

# Northamptonshire

# Anti-Social Behaviour

# Reduction Strategy

# 2015-18



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1.

## JOINT VISION

**We will work in partnership  
to help make  
Northamptonshire the safest  
place in England by providing  
an excellent service to  
victims and witnesses of anti-  
social behaviour, focusing on  
prevention, early  
intervention & robust  
enforcement**

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2.

### Organisations supporting this strategy

BeNCH Community Rehabilitation Company  
Borough Council of Wellingborough (BCW)  
Corby Borough Council (CBC)  
Corby Clinical Commissioning Group  
Daventry District Council (DDC)  
East Northants Council (ENC)  
Kettering Borough Council (KBC)  
National Probation Service (NPS)  
Nene Clinical Commissioning Group  
Northampton Borough Council (NBC)  
Northamptonshire County Council (NCC)  
Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service  
Northamptonshire Police  
Northamptonshire Youth Offending Service (NYOS)  
Police and Crime Commissioners (PCC) Office  
South Northamptonshire Council (SNC)

### **3. Introduction**

This strategy sets out the vision, aims and objectives of the partner agencies that are responsible for reducing anti-social behaviour (ASB) in Northamptonshire and identifies how agencies will work together to achieve the vision.

### **4. Background**

ASB often precedes criminal behaviour or is directly associated with it, yet is not always dealt with as robustly due to its nature. Criminal activity is much easier to identify and deal with as there is either an offence defined by law or not. ASB is a much more difficult issue to tackle as it is more about how the behaviour is affecting others, rather than the actual behaviour itself. Most criminal behaviour can be deemed as anti-social, however non-criminal ASB can have long-term detrimental effects on individuals and communities. It is this grey area of community annoyance and frustration that has been and may still be perceived as not being taken seriously or dealt with appropriately by relevant authorities.

Despite a steady reduction in reported ASB nationally since 2007/08<sup>1</sup>, public attitude surveys consistently identify ASB as a top priority for residents in the county. The last HMIC ASB report was produced in 2012, identifying a relatively high level of ASB recorded by police in Northamptonshire in comparison with the rest of England and Wales<sup>2</sup>. We therefore acknowledge that there is work to be done in improving the way we tackle ASB and improve public confidence across our partnership.

The only data currently available for Northamptonshire is from the Police and this may not accurately represent ASB being reported across the partnership through environmental, housing or local authority teams.

There has been a stable trend over the last three years for police incidents being closed as ASB in Northamptonshire. Nuisance ASB incidents have shown an increase every year since 2012 and continues to contribute the largest proportion of ASB, with approximately 44 incidents per day. In contrast environmental ASB has seen a decrease in volume by almost 25% since 2012. On average less than 1 in every 7 ASB incidents are now recorded as environmental related<sup>3</sup>.

Section 17 of the Crime & Disorder Act (1998) places a statutory duty on relevant authorities to consider the impact they have in exercising their powers and delivering services, and do all they reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in their area. Relevant authorities include local authorities, police, health, probation and social housing providers. Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) have now evolved from the original Crime & Disorder Partnerships (CDRPs) but their function remains the same in ensuring a multi-agency approach to tackling ASB.

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<sup>1</sup> Statistical bulletin: Crime in England and Wales, Year Ending September 2014- Figure 15: Police recorded crime and anti-social behaviour incidents, 2007/08 to year ending September 2014. Available at <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/crime-stats/crime-statistics/year-ending-september-2014/stb-crime-in-england-and-wales--year-ending-september-2014.html#tab-Anti-social-behaviour>

<sup>2</sup> HMIC Inspecting policing in the public interest. Available at: <http://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/hmic/publication/northamptonshire-anti-social-behaviour-2012>

<sup>3</sup> Information provided by Northants Police Performance Team. May 2015.

Recently focus has shifted to ensure that the impact of the behaviour on the victim is considered from the outset, rather than just responding to the presenting behaviour of the offender. This approach should enable a more holistic and effective service of response and support for victims and perpetrators, pooling resources and identifying gaps.

