



**Scrutiny Committee
28 January 2016**

CORE QUESTIONS:

A series of key questions have been put together to inform the evidence base of the Scrutiny Panel:

1. Please provide details of your organisation and its role in addressing anti-social behaviour
 - A. Many young people who become involved in misusing D&A become involved in crime sometimes to fund their drug use or as a result of anti social behaviour. Our work to reduce substance misuse with our clients does have an impact on crime and ASB. We work holistically and look at other areas of our clients lives. All clients are offered opportunities to volunteer and have some training as part of Ngage – our youth steering group. We also oversee the D&A work provided by YOS D&A workers.

2. What Strategies and Policies do you have in place for addressing anti-social behaviour?
 - A. We do not have specific strategies in place other than our 1:1 work with clients to reduce substance misuse and offer alternative choices.

3. What specific practices and measures do you currently undertake to address/tackle anti-social behaviour?
 - A. See above.

4. Do you have specific budget/resources/funding in relation to addressing anti- social behaviour, if so please provide further details.
 - A. We don't have anything specific.

5. Are the current partnership arrangements for tackling anti-social behaviour sufficient, and if not where are the gaps?
 - A. We have on occasions been invited to locality meetings where different sectors such as Eastern district have had operations to reduce crime however our funding is such we cannot often be as involved as we would like. We are a specialist service so we are unable to go out and do some outreach – raising awareness of our service and giving out information and advice re D&A that may prevent/reduce crime and ASB.

6. Do you feel there is adequate co-ordination between Agencies regarding dealing with anti-social behaviour? If not how could it be improved?
 - A. See above – we are invited to some meetings but not all. It depends on who is organising the meeting. We were part of a week of action in Kettering but if there have been other areas doing the same we have not been involved but as I have said it is often difficult for us to be as involved as we would like.

7. How does anti-social behaviour impact upon you/organisation?
 - A. Clients involved in YOS can often be difficult to engage as they feel it is mandatory – they have no choice and are often reluctant to change. With clients in the community we can also sometimes struggle to engage some young people who are the most chaotic and vulnerable.

8. What do you think could be done to ensure effective strategic and operational links are made to tackle anti-social behaviour, or improve, on a town scale?
 - A. Partnership working, shared intelligence, similar to NPS meetings. We might offer some targeted work if drug/alcohol use was highlighted in an area as ASB – litter, noise, other YP feeling unsafe etc.

9. Please provide details of the enforcement powers that you have in respect of anti-social behaviour.
 - A. We don't have any enforcement powers in respect of anti-social behaviour.

10 Do you have the resources to enforce the powers that you have? Please explain.

A. As above we don't have any resources or powers in respect of ASB.

11 Do you have information regarding the nature of the psychoactive substances market that you are able to inform the Scrutiny Panel of?

A. NPS causes lots of problems for our clients. We have shared information regarding shops that sell NPS to the police and have been involved in helping clients to go to the police or give statements regarding where they bought substances. The biggest concern in Northampton is the Bling bling shop on the market square.

12 Please can you provide details of any health consequences of using psychoactive substances.

A. YP having panic attacks, feeling extreme paranoia or anxiety. Several YP have been hospitalised with some needing mental health support. Previously we had YP who had sever nose bleeds or had sever cravings and withdrawal symptoms.

13 Do you have any suggestions on how, as partners, we can improve our approach in addressing anti-social behaviour?

A. Education is key – ensuring responsibility is taken for own actions. Need good old fashioned youth workers who can patrol the streets and offer informal education to groups of YP.

14 What do you think is the key contributing factor to anti-social behaviour across Northampton?

A. Ignorance, boredom, lack of consequence for littering and dog fouling. Lack of civic pride/ownership in community.

15 Do you have further information regarding the impact of anti-social behaviour on the town of which you would like to inform the Scrutiny Panel?

A. No not at this time.