |
| Recognise that drinking by young people in the home is clearly the responsibility of parents and families, but provide clearer health information for parents and young people about how consumption of alcohol can affect children and young people. The Action Plan announces that the Chief Medical Officer will produce clear guidelines for families |
| Work with the alcohol industry to continue the good progress made to reduce the sale of alcohol to under-18s but also in marketing and promoting alcohol in a more responsible way. |

Current interventions include:

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| Delivery of universal preventative and targeted specialist services to prevent drug and alcohol harm (Integrated Youth Development Services) |
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| Alcohol Restriction Zones (Police/Safer Communities/ Environmental Services) |
| Robust action on licensed premises selling to those underage (Trading Standards) |
| Street out-reach work (Source Team / Voluntary, Community and Faith Groups) |

5.4 Media Message

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| Promotion of enforcement action (Police/Community Safety/ Housing/Environmental Health/Environmental Services/Trading Standards) |

5.5 Policies and Procedures

The following policies and procedures may be used in the prevention of anti-social behaviour:

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| Adaptable policies to reflect changes and improvements in responses (Environmental Services) |
| Hoax Call Challenge Policy (Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service) |
| Use of Introductory/Probationary Tenancies (Housing) |
| Explanation of anti-social behaviour procedures and consequences to all new tenants (Housing) |
| Use of Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABCs) at the start of a tenancy where there are known issues (Housing) |
| Local lettings policy (Housing) |
| Surveillance policy (Housing) |

5.6 Others

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| Maximise the use of visible capable guardians (Housing/ Environmental Services/Police) |
| Designing out criminal and Anti-social behaviour opportunities (Environmental Services/Community Safety/Housing) |
| Signage information and leaflets (Environmental Services/ Community Safety/Police) |
| Mentoring Schemes (Voluntary, Community and Faith Groups) |
| Supported lodgings (Housing) |
| Use of Housing support officers (Housing) |
| Special conditions of tenancy (Housing) |

6. Intervention

The Partnership recognises that early, effective and efficient intervention is vital and will resolve the vast majority of all anti-social behaviour incidents. The National Audit Office found that:

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| 65% of people desisted from anti-social behaviour after the first intervention |
| 85% of people desisted from anti-social behaviour after the second intervention |
| 93% of people desisted from anti-social behaviour after the third intervention |

Any intervention put in place must contain a mixture of support and sanction. The key aims of any intervention are to:

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| Enable the individual to recognise the consequences of their behaviour |
| Ensure that they change their behaviour and |
| Protect victims, witnesses and the community |

6.1 Warning Letter /Advice

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| Face to face contact with perpetrators (Environmental Services/Housing/Environmental Health/Community Safety) |
| Pre-enforcement education tool (Environmental Services) |
| Warning letters (Environmental Services/Environmental Health/Housing/Community Safety/Police) |
| Nuisance vehicle warnings (Police) |
| Housing Support Officers (Housing) |
| Issuing Notice Seeking Possession (Housing) |
| Issuing Notice Requiring Possession (Housing) |
| Warnings under Section 27 Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006 (Police) |
| Yellow Card / Red Card warning system for under-18s found drinking alcohol in a public place (Community Safety Team) |

6.2 Capable Guardians

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| Visible presence such as Wardens, Taxi Marshals (Environmental Services/Environmental Health/Community Safety/Housing/ Police) |
| Use of CCTV (Housing/Police) |
| Use of noise monitoring equipment (Housing/Environmental Health) |
| Play Rangers (Integrated Youth Development Service) |

6.3 Community Led Solutions

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| Local community involvement ⁴ (Environmental Services/Police/ Safer Community/Housing) |
| Forums (Safer Community) |
| Neighbourhood Action Groups (Police) |
| Community conferencing (Housing) |
| Residents/Friends of groups (Voluntary, Community and Faith Groups) |

6.4 Area Based Restriction

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| Alcohol Restriction Zones (Police/ Safer Communities/ Environmental Services) |
| Selective deployment of signage (Police/Environmental Services) |
| Underage test purchasing operations (Trading Standards/Police) |
| Dispersal Orders (Police) |