## **5. Definition of ASB**

Sec. 2(1) of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act (2014) defines ASB as:

- a) “conduct that has caused, or is likely to cause, harassment, alarm or distress to any person”
- b) “conduct capable of causing nuisance or annoyance to a person in relation to that person’s occupation of residential premises”
- c) “conduct capable of causing housing-related nuisance or annoyance to any person”

(NB. “Housing-related” means “directly or indirectly relating to the housing management” of either a housing provider or local authority. The “housing management” functions of a “housing provider or local authority” include “functions conferred by or under an enactment” and “the powers and duties of the housing provider or local authority as the holder of an estate or interest in housing accommodation”)

## **6. Where are we now?**

### **6.1 National Context of ASB**

There are numerous pieces of legislation in England & Wales that address anti-social behaviour, providing guidance, tools and powers with which to tackle the low level to more serious cases. The most significant being the Crime & Disorder Act (1998) and the Anti-social Behaviour Act (2003), along with housing legislation. In 2010 the Home Office launched a consultation paper that proposed a transformation in the way that ASB is dealt with. The findings showed that ASB tools and powers were insufficient and needed reviewing. Consequently the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime & Policing Bill was produced and received Royal Assent on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2014.

### **Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act (2014)**

The new legislation streamlines the previous ASB powers from 19 to 6 as demonstrated in Appendix 1. The 2014 Act focuses on the impact on the victim as opposed to the type of behaviour being displayed by the perpetrator(s). This is perhaps the biggest shift and will require more work around risk assessing the impact of ASB on a case by case basis. The Act also aims to provide local communities with more power to get a response and have a greater influence over the resolutions to be used in tackling ASB.

## **Local Implementation of the Act**

### **6.2 ASB Working Group**

A partnership working group was set up prior to the implementation of the 2014 Act to decide on best practice, enable open discussion and fair decision making between local relevant authorities. The content of warnings, notices and fixed penalty notices (FPNs) should therefore be consistent across the county. Agreement around the Community Trigger & Community Remedy document was a significant part of this group.

### **6.3 Community Trigger**

Where a locally agreed threshold is met (at least three complaints in the previous six months), victims (or a person acting on behalf of the victim) are able to request a review of their case, prompting the relevant bodies and responsible authorities to come together in a joined up, problem-solving approach to find a solution. These may include Councils, Police, Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) & registered providers of social housing who are co-opted into the group.

All partners that deal with reports of ASB need to ensure that they are doing appropriate and agreed risk assessments (Appendix 2) for victims from their initial complaint. Assessing the level of response required at this stage should prevent the community trigger from needing to be used. We have developed a locally agreed Community Trigger process for Northamptonshire which can be found in Appendix 3.

### **6.4 Community Remedy**

The Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner (OPCC) has responsibility for producing the Community Remedy Document. This was done by the OPCC through consultation with members of the public on what punitive, reparative or rehabilitative actions they consider appropriate for out-of-court punishment of perpetrators for low-level crime and anti-social behaviour. Remedies may include a verbal or written apology, mediation, restorative practice, Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABCs), paying money for damages or stolen property, participation in structured activities or reparation to the community through temporary unpaid work.

Police officers, investigating officers and persons authorised by a relevant prosecutor for conditional cautions or youth conditional cautions may then use these. The Chief Constable has designated this power to PCSOs to use the remedies. The offender must admit the offence and be willing to participate in a community remedy through agreement with the Police, who also record the outcome. Whilst the victim may state their preference to which remedy is used, a police officer will have the final decision over which to use. The Community Remedy document for Northamptonshire can be found in Appendix 4.

### **6.5 One vision, one approach**

It is essential that all partner agencies have a consistent and clear approach to tackling ASB and implementing the new legislation locally. This strategy provides a template from which local service delivery plans will be produced, with the aim of achieving the joint vision. An important aspect of

this will be through the introduction and use of standardised documents, meeting formats and a single set of service standards that victims across Northamptonshire can expect to receive.

