



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Health and Environmental Services Department
Subject:	Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour – Internal Review
Date:	7 January 2015
Reporting Officer:	Siobhan Toland, Head of Environmental Health, Ext 3281
Contact Officer:	Alison Allen, Safer City Manager, Ext 3780

1	Relevant Background Information
1.1	Members will recall approving in June 2014 the Terms of Reference for the internal review of how Council tackles anti-social behaviour.
1.2	The purpose of reviewing Council's responses to anti social behaviour was to provide a level of assurance that anti social behaviour issues are being tackled in an effective, cohesive and unified manner. The review would provide the strategic lead throughout council on the future direction, development, implementation and evaluation of work related to anti social behaviour.
1.3	The review would also consider changing needs within the city with a view to providing a more focused, cohesive and joined up approach; streamlined in order to enhance effective service delivery in dealing with anti-social behaviour. Finally, it would provide an element of scrutiny in relation to anti-social behaviour related work in keeping with this Council's obligation to secure continuous improvement in the way in which functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness.
1.4	Members of Health and Environmental Services Committee also appointed representatives to a Strategic Project Board to provide guidance and direction to the Officers undertaking the review. The Strategic Project Board met on the 19 September 2014 and approved the project plan for the review.

2	Key Issues
2.1	The project plan identified a range of actions under the following themes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information and Communication• Customer Service• Prevention and Early Intervention• Process• Accountability
2.2	These actions would work towards a unified Council approach to tackling anti-social behaviour and improve the service provided to communities.
2.3	<u>Progress to Date</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Staff workshops have taken place with frontline staff in both Community Safety and Parks to outline the political vision for how Council tackles anti-social behaviour.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A full mapping of available information and data on anti-social behaviour across the city has been undertaken to identify areas of concern. ▪ From this mapping exercise four small areas of concern have been identified through which to progress collaborative working. These are Falls Park/City Cemetery, Woodvale Park, Musgrave Park and Orangefield Park. ▪ Joint teams of front line staff from Community Safety and Parks have participated in a joint planning workshop to clarify roles and responsibilities, explore opportunities to work more effectively together and to begin the process of planning the detail of focused interventions in the four identified areas. ▪ Joint Community Safety and Parks teams continue to meet on a weekly basis to share information and plan collaboratively. ▪ Final project plans for each of the four identified areas are to be finalised and submitted for review and approval by the Assistant Director Parks and Leisure and the Safer City Manager week commencing 5 January 2014. ▪ Full delivery of the collaborative interventions will begin mid January 2014.
2.4	The purpose of progressing this work by using real and genuine issues of concern to communities is to ensure that the internal review remains delivery focussed and not administrative. It is also expected that the Officers involved will more fully realise the benefits of working collaboratively by working together to tackle real and genuine issues.
2.5	Each project team will be monitored on the progress of their project plan and intervention on a monthly basis by the Assistant Director Parks and Leisure and the Safer City Manager with a further progress report brought to Committee in April 2014.
2.6	In the context of Local Government Reform and the opportunity to explore how services are delivered in the future, this internal review provides a strong basis for delivering more effective, efficient and customer focussed anti-social behaviour service delivery.

3	Resource Implications
3.1	None at present

4	Equality and Good Relations Considerations
4.1	None at present

5	Recommendation
5.1	Members are asked to note the report and to receive a further progress report in April 2014.

6	Decision Tracking
Alison Allen (Safer City Manager)	

7	Key to Abbreviations
N/A	

8	Documents attached
N/A	