6.5 Intervention Schemes/Courses

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| Youth Inclusion Support Panels (Housing/Integrated Youth Development Services/Youth Offending Service/Police) |
| Mediation (Housing/Community Safety) |
| Positive Activities for Young People key workers (Integrated Youth Development Service) |
| 1-1 work with young people (Integrated Youth Development Services/Positive Futures/Source Team) |
| Street-based work targeting identified hotspots and open spaces ⁵ (Integrated Youth Development Services) |
| Prolific and Priority Offender (PPO) Scheme (Police/Probation) |
| Working with young people to prevent deliberate fires - Evolution and Phoenix Projects (Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service) |
| Fire Setting Counselling (Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service) |
| Intensive Family Support Programme (Community Safety Team / DEC's) |
| Family Support Programmes (ASB Parenting Coordinator) |
| Direct working with young people convicted of anti-social offences to help improve their local community (Intergrated Youth development Service/YOS) |
| Joint working between Youth Offending and Youth Engagement Services, enabling young people to receive support / intervention following the end of a statutory order (Integrated Youth Development Service/YOS) |
| Youth Inclusion Programme (Children's Panel) |
| Prevention Panels (Integrated Youth Development Service) |

⁴ Including tenants and residents groups

⁵ Includes Play Rangers

6.6 Non Legally Binding Agreements

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| Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABCs) (Housing/Police/ Community Safety) |
| Parental Control Agreements (Housing) |
| Parental Contracts (TBC) |
| Mutually Agreed Action Plans (Housing) |
| Neighbourhood Agreements (Housing) |

6.7 Drugs and Alcohol

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| Inclusion of drug misuse as part of the needs assessment within the Common Assessment Framework (Integrated Youth Development Service) |
| Specialist drugs workers for those involved within the criminal justice system (Integrated Youth Development Service/DIP) |
| Outreach work by drug workers and Source volunteers with vulnerable groups (Integrated Youth Development Service) |

6.8 Others

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| Intelligence gathering and use of databases (Housing/Police/ Community Safety/Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service/ Wardens) |
| Individual and multi-agency case working (All) |
| Multi-Agency problem solving (All) |
| Managing Expectations (Housing) |
| Signposting to other agencies (Housing/Wardens/Community Safety) |

7. Enforcement

Whilst enforcement action represents only a small part of the overall work to reduce anti-social behaviour its selective use will send a very clear message to those acting in this way. It will also demonstrate to victims, witnesses and communities that the law will protect them. Current enforcement options include:

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| Fixed Penalty Notices (Environmental Services/Trading Standards /Police) |
| Removal of abandoned/untaxed vehicles (Environmental Services) |
| Criminal Court Action (Environmental Services/Police) |
| Penalty Notice for Disorder (Police) |
| Implementation of Dispersal Orders (Police) |
| Crack house closures (Police) |
| Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs) (Police/Housing/Safer Community) |

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| Housing Injunctions (Housing) |
| Possession Orders (Housing) |
| Demotion Orders (Housing) |
| Noise Abatement Orders (Environmental Health) |
| Seizure of Nuisance Vehicle (Police) |
| Support for injunctions under protection from Harassment Act (Housing) |
| Community-based reparation (Parks) |
| Parenting Orders (YOS/Education/RSL LA) |
| Noise Equipment Seizer Notice (Environmental Health) |
| Section 222 (Local Authority Departments) |
| Drug Intervention Orders (Police/Local Authority Departments/ RSLs) |
| Individual Support Orders (YOS) |
| Designated Public Place Orders (Local Authority) |

8. Victim and Witness Support

The Partnership recognises that it can only effectively tackle the impact of anti-social behaviour with the support of the community. It does not underestimate the courage of those victims and witnesses willing to come forward and report anti-social behaviour in their area. The partnership will put the support of victims and witnesses at the heart of its strategy (see section 9). Current action includes:

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| Out of hours call provision (Housing) |
| Witness Support procedures (Housing) |
| Working with victims of bullying (Integrated Youth Development Service) |
| Victims Charter (Police) |
| Empowering victims to take action (Police/Environmental Service) |
| Victim/Community Impact statements (Police) |
| Individual Support package (Police) |
| Use of Professional Witnesses (Police/Housing) |
| Target Hardening (Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service/ Housing) |
| Victim Support Unit (Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service) |
| Management Transfer/Temporary Transfer (Housing) |
| Witness Support Meetings ⁶ (Housing) |
| Restorative Justice Service to victims of young offenders (Integrated Youth Development Service/YOS) |

⁶ Including court support service and special measures for court

9. Strategy Development

The Partnership recognises the need to develop further and strengthen the way it tackles anti-social behaviour within Reading. Many of the strategies around prevention, intervention and enforcement have evolved over time and are based on either a perceived need or in direct response to new legislation. Whilst these have proved effective in the past, improvements in partnership working and co-operation, together with the need to work more efficiently and effectively, has identified a need to be more focused in where we place our limited resources.