## **7. Local Context of ASB**

**7.1** Northamptonshire is a two tier authority, made up of seven District and Borough Councils and the County Council. There are six Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs). Following on from the Strategic Assessment produced by Northamptonshire Partnership, the County Council has a duty to produce a Community Safety Agreement (CSA) which identifies the responsibilities of partners to reduce crime, disorder and ASB. This in turn influences the annual community safety plans produced by the CSPs.

The current Northamptonshire CSA (Appendix 5) identifies ASB as a priority, along with interpersonal violence (IPV) and alcohol misuse. Working groups have been formed to address these priorities and the Northamptonshire ASB and Hate Crime Strategic Group oversees partnership work around this strategy. This group currently meets every two months and is made up of representatives from the police, county/district/borough councils, fire, OPCC and other key agencies. This group feeds into the Chief Executives' Group.

Across the county, each CSP holds its own monthly ASB Action Group (ASBAG), where operational issues and current local cases are discussed. These are chaired by either the district/borough council Community Safety Manager or the police ASB Unit Sergeant for that area. The Community Safety Managers then feed directly into the Strategic Group.

## **7.2 Anti-social Behaviour in Northamptonshire – Research Project**

The Northamptonshire Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC) has been working with Northamptonshire University on a joint venture to set up the 'Institute for Public Safety, Crime & Justice' (IPSCJ) which opened in April 2014. The team of experienced analysts, researchers and trainers will lead expert practitioners and associates in what they hope to be a nationally & internationally recognised Institute of high quality academic contributions to crime prevention, crime science and criminal justice practise. The Institute will provide the local CSPs with evidence based information to help support and strengthen their approach to tackling ASB.

In summer 2014 Dr Rebecca Thompson was tasked by the OPCC and Northamptonshire Police to carry out a piece of research to help build a picture of the scope, scale and nature of ASB countywide, reviewing the current processes to identify potential gaps in provision and determine if there are particular characteristics which increase the risk of becoming a victim or perpetrator of ASB. The final report made 27 recommendations that have been considered and incorporated within this strategy.

### **7.3 Voice – the Victim & Witness service for Northamptonshire**

‘Voice’ is the new victim & witness service that has been commissioned for the county and will continue to offer a similar service to Victim Support. Their aim is to include support to victims of serious and persistent ASB and not just crime, although the processes for this are still being formulated.

### **7.4 Victims’ Voice**

Following the 2013 ‘Victims’ Voice’ report conducted by the OPCC, three recommendations were made in relation to ASB. One of these suggested the provision of a one-stop-shop service for victims whereby one point of contact will lead on a case, working in close partnership with all other relevant agencies. The OPCC are in the process of recruiting a Project Officer to develop this concept until the end of March 2016.

### **7.5 E-cins**

The Partnership has invested in an ASB case management system provided by a Community Interest Company called Empowering Communities. This system enables multiple agencies to use one hub for case management and the sharing of intelligence around ASB, as well as other areas of community safety work. Security settings can be set by individuals and/or partners entering data and there is a tasking capability that makes partnership working quicker and more transparent. This system is constantly evolving and can be adapted for local use.

Teams such as the Youth Offending Service (YOS), Troubled Families (TF) and the Multi-agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) are now on board. The recently developed Housemark capability is seeing an increase in housing providers signing up also. The police are currently leading on the promotion, sign up and training of new users countywide. However the Partnership is in the process of recruiting a specific E-cins Officer to take on this role and help embed use of the system across Northamptonshire into 2016.

All ASBAGs will now use this system on a live screen as their briefing tool during their meetings.

### **7.6 ASB Process Review**

The Northamptonshire County Council (NCC) Community Safety Team are conducting a review of the ASB process across the partnership, looking at operational processes from point of report through to conclusion, in support of this strategy and the research from the IPSCJ. This will include a data mapping exercise with the police, conducting research into how other forces/areas tackle ASB and identifying best practise. This will better inform the service delivery plans and help consolidate a clear pathway for dealing with ASB.

