

HEALTH AND HOUSING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
29 OCTOBER 2025

HOUSING SERVICES ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR POLICY 2022-2026 UPDATE

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide Members with an update on the Housing Services Anti-Social Behaviour Policy 2022-2026.

Summary

2. Darlington Borough Council provides over 5,200 high quality homes for local residents. We are committed to ensuring that all our tenants enjoy their right to a safe home and community.
3. The Regulator of Social Housing's (RSH) new consumer standards from April 2024, set out their expectations for how social landlords should deter, and tackle Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) and hate crime in the neighbourhoods where social housing is provided.
4. The Housing Services Anti-Social Behaviour Policy 2022-2026, approved by Cabinet on 6 September 2022 sets out how we will deal with reports of ASB and hate crime effectively and promptly, taking appropriate, swift, proportionate action, including legal action, when necessary.
5. The Housing Services Anti-Social Behaviour Policy Review at **Appendix 1** sets out our progress in 2024-25 against the key priorities of the policy.

Recommendation

6. It is recommended that Members:-
 - (a) Consider the contents of the report and the Housing Services Anti-Social Behaviour Policy Review at **Appendix 1**.

Anthony Sandys
Assistant Director – Housing and Revenues

Background Papers

- (i) The RSH Consumer Standards

Council Plan	This report supports the Council Plan's HOMES priority to provide affordable and secure homes that meet the current and future needs of residents
Addressing inequalities	There are no implications
Tackling Climate Change	There are no implications
Efficient and effective use of resources	There are no implications
Health and Wellbeing	There are no implications
S17 Crime and Disorder	The Housing Services Anti-Social Behaviour Policy 2022-2026 sets out how we will deal with reports of ASB and hate crime effectively and promptly
Wards Affected	All wards with Council housing
Groups Affected	Council tenants and leaseholders
Budget and Policy Framework	This report does not recommend a change to the Council's budget or policy framework
Key Decision	This report does not represent a key decision
Urgent Decision	This report does not represent an urgent decision
Impact on Looked After Children and Care Leavers	This report has no impact on Looked After Children or Care Leavers

MAIN REPORT

Information and Analysis

7. Darlington Borough Council provides over 5,300 high quality homes for local residents. We are committed to ensuring that all of our tenants enjoy their right to a safe home and community.
8. The Housing Services Anti-Social Behaviour Policy 2022-2026 sets out how we will deal with reports of ASB and hate crime effectively and promptly, taking appropriate, swift, proportionate action, including legal action, when necessary.
9. The RSH sets a number of Consumer Standards, which apply to all social housing providers, including Councils. Specifically, in relation to the Neighbourhood and Community Standard, social housing providers must:
 - (a) Have a policy on how they work with relevant organisations to deter and tackle ASB in the neighbourhoods where they provide social housing.
 - (b) Clearly set out their approach for how they deter, and tackle hate incidents in neighbourhoods where they provide social housing.
 - (c) Enable ASB and hate incidents to be reported easily and keep tenants informed about the progress of their case.

- (d) Provide prompt and appropriate action in response to ASB and hate incidents, having regard to the full range of tools and legal powers available to them.
 - (e) Support tenants who are affected by ASB and hate incidents, including by signposting them to agencies who can give them appropriate support and assistance.
10. The Housing Services Anti-Social Behaviour Policy 2022-2026 promotes our continued commitment to tackling ASB and hate crime and the Annual Review at Appendix 1 sets out our progress in 2024-25 against the key priorities of the policy.