Many partnerships and in particular the Safer Reading Partnership have, and continue to, move towards a victim focused and preventative agenda. It acknowledges that the steps forward it has made over the past two strategies have been focused on putting the building blocks in place to tackle existing issues in a reactive way. This, along with improvements in performance management, have focused the Partnership and contributed to achieving real successes in reducing crime and anti-social behaviour.

In the past year or so we have seen this focus move towards centring the approach on the victim, especially in the area of hidden and hate crime. The second change in focus is to look towards longer-term prevention in terms of both re-offending and preventing people from offending in the first place.

The development of this strategy offers a timely opportunity to take up these two themes.

9.1 Victim Focus

A new victim and witness support procedure is currently being developed and over the early part of this strategy this will be progressed further to include:

Better links to the voluntary, community and faith groups. Making better use of the voluntary sector is essential in maximising the most appropriate support for the victim and witness. This will include improved links with Victim Support Berkshire and better joint working between them and our warden scheme together with the use of community faith groups to support Black and Ethnic Minority (BME) Groups and specialist voluntary sector organisation to support other hard to reach and vulnerable groups such as young people, mental health and the elderly.

Improving links to the Safer Reading Forums in order to identify opportunities for focused target hardening around the area where

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| victims and witnesses live. |
| Ensuring every action plan produced by the ASBAGs includes an element focussing on how the victim(s) and witness(es) will be supported and protected during the process. |
| <p>During the coming year we will try to identify why some groups and communities are more likely to suffer from anti-social behaviour than others. In the following year (2009/10) we will look to develop this further and identify ways of empowering communities to take action. This will be carried out within existing structures including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Thriving Neighbourhoods Programme ○ Safer Schools ○ Tenants and Residents Groups ○ Neighbourhood Action Groups and ○ Safer Reading Forums |

9.2 Prevention

As identified in Section 5 a large amount of prevention work is already taking place. There is need to focus this work and ensure that it is both effective and efficient. Many individual organisations and groups are already developing prevention measure and the Partnership will support and work with these groups to ensure the prevention of anti-social behaviour is taken into account where appropriate.

The Partnership also accepts that the prevention agenda is very large. Due to limited resources the Partnership needs to narrow down the prevention focus. Therefore it is intended that over the duration of this strategy this resource will focus on young people.

During the development of this strategy it became apparent that work to identify intervention points in young peoples live was already taking place. It is intended that the future development of the strategy will work with and along side the logic modelling process together with the work recently undertaken by the Youth Offending Service.

The Partnership recognises that family problems, poor education attainment and unemployment together with alcohol and drug misuse can all contribute to anti-social behaviour. It will work with support agencies within the Children's Action Teams structure to deliver diversionary and development activities that aim to support young people according to their age, specific needs and level of involvement in anti-social behaviour. This must be based on a clear understanding of the intervention points identified. It will support interventions which set local standards of acceptable behaviour for young people, engage with them in changing their own behaviour and help them tackle some of the underlining problems.

It will also look for guidance and influence from the new Community Strategy and Local Area Agreement to ensure they are fully integrated. It will also use the development of the Partnership's new rolling plans as a way of taking forward some of the work and ideas that come out of the modelling process.

It is intended that a "risk assessment" tool for anti-social behaviour will be developed and agreed to enable practitioners to identify key risk factors, at the earliest possible stage, so that the most appropriate prevention and intervention measures can be used. It is hoped that risk assessment tools already in place throughout the Partnership can be used rather than building new processes.

It will build upon the current parenting intervention arrangements and the good practice already identified through the anti-social behaviour Parenting Worker.

It will ensure action plans are more integrated and make better use of the drug and alcohol intervention processes.

It will also make better use of, and work with the many voluntary, community and faith groups, to help deliver the most appropriate intervention for young people.

10. Performance Management

Only through a clear and accountable process of performance management will the Partnership be able to fully monitor the impact of the strategy on the levels of anti-social behaviour within Reading.

