



**NORTHAMPTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

[Item number

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Name of Committee	CABINET
Directorate:	Citizens, Governance and Finance
Corporate Manager:	Thomas Hall
Date:	3rd July 2006

Report Title	Northampton Borough Council Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy 2006 - 2008
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Key Decision	NO
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1. Recommendations

Cabinet to approve the Northampton Borough Council Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy, subject to the incorporation of the words advised under 'legal implications'.

2. Summary

The purpose of this report is to present the Northampton Borough Council Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy, 2006-2008 for approval by Cabinet.

The strategy will be formally reviewed at two yearly intervals. However, there will be an ongoing process of reviewing and evaluating taking place. This will ensure that we take account of any changes in legislation and any binding court decisions. It also means that we can incorporate any 'best practice' that would further add to the effectiveness of the strategy. This ongoing monitoring process will be the responsibility of the Northampton Borough Council Crime & Disorder Team Leader, and will be undertaken in full consultation with partner agencies.

This strategy has been assessed and currently meets the requirements of the Equality Impact Assessment.

3. Report Background

The 2006-2008 Northampton Borough Council Anti-Social Behaviour strategy has been developed to reflect significant changes in legislation and the current partnership approach to dealing with incidents of anti-social behaviour in Northampton.

Prior to the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 anti-social behaviour and its associated issues were, predominantly, the responsibility of the police. Section 17 of the Act gave all local authorities a duty to consider crime and disorder implications in the exercise of all its functions.

The Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy has been written to clearly reflect and support the changes in legislation and also incorporates and embraces service developments achieved in the interim.

The strategy has been developed in collaboration with partner agencies and all council departments that have a part to play in delivering an effective service to the communities of Northampton in relation to anti-social behaviour issues. All have had the opportunity to inform and shape the structure and content of the final document.

Additionally account has been taken of other similar strategies both in the county and elsewhere and elements of 'best practice' have been incorporated where possible and appropriate.

The Government published its Respect Action Plan in early 2006 in order to deliver the Respect programme in a number of areas aimed at tackling the root causes of anti-social behaviour in our communities. The strategy is designed to fully address those areas identified for action.

It also supports the broader aims and values of the Northampton Community Safety Strategy 2005 – 2008 in seeking to: *'Provide and promote a safe environment for people who live, work or visit Northampton by reducing crime and the fear of crime and disorder'*.

Additionally the strategy addresses objective 1 of the Northampton Community Safety Strategy in tackling issues of anti-social behaviour within Northampton by utilising multi-agency task groups and incorporating initiatives including enforcement, prevention and education.

Finally the strategy is completely in line with the Local Area Agreement's safer and stronger community agenda and partnership working arrangements in sanctioning a joined up approach on community safety issues, particularly as relates to priority offending and tackling violence.

4. Options and Evaluation of Options

1. To approve the strategy as attached to this report.
evaluation: the strategy is the product of extensive consultation. It is believed to represent good practice in this field and to address the areas identified for action in government guidance.
2. To reject the strategy in this form and seek to revise its objectives, focus, application or partnership provisions.
evaluation: these elements have been derived collaboratively with key partners locally. To seek to revise them significantly or reject them would risk undermining the partnership approach.

5. Resource Implications (including Financial Implications)

The strategy and its implementation will not require additional Borough Council resources, although internal alignment of resources to meet strategic goals will need to be kept under review.

6. Risk and Opportunity Issues

The strategy seeks to:

- Prevent and deter incidents of anti-social behaviour
- Tackle the causes and deal with the consequences
- Take appropriate action against perpetrators
- Support victims and witnesses

An action plan has been developed and adopted in order to support the delivery of the objectives and forms part of the strategy.

7. Consultees (Internal and External)

Internal	Northampton Borough Council: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Housing Services▪ Street Scene and Property Maintenance▪ Regeneration & Growth▪ Communications▪ Environmental Services▪ Community Safety Leaders of the Council Community Safety Portfolio Holder Corporate Directors
External	Northamptonshire Police Northamptonshire Probation Service Northamptonshire Connexions Northamptonshire YOT

	<p>Northamptonshire County Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Children and Families ▪ Youth Service ▪ U-Turn ▪ Fire & Rescue Service
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8. Compliance Issues

A: How Proposals Deliver Priority Outcomes

<p>Recovery Plan</p> <p>The Recovery Plan seeks to ensure that all our Citizen Focused Services are directly shaped by our customers, are convenient to them and that clear, timely and accurate two way communication takes place whilst continually improving our local and national reputation and profile.</p>
<p>Corporate Plan</p> <p>A key element of the Corporate Plan is to work in partnership to reduce crime and disorder across Northampton making it a place where people would want to live, work, shop and visit. In order to achieve this, specifically, we will endeavour to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Target and reduce the number of people with ASBOs ▪ Support and develop local communities through CASPAR projects ▪ Continue to work with the police and other agencies to identify crime and disorder hotspots where CCTV can make a difference

B: Other Implications

<p>Other Strategies</p> <p>See 'Background Papers'.</p>
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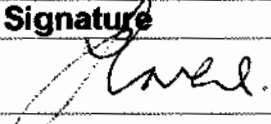

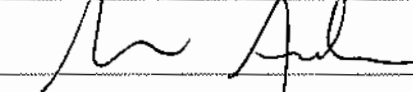
<p>Finance Comments</p>

<p>Legal Comments</p> <p>It is suggested that words are added to the Strategy to say that statements of the law within the document are brief summaries and should be read as such and not taken as definitive. Neither is anything in the document to be read as restricting the Council's discretion to pursue any remedy or course of action it sees fit in any particular case.</p>
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9. Background Papers

Title	Description	Source
Crime & Disorder Act 1998	Act of Parliament	Government
Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003	Act of Parliament	Government
Northampton Community Safety Strategy 2005 – 2006	Policy Document	NBC
Housing Management Service Nuisance and Anti-Social Behaviour Policy	Policy Document	NBC
Northamptonshire Anti-Social Behaviour Reduction Strategy (draft)	Policy Document	NCC
Northamptonshire Local Area Agreement	Countywide Multi agency Agreement	Partnership

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Corporate Manager		26/6/06	7593
Director		26/6/06	7368
Monitoring Officer or Deputy (Key decision only)	N/a		
Section 151 Officer or Deputy (Key decision only)	N/a		