



Report to: Cabinet Meeting - 21 February 2023

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Roger Jackson - Cleaner, Safer, Greener.

Director Lead: Matthew Finch, Director - Communities & Environment

Lead Officers: Ella Brady, Transformation & Service Improvement Manager, Ext. 5279
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Report Summary	
Type of Report	Open Report, Non-Key Decision
Report Title	Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Working Group Review
Purpose of Report	To seek Cabinet decision on recommendations made by the ASB Policy & Performance Improvement Working Group.
Recommendations	That Cabinet approve the recommendations of the ASB Working Group as endorsed by the Policy & Performance Improvement Committee. These are set out in section 2 of the report. Noting that a timeline of 9 months is added to recommendation (q) to ensure it is undertaken within an appropriate timeframe.
Alternative Options Considered	Alternative recommendations and suggestions were debated throughout the working group process. These were outlined in the original working group report (Appendix 1) .
Reason for Recommendation	To consider the work the Council currently undertakes to tackle ASB within the district and to suggest ways in which this could be enhanced.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Policy & Performance Improvement Committee (PPIC) set-up a working group to look at ASB on 13 June 2022. The working group, chaired by Councillor Ronnie White, was set up to look at current ASB working practices with a view to making recommendations about how they can be improved further.
- 1.2 A report **(Appendix 1)** for PPIC was produced by the working group members and officers, outlining the outcomes of the five sessions. The outcomes of this review were presented to PPI Committee on 28 November 2022 and endorsed for final decision by the Portfolio Holder.

2.0 Proposals

The following recommendations are put forward as a result of the working group review.

Improve Communications

- a. Launch an ASB communications campaign that aims to help residents define and identify cases of ASB and publicises how they can be reported to the council and its partners.
- b. An ASB communications plan to be developed annually as a business-as-usual task to keep residents informed with ongoing initiatives and updates from across the district. Which includes;-
- c. a quarterly ASB newsletter created by the Community Safety team that provides updates to all members and selected partners.
- d. Information on ASB and current initiatives to be included as part of the member induction process.
- e. Review the ASB online reporting process and make it more user friendly to coincide with the communications campaign.

Community Protection Officers (CPOs)

- f. Implement changes to the way the CPOs operate to improve visibility in the community, considering locations and times of activity.
- g. the purchase of an additional hybrid vehicle so that the Council can increase the capacity and presence of CPOs in the district by officers being able to work independently where appropriate rather than restricted to working in pairs. This would incur an approximate cost of £30,000.
- h. Upgrade the charging infrastructure at Castle House which will result in the current two electric vehicles fully recharging in a significantly reduced timescale and lead to increased capacity of the team
- i. Review the location of the stray dog kennel once the current contract expires to look to a closer location and therefore improved performance.

Partnership working

- j. To continue to work closely with partners and ensure the council retains a strong focus on a collaborative approach to tackling ASB, particularly with the Police. The working group also ask that there is a request to extend the police's early intervention initiatives into primary schools and whether a focus on youth forums would be useful.
- k. To continue to fund the Police Partnership Analyst post for the period 2023/24.
- l. Develop mentalhealth first aid training for those that work within the ASB and other related teams to enable them to better understand and sign post where mental health issues are related to those involved in ASB.

The Community Safety Charter

- m. The Council sign the Community Safety Charter and advocate for partners to do the same.

CCTV

- n. The location of CCTV cameras is reviewed on an annual basis to ensure they are located where they may have the greatest impact. Where appropriate taking action to remove obstructions which may impare the visibility of specific cameras.

- o. Undertake further research on the appropriateness of the use of facial recognition.
- p. ASB team to discuss with those in the CCTV partnership about how to make the control room more effective including making efforts to reduce the number of third party events that take place, to ensure a tight focus on crime and ASB prevention.
- q. A further piece of work is commission to assess the feasibility of bringing the CCTV operation back in house.

3.0 **Implications**

In writing this report and in putting forward recommendations officers have considered the following implications; Data Protection, Digital and Cyber Security, Equality and Diversity, Financial, Human Resources, Human Rights, Legal, Safeguarding, Sustainability, and Crime and Disorder and where appropriate they have made reference to these implications and added suitable expert comment where appropriate.

Financial Implications (FIN22-23/9715)

- 3.1 Not all of the proposed actions have financial implications, those that do, are summarised in the table below. Achrononym

Recommendation	Description	Capital £	Revenue £	Notes
g.	x1 New Hybrid Vehicle	£30,000	£3,000	Running costs
h.	Upgrade Charging infrastructure	£50,000	Unknown	£25,000 Distribution Network Operator (DNO) + up to £25k for ultra fast charging
k.	Continue funding Partnership Analyst	£0	£17,500	2023/24 onwards

- 3.2 Should the above recommendations be endorsed:

- g. the Capital Programme budget should be increased by £30,000 to purchase one additional hybrid van. This should be financed from the change management reserve, to minimise the impact on the revenue budget.

An additional £3,000 will need added to the Environmental Services budget as a growth item, which would be recharged to Public Protection.

- h. Quotes have been requested from Metric and BP regarding the charge points, but at the moment, an indicative cost would be £25k with a further cost of £18,000 - £25,000 for the ultra fast charge point. Other charge points have attracted government funding, so some investigation into whether this would be applicable here will be required. There will be additional revenue costs if the ultra fast charge points are installed as this will result in additional electricity costs.

- k. the additional budget required to pay for the Council's share of the Partnership Analyst post in 2023/24 and future years would need to be included as a growth item as part of the 2023/24 budget setting process.
- 3.3 Regarding recommendation k., the Bassetlaw, Newark and Sherwood Community Safety Partnership (CSP) consists of the two district councils, Nottinghamshire County Council and the Nottinghamshire Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC). For 2023/24, it is currently proposed that the Partnership Analyst spends their time working equally for the two district councils. It is currently proposed that the estimated cost of the analyst, currently £35,000, be split equally between the two district councils. The Council would therefore need to add £17,500 to its budget in 2023/24 and future years to pay for its share of the post.
- 3.4 The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 placed new duties on English local authorities. As a result of this legislation, the Council has received £31,000 annually in 2021/22 and 2022/23 to fund the costs of its new duties. The Council currently expects to receive similar amounts in future years. If the Council does receive this grant funding, it may use some of the monies received towards the costs of the Partnership Analyst, subject to agreement between the relevant officers.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

None