Table 1 below shows the Partnerships targets and plan associated with anti-social behaviour.

Priority: Reducing Fear of Crime and Improving Confidence

| | | | |
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| | | | |
| Lead Responsibility: | Reading Borough Council | | |
| Supporting Officers: | Debbie Ward | | |
| Delivery Group or mechanism: | Fear of Crime and Service Delivery Group (formally Neighbourhood Delivery Group) | | |
| | | | Measured by: |
| Dealing with local concerns about ASB and crime by local Council and Police | NI 21 LAA (2) | To be set in Year 1 | To be set at refresh of LAA for Year 2 and 2 - awaiting results of survey in March 2009 |
| Perceptions of drug use or drug dealing as a problem | NI 42 LAA (2) | 59% set in 06/07 | Year 1 4% reduction Revisions to be set at refresh of LAA for Year 2 and 3 |
| Perception of Anti-Social Behaviour | NI 17 | 41% set in 2006/07 | Local target to be set via "The Place" survey |
| Perceptions of parents taking responsibility for the behaviour of their children | NI 22 | 64% set in 2006/07 | Local target Year 1 66% |
| Understanding of local concerns about Anti-Social Behaviour and crime | NI 27 | Not available | To be set at refresh of LAA for Year 2 and 3 |
| Arson incidents | NI 33 | See RT7a,b,c | See RT7a,b,c |
| Reduce arson deliberate fire - deliberate primary fires (non vehicle) | RT7a | 68 | With Stretch 63 - By 31/03/10 1. April to July 2008/09: Target 15, actual 25 |

| | | | |
|---|---------------|-----|---|
| Reduce arson deliberate fire - deliberate primary fires (vehicle) | RT7b | 135 | By 31/03/10 With Stretch 124 April to July 2008/09: Target 32, actual 70 - RED |
| Reduce arson deliberate fire - deliberate secondary fires (non-vehicle) | RT7c | 330 | By 31/03/10 With Stretch 303 April to July 2008/09: Target 108, actual 147 - RED |
| Progress Plan | | | |
| Improve our responses to Anti-Social Behaviour and Criminal Damage | Anthony Brain | | Anti Social Behaviour Strategy launched December 2008. Detailed Strategy Action Plan in place December 2008. Development of ASB Risk Assessment to guide intervention with young people June 2009. Detailed information "ASB in your area" stats - on web accessible site June 2010. |
| Work with communities to tackle the impact of drug misuse has on them | Julie Pett | | Develop specific Drugs Action Plans integrated with Neighbourhood work and RBC Thriving Neighbourhood Programmes as develop to develop Community Drug Action Plans. Good integrated working with DAAT. |
| Improve our communication process with priority neighbourhoods | John Wright | | Develop Action Plan for neighbourhood based on learning from Town Centre achievements Action Plans. Support achievement at NI 21. Define resources available in priority neighbourhoods to deliver information and improve community communication. Marketing plan to support outcomes at ASB mediation, reparation schemes etc. |

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| <p>Tackling Fear of Crime - Action Plan. Qualitative data to measure peoples' fear of crime improved</p> | <p>Steve Thwaites/ Chris Bloomfield</p> | <p>Detailed qualitative data sources to be explored and target areas established to enable fast response to crime fears on a local basis. December 2008. Use of Mosaic Profile overlays to identify most effective communication methods into varied communities. December 2008. Target population according to crime risk regularly updated - range of techniques to be identified from best practice - March 2009. Develop Welcome Pack for new residents/business as appropriate September 2009. Proactive media management of crime stats on regular basis. December 2008.</p> |
| <p>Arson</p> | <p>Paula Smith</p> | <p>Alternative methods of current safety audits to be explored. December 2008 Hot Street Programme - launched, progress and evaluation to be completed March 2009 onwards. Communication opportunities to be explored with partners. Performance information to be tested as green targets have shifted in 1x¼ session to red - confirmation of performance to be provided urgently (22/09/08).</p> |
| <p>Communication Strategy</p> | <p>Jo Mill</p> | <p>Best practice to tackle fear of crime and anti-social behaviour to be collated for review and reference material to support all group work. December 2008. Matrix of communications opportunities across the Partnership to be prepared December 2008. Forward plan of projects/campaigns and partnership opportunities in communities and neighbourhoods to be compiled and agreed - March 2009.</p> |

