

---

**ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR STRATEGY**

---

**Responsible Cabinet Member – Councillor Dixon, Deputy Leader**

**Responsible Director – Lorraine O’Donnell, Assistant Chief Executive**

---

**SUMMARY REPORT**

**Purpose of the Report**

1. To consult and seek members’ endorsement of the Borough’s updated Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy 2008/09.

**Summary**

2. In September 2007, members considered and endorsed the Borough’s first Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy.
3. In line with the development and publication of the Borough’s Community Safety Plan and other relevant plans and strategies the Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy has been refreshed and updated.
4. The primary changes to the plan include an update of achievements, an update on priority actions that are being delivered across a range of plans to support the delivery of the strategy and an update on performance measures.
5. The actions included in the Strategy will be monitored through the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership and through the Council’s Service Planning processes.

**Recommendation**

6. It is recommended that Members endorse the refreshed Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy 2008/09.

## **Reasons**

7. The recommendations are supported by the following reasons :-
  - (a) Anti-social behaviour remains a local and national priority.
  - (b) The strategy draws together some of the activity being delivered to make Darlington even safer.

**Lorraine O'Donnell**  
**Assistant Chief Executive**

## **Background Papers**

Background papers are held by the Council's Safer Communities Unit.

Rob Jones: Extension 3221

S17 Crime and Disorder	The contents of this report and the attached strategy have been considered in the context of the requirements placed on the Council by Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. Namely, a duty on the Council to exercise its functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in the area. This strategy sets out the Council's commitment to tackling anti-social behaviour and reducing disorder within the Borough, fulfilling its statutory obligations in regards to reducing anti-social behaviour in Darlington.
Health and Well Being	People's health and well being can be influenced significantly by their perceptions and experience of anti-social behaviour and crime. Improving people's feelings of safety should bring about improvements in health and well being. In addition, the correlation between substance misuse (drugs and alcohol), people's health and crime is well evidenced.
Sustainability	Tackling crime and particularly anti-social behaviour does have an impact on the environmental sustainability of the Borough.
Diversity	Anti-social behaviour activity is intelligence led. Support is delivered to a wide range of communities as well as the general populous depending on need and intelligence.
Wards Affected	All wards are affected although it is recognised that some wards suffer higher levels of anti-social behaviour and require more sustained interventions than others.
Groups Affected	There is no one group affected by the content of this report more than others, although some activity to address anti-social behaviour is focussed on offenders and support to victims.
Budget and Policy Framework	This report does not recommend a change to the Council's budget or policy framework.
Key Decision	This is classed as a key decision as it affects all the wards in the Borough.
Urgent Decision	This report does not require any urgent decisions.
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	Anti-social behaviour is a priority within the Safer Darlington theme of the Borough's Sustainable Community Strategy and is supported by this strategy.

## **MAIN REPORT**

### **Information and Analysis**

8. Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour remains a key priority within the Borough's Sustainable Community Strategy, One Darlington : Perfectly Placed and within the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership's Community Safety Plan 2008/11.
9. The Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy draws together some of the key activity the Council and its partners intend to deliver during the next year to make Darlington safer.
10. The strategy pulls together a range of activity being delivered across the Council, through Departmental Plans and activity being delivered through the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership's Anti-Social Behaviour Action Plan.
11. Performance in regards to Anti-Social Behaviour will continue to be reported to the Executive Board of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership and Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny committee.

### **Outcome of Consultation**

12. The consultation findings for the development of One Darlington : Perfectly Placed and the Borough's Community Safety Plan identified Anti-Social Behaviour as a priority for residents. This strategy sets out how the Council intends to support the delivery of this priority.
13. The core elements of the strategy were consulted upon as part of the development of One Darlington : Perfectly Placed and the Borough's Community Safety Plan. The refreshed strategy was widely circulated to Council Departments and the Crime and Disorder Partnership for input.