

Report of the Chief Executive

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR POLICY1. Purpose of report

To update the existing Anti-social Behaviour Policy.

2. Detail

Anti-social behaviour (ASB) is defined as any action which causes harassment, alarm or distress. A lot of behaviours which are described as anti-social are also crimes, such as graffiti, vandalism and hate crime. However, anti-social behaviour is not necessarily criminal. It may be the cumulative effect of an individual's actions which cause a nuisance and can be distressing to another individual or to the community in which they live – for example, a person who persistently plays loud music at night.

Although the number of cases of anti-social behaviour reported to Nottinghamshire Police has dropped considerably in recent years, it still accounts for a significant percentage of the incidents reported to the police. Figures show that 22.5% of all incidents reported to the police in the United Kingdom are classified as anti-social behaviour (Office of National Statistics).

Broxtowe Borough Council is committed to combatting the damage caused to communities by anti-social behaviour by appropriately using the range of powers available to it. This commitment is demonstrated with one of the Council's five Corporate Priorities being Community Safety – "A Safe Place for Everyone." This applies across the whole range of services provided by the authority, including Public Protection, Housing, and Environment.

It is recognised that tackling anti-social behaviour cannot be undertaken effectively by any one organisation. Working in partnership with relevant agencies including, amongst others, the police, county and district councils and social housing providers, is necessary to tackle the issues.

This Policy, attached at appendix 1, sets out the approach the Council will take, across all aspects of its service delivery in dealing with anti-social behaviour. A summary of the main changes to the existing policy is given in appendix 2.

Recommendation

The Committee is asked to RESOLVE that the revised Anti-social Behaviour Policy be approved.

Background papers

Nil