| | | |
|---|----------------------|--|
| <p>Equalities: Improving Physical Environment</p> | <p>Pete Thompson</p> | <p>Detailed carry forward of actions to improve physical environments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - graffiti clear ups - open spaces/parks/public realm etc <p>To be established as specific action plan.</p> |
| <p>Establish new delivery group and performance reporting</p> | <p>Debbie Ward</p> | <p>New LAA targets and locally agreed targets set. New group met 19/09/08. Initial Action Plan and progress review completed. Membership of group has been reviewed and additional members requested to join. First performance review completed for 2008/08 - Arson identified as red risk on all indicators - detailed information requested from Fire Authority to confirm performance. Leads identified for each work stream - further detailed action plans to be prepared.</p> |

Annex A to Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy 2008/10

Strategies, Policies and Procedures

- Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003
- Crime and Disorder Act 1998
- Data Protection Act 1998
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Police Reform Act 2002
- Criminal Justice & Police Act 2001
- Drugs Act 2005
- Environmental Protection Act 1990
- Reading's Community Safety Plan 2008 - 11
- Children's Act 2004
- Reading's Children and Young people's Plan 2006 - 2009
- National Community Safety Plan 2006 - 2009
- Reading City Centre 2010 Strategy
- Reading's Local Area Agreement 2007
- Housing Act 2004
- Thames Valley CPS and Thames Valley Police Protocol for Anti-Social Behaviour Orders
- Respect Plan
- Respect Standard for Housing Management
- Partners Anti-Social Behaviour Policies and Procedures
- Strategy for children and young people plan (Royal Berkshire fire and Rescue Service)
- Policing Plan
- Your Reading Strategy
- Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005
- Reading's Drug and Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy
- Reading's Young People's Drug Strategy
- Reading's Open Spaces Strategy
- Reading's Early Intervention and Family Support Strategy
- Reading's YOS Youth Justice Plan
- Reading's Begging Reduction Strategy
- Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006
- Thames Valley Police Group Dispersal Order Protocol
- Thames Valley Police Drug House Closure Protocol
- Youth Task Force Action Plan (2008)
- Safe, Sensible, Social. The next steps in the National Alcohol Strategy (2008)
- Thames Valley Police Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy 2008-11
- Youth Alcohol Action Plan

Annex B to Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy 2008/10

Neighbourhood Forum, Neighbourhood Action Groups and Anti-Social Behaviour Action Groups

Forums

The main focus of the Safer Reading Forums is on the crime and disorder agenda although their remit is wider under article 10 of the Council's constitution. They have a clear link into the delivery of the CDRP's Community Safety Plan. Through the delivery of local crime reduction capital projects can directly influence the targets set out within the plan. The Neighbourhood Action Groups and Anti-Social Behaviour Action Groups (ASBAGs) will take on some of the crime and disorder agenda items and indeed some of the wider issues brought by community members.

Because of the larger area base of the forums, and their much wider remit with regards to the crime and disorder agenda through the Forums links to the Community Safety Plan, Officers attending the forums would normally be of the similar grade to those attending the ASBAG. The Area Inspector would be expected to report back to the forums on behalf of any NAGs that are working within that forums boundary, and the Neighbourhood Projects Officer would be expected to report back on the work of the ASBAG that covers their area.

Neighbourhood Action Groups

These will be dealing with some issues within the forum area that may or may not be crime related. At the moment of the 33 priorities identified eight are non-crime issues, covering traffic and environmental problems. Where a resident has raised an issue that is being looked at by the local NAG they should be given the opportunity to join it. Information in any case will be passed to the NAG.