The first change to come from this is around Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABCs). From 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 PCSOs and police officers in Northamptonshire are again allowed and encouraged to use ABCs where appropriate when dealing with low level ASB. The ASB Strategic Group recognises the need for better use of early intervention tools, specifically with frontline officers who play a vital role in



dealing directly with issues when they begin. The police have now produced new guidance and training for this process in force. The police ABC Guidance document is attached as Appendix 6.

## **8. Outcomes**

The strategy will demonstrate improved outcomes for our:-

**Local communities** – we will work with victims of ASB to identify them earlier, understand their needs and provide efficient and effective services that meet their needs. We will hold perpetrators to account for their behaviour and offer them opportunities to change their behaviour.

**Local partner agencies** – will be able to understand and have a clear direction on how we support victims of ASB including the emphasis on taking action as early as possible and how to deal efficiently with those responsible for causing ASB in their neighbourhoods. Partners need to develop some baseline measures that evidence changes brought about as a result of the strategy.

## **9. Where do we want to be?**

The following aims have been identified to achieve the vision. A delivery plan will be developed from these.

### **9.1 Prevention & Early Intervention – breaking the cycle**

*Ensuring a holistic approach to tackling ASB which emphasises prevention and changing behaviour*

Early intervention involves taking action as soon as possible to tackle problems that have already emerged, with the aim of preventing them from developing. We want to focus our efforts on preventing anti-social behaviours or tackling them at an early stage, through a number of key activities:

- 9.1.1 We will consolidate a clear and efficient pathway** from the point of report, through the partnership risk assessment, to consider what level of early intervention is most appropriate and establish if/when an Early Help assessment for families would be appropriate. The use of early intervention tools should reduce the need for Early Help referrals in some cases, although these can be made alongside them or afterwards if they have not had the desired effect, or if there are more issues than low level ASB. However, low-level ASB perpetrated by children or young people may be a symptom of other problems, e.g. neglect, domestic violence or other issues in the home and a referral should therefore always be considered<sup>4</sup>.

Clearly identified procedures for all partners need to be established, agreed and embedded in line with the minimum standards (Appendix 7). Prevention and early intervention require a prompt assessment and response to be effective, therefore a robust partnership pathway is crucial.

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<sup>4</sup> For further information see Northamptonshire Thresholds and Pathways  
<http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/en/councilservices/children/protecting-children/Pages/northamptonshire-thresholds-and-pathways.aspx>

**9.1.2 We will ensure that there are opportunities for voluntary intervention.** Voluntary intervention at an earlier stage is integral to achieving long term behavioural change. Engaging directly with young people and adults who are willing to understand the impact of their behaviour, can enable them to take responsibility for their actions with support and guidance from professionals. This approach can be more effective, sustainable and should require less resource in the long term. Early voluntary intervention should therefore be seen as a preferred method over reactive enforcement, as illustrated in Figure 1 below. Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABCs) are a positive method of negotiation with perpetrators for use by police and PCSOs in particular, local authorities and registered social landlords. These should be used proactively where appropriate prior to any formal/legal proceedings and can be used prior to/negating the need for an Early Help Assessment.

