

NEWCASTLE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Briefing Note for Scrutiny – June 2013

Anti Social Behaviour in Newcastle Borough

Overview

Newcastle Borough Council adopts a zero tolerance Anti Social Behaviour Policy and works on a multi agency approach in line with other partners to tackle anti social behaviour. Focus is given to those victims of anti social behaviour and to the resolving of any anti social behaviour issues through early intervention and prevention measures for offenders whilst recognising that in some circumstances enforcement must be taken. This approach is adopted in line with current legislation and to optimise community sustainability.

Changes / Implementations in Service

Service Level Agreements – Staffordshire Young Peoples Service

A recent service level agreement has been implemented between Staffordshire Young Peoples Service and Newcastle Borough Council. This agreement outlines how we shall work in partnership to resolve any anti social behaviour caused by younger people in and around Staffordshire County Council Youth Clubs.

Service Level Agreements – Supported Housing Providers

Recent conversations have been had with supported housing scheme providers and landlords in relation to working effectively together to support the resolution of any complainants concerns in relation to tenants or occupants of these properties causing harassment, alarm or distress.

Building Resilient Families and Communities

It has been identified that individuals who are currently being monitored by the Borough Council jointly with the Police for their involvement in anti social behaviour are in need of further support directly for themselves but for their immediate family also. Building Resilient Families and Communities initiative was originally called 'Troubled Families' and it has been acknowledged that the Borough Councils Service that offers support and resolution to anti social behaviour issues in dealing with individuals who would meet the criteria for support under this initiative need to play an integral part in the referring and leading on support programs for these children and families. The Borough Council arranged a meeting with all involved in the Newcastle Community Safety Partnership which involved representatives from the Police, Youth Offending, Probation, Housing Associations, School representatives and representatives from the Health and Social care departments amongst others. The collating of families for the Building Resilient Families and Community that the Newcastle Community Safety Partnership want to put forward to Staffordshire County Council to be considered for this initiative were co ordinated by the Community Safety Officer leading on anti social behaviour. In total, the Newcastle Community Safety Partnership have referred 103 families for this support.

CRM

The CRM shall soon be developed to give a more consistent and customer focused way of dealing with anti social behaviour complaints at the complainant's first point of call. This is currently in the process of being developed and changes in the way that Customer Services deal with Anti Social Behaviour shall change, complainants shall also be asked to complete an assessment of vulnerability which will help to identify the priority of need for support for these individuals.

Let's Work Together

It has been identified that through the success of the Lets Work Together training earlier on in the year that the module including the presentation in relation to how Newcastle Borough Council effectively deal with Anti Social Behaviour as a service that other services have identified the need for this to be presented again.

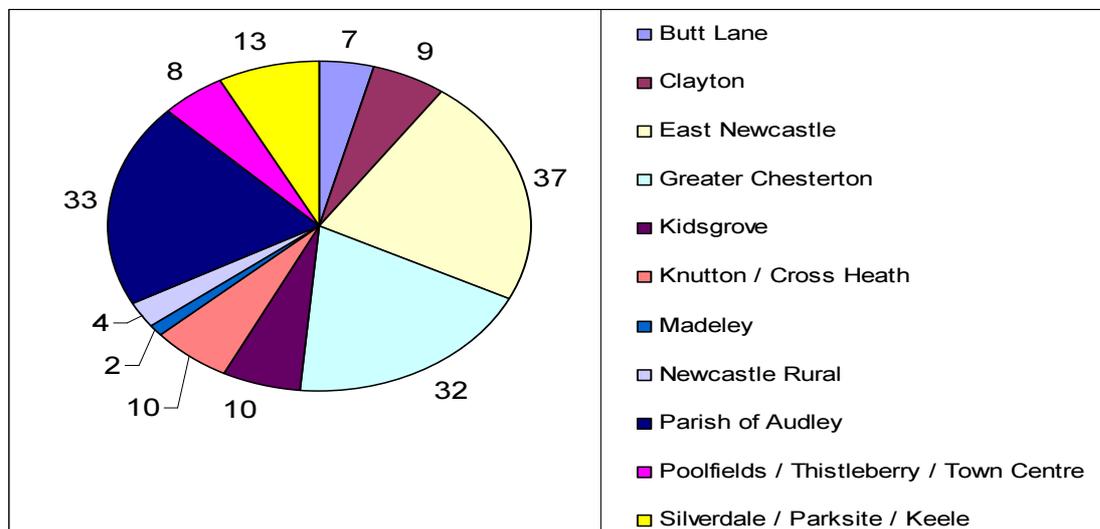
Health and Social Care

The Partnerships Team at the Borough Council that deals with Anti Social Behaviour have had meetings with the Local Support Teams from Families First as to how we optimise effective joint working to offer support to individuals and their families where there are offenders of anti social behaviour. Families First shall be attending all Anti Social Behaviour Case Conferences and the Anti Social Behaviour Lead at the Borough Council will be initiating Child Assessment Framework meetings and be attending child protection and core group meetings. Meetings with Mental Health Services and Addiction services are also ongoing.

School Work

A program of works shall look to be implemented across some schools within Newcastle Borough Council relating to Anti Social Behaviour and the effect this has on individuals both the victim and perpetrator and the consequences of this behaviour. Schools have now become involved in playing an integral part in witnessing individuals Acceptable Behaviour Contracts.

Quarter 1 2013 - ASB Figures Specific to LAP Areas



- 165 Anti Social Behaviour Complaints received via the Community Safety Team, 62% resolved and closed successfully.
- 6 Vulnerable Victims Referrals / 18 ASB Case Conference Referrals
- 5 Acceptable Behaviour Contracts / 3 Mediation Referrals / 20 LST & Support Referrals / 5 NRP Referrals / 7 Victim Support Referrals
- Drug Activity & Substance Misuse 10% / Fires 10% / Gang Nuisance 30% / Intimidation & Threatening Behaviour 10% Motorbike Nuisance 0% / Neighbour Nuisance 20% / Park Nuisance 0% / Vandalism 20%

Current Community Specific ASB Projects For Discussion at Scrutiny Meeting

- McDonalds Wolstanton
- Chesterton Vision & London Road
- Fishing Project Greater Chesterton
- Partnership Agreement with Stoke on Trent Safer City Partnership.
- Lyme Valley – Clayton
- Roaming Horses – Lower Milehouse / Cross Heath
- Rye croft & Liverpool Road ASB – Newcastle Town Centre
- Silverdale Youth Diversionary Project
- Audley Allotments
- Hulstone Pub - Crackley

Considerations

- Implementation and launch of Newcastle Borough Councils Anti Social Behaviour Policy and Procedure in line with other Partners to reflect current legislation and ways of working specifically on a multi agency basis;
- Consideration regarding new legislation;
- Neighbourhood Resolution Panels a form of Restorative Justice. Implementation of further referrals to this service from the Borough Council.

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