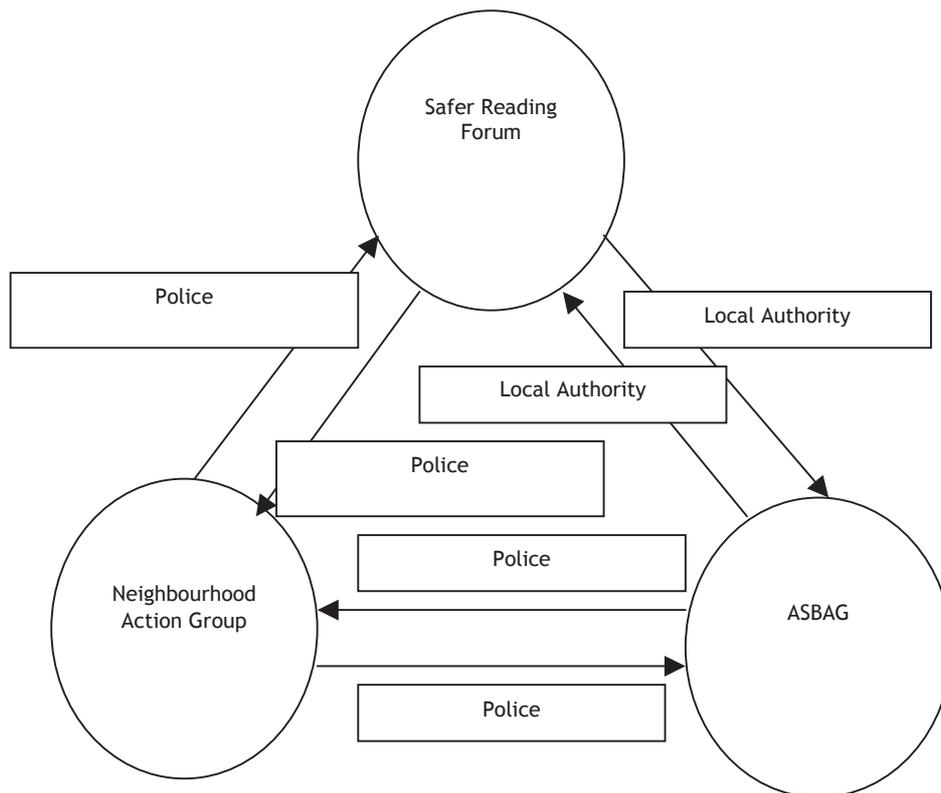
Officers would only attend these meetings if the NAG were dealing with their specific issues. The local Neighbourhood Wardens attend on behalf of the Community Safety Unit. Normally officers attending the NAG would be of an operational level and where possible have a local connection, i.e. local youth workers, Neighbourhood Housing Officers and the Neighbourhood Specialist Officer from TVP. Officers attending the NAG would not normally be expected to attend the Safer Reading Forum except for a specific issue or to request the forum for assistance on behalf of the NAG. They would however be required to pass on information regarding the work of the NAG to an officer attending the

forum. For Community Safety this would be via the Neighbourhood Wardens and the Neighbourhood Project Officers.

Anti-Social Behaviour Action Groups

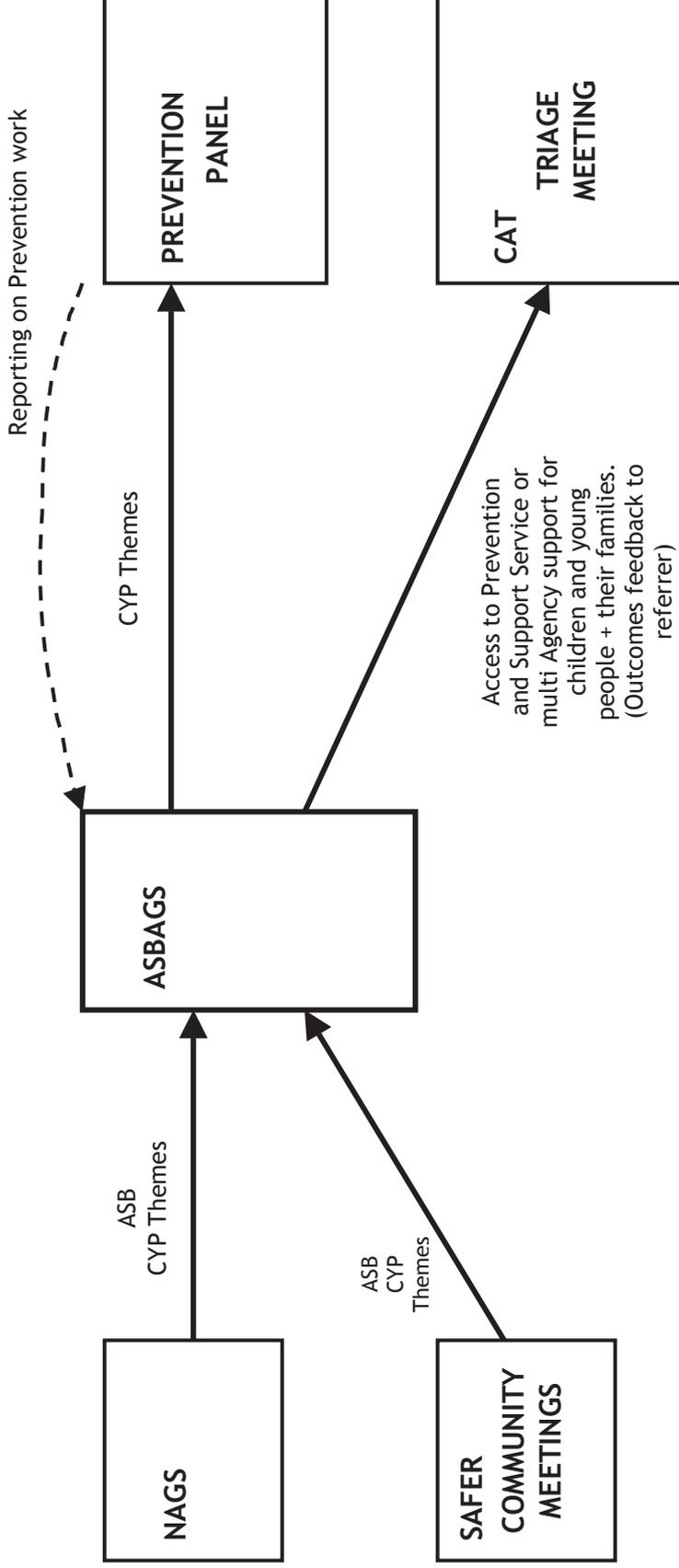
Anti-social behaviour within the area will be dealt with via the Action Group, the Forums do however have a major role to play in providing intelligence and providing a local response through the deployment of capital resources.