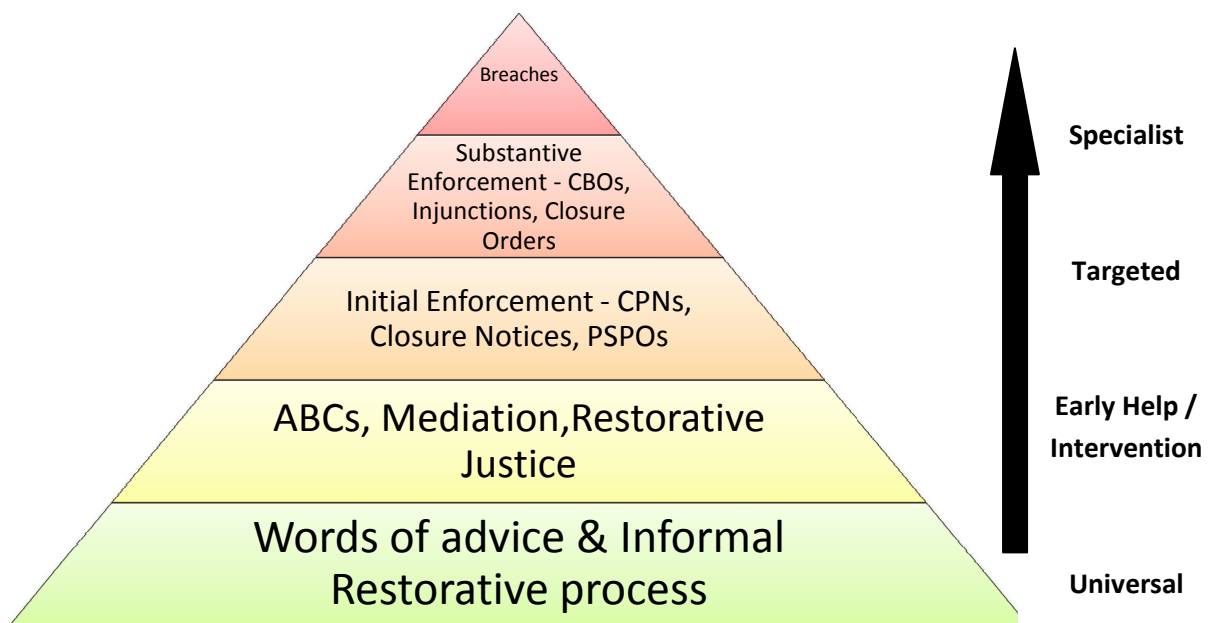


Figure 1. Intervention Pyramid

**9.1.3 We will work with children and young people (0-19yrs or up to 25yrs with special educational needs) to encourage positive behaviour and skills that enable them to make well informed choices in their lives.** Engagement with schools and other youth services through, for example appropriate PSHE curriculum or life skills work is key to build resilience and develop responsible citizens.

**9.1.4 We will provide diversionary projects as a significant distraction for young people as well as positive engagement opportunities.** Activities should be developed locally in conjunction with those who we wish to engage. Local residents and volunteers should be used where possible to help embed activities within communities and sustain engagement through incentivising them to lead or coach groups in their activities. Organisational 'directories of services' should be updated, maintained and made available where possible (details of which should be specified within the service delivery plans).

**9.1.5 We will embed restorative practices across our schools and within services.** Restorative practices bring victims and offenders together to explore the impact and harm caused by the event/offence and, when possible, to decide how to repair the harm.

- 9.1.6 We will encourage licensed premises and local businesses to take more responsibility in addressing potential anti-social behaviour that results from the delivery of their services.** With the support of licensing and trading standards, pro-active measures to advise and incentivise establishments to help prevent issues associated with access to cheap alcohol, littering, noise nuisance, security and promotional activities.

## 9.2 Dealing with perpetrators

### *Dealing quickly, appropriately and effectively with all perpetrators of ASB in accordance with local remedies*

We want to deal with perpetrators quickly and in the most effective way to prevent further offending. Identifying appropriate enforcement methods through effective partnership work, whilst offering suitable support to help address the causes of behaviour and enabling long term change.

- 9.2.1 We will develop processes to ensure that perpetrators are identified and dealt with quicker and more effectively.** The Anti-social Behaviour, Crime & Policing Act (2014), in addition to other specific legislation, provides the police and other partner agencies with sufficient enforcement tools and powers to deal with every type of ASB. These need to be fully understood by all professionals who can use them. Time delays, lack of evidence gathering and miscommunication can enable issues to continue, sometimes unnecessarily. Cases that have been unable to be dealt with through early intervention need to be taken to the ASBAGs as soon as possible. Evidence gathering begins at the point of report through the agency that received it and early intervention methods need to be considered at that point depending on the risk assessment.