Officer attendance at the ASBAG is based on need, either to solve the problem or to bring the issue to the meeting. Attendance would normally be at area officer level i.e. Area Inspector, Youth Service Area Team Leader, and Housing's Nuisance Response Officer. Individual officers would attend on a needs basis such as Environmental Liaison Officers. The Neighbourhood Projects Officer would attend all of these meetings on behalf of the forums. The ASBAGs have replaced many Officer "Case Conference" meetings and have reduced the number of meetings Officers need to attend.



Information flows and responsibilities

LINKS TO CHILDREN'S SERVICES



CAT/TYS Referral Routes

School Consultation Meetings – Termly

Remit

- To discuss broad topics of need to influence locality commissioning arrangements
- To discuss individual YP to agree appropriate outcomes and interventions

Membership

- SENCO, CAT members,

Local CAT Triage Meetings x 4 - Weekly

Remit (Referrals must be submitted on a CAF)

- To review referrals and action appropriately ie allocate cases requiring support to a CAT member/LP/PASS, request further information, inform referrer of action taken.
- De-escalation routes from YOS, SOURCE etc

Membership from:

- CAT Manager
- Health Network Lead
- PMHW
- Ed Psy., Behaviour Support
- CAF Coordinator
- Pass Team Leader/YES Team Leader

CAT Locality Prevention Panel - Quarterly X 4 (Could be held on 1 day)

Remit:

- YP aged 8 – 19 yrs
- To respond to information received from ASBAGs to identify and monitor:
 - Trends
 - Respond to 'Hot Spot' areas by allocating resources eg outreach workers, group work
- To refer individual cases to CAT Triage meetings
- To make recommendations to Locality Steering Group re commissioning Positive Activities based on needs analysis
- To report to Youth Crime & Drugs Prevention Group
- To produce report for Community Safety Groups. To attend at least one meeting per year (probably before summer).

Membership

- ASB Coordinator
- PASS Team Leader
- YES Area Team Leader
- Local Police
- Voluntary Youth Sector

Anti Social Behaviour Action Group X 3 (East/South, North, West – 6 weekly)

Remit

- Adults & YP
- Intelligence gathering from a variety of sources re anti-social behaviour, drug & alcohol issues
- Problem solving and referrals to other services re above issues
- May refer individual cases to CAT triage

Membership

- ASB Coordinator
- Police
- Housing
- Vol Orgs
- Parks
- Street Wardens
- PASS T/L/YES T/L
- YOS reparation
- Street Care
- Environmental Health
- Fire Service