As low-level ASB perpetrated by children or young people may be a symptom of other problems, e.g. neglect, domestic violence or other issues in the home, an EHA or safeguarding referral may need to be considered<sup>5</sup>.

- 9.2.2 We will take a multi-agency approach to dealing with perpetrators.** Often a perpetrator is known to more than one agency who may be taking a course of action specific to their service. A more effective and successful approach is likely to be identified when all services have a complete overview of the individual involved. Services working in isolation can make the impact of ASB much worse for the victim and easier for the perpetrator to continue. The use of E-cins can support this significantly. The concept of a partnership one-stop-shop is important here.
- 9.2.3 We will ensure that perpetrators of anti-social behaviour are involved in the development of preventative programmes for those at risk of offending where appropriate.** Diversionary activities require local engagement and understanding of the causes. Using those who have previously offended to develop diversionary activities allows them to make a positive contribution to their local area. As some of the new powers have positive requirements as well as prohibitions, this could be used as a creative approach to effect change for both the perpetrator and those at risk of offending. Incentives such as coaching or leadership awards in sport can be offered through positively influencing and encouraging those at risk of offending to engage.

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<sup>5</sup> For further information see Northamptonshire Thresholds and Pathways  
<http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/en/councilservices/children/protecting-children/Pages/northamptonshire-thresholds-and-pathways.aspx>

- 9.2.4 We will provide opportunities for long term behavioural changes and support those who wish to change their own behaviour through local support agencies.** Identifying and taking advantage of these opportunities will be an important process. A directory of local support agencies should be readily available for this process to be successful and all partners are responsible for contributing to and referring to it. Drug & alcohol services and anger management are an example of the main support services that need to be available for perpetrators and where appropriate should be considered alongside any enforcement action.

## 9.3 Pathways of Support for victims and witnesses

### *Providing appropriate and sufficient support to victims and witnesses whilst identifying support to tackle the causes of ASB*

We want to ensure that victims are considered a priority in cases of anti-social behaviour and those who are vulnerable or repeat victims are identified early on. We need to provide appropriate and easily accessible support and information for those who become involved in the criminal justice system. There are currently no clear definitions of vulnerable or repeat victims for the partnership but this is something that will be addressed to ensure of a fair, clear and consistent service, making this a priority for year one.

- 9.3.1 We will provide a **customer focused, responsive service** that has a robust approach to assessing the support needs of victims of anti-social behaviour. A county wide risk assessment (Appendix 8) will be routine for all agencies receiving complaints, enabling vulnerable and repeat victims to be identified quickly and consistently at the point of report. This process should significantly reduce the need for use of the community trigger and ensure the most appropriate course of action from the outset. The newly commissioned 'Voice' will provide a consistent, supportive and professional service to victims and witnesses of severe and persistent ASB<sup>6</sup> across the county.
- 9.3.2 Victims and witnesses of ASB in Northamptonshire should only deal with **one point of contact** from a lead agency, to prevent repetition and avoid duplication of work between partner agencies. The use of e-cins as a case management system and the development of a one-stop-shop should facilitate this process.
- 9.3.3 We will work to a set of common **service standards**, produced and agreed by the partnership strategic group. These will provide guidance to all partners across Northamptonshire to ensure a more consistent and transparent service for victims and witnesses.

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<sup>6</sup> 'Severe and persistent' to be defined as part of the service development of Voice

## 9.4 Communication: Training, Public Awareness & Information Sharing

### *Having effective partnerships at local level with statutory and other agencies on the sharing of information and tackling ASB*

We want to provide a seamless partnership service that provides better outcomes for those involved, whilst informing both local residents of and visitors to Northamptonshire, how ASB is going to be tackled.

- 9.4.1 We will ensure that relevant staff receive appropriate and quality training.** Training is crucial for all partners to increase their knowledge and ability in tackling anti-social behaviour. It is essential that the tools and powers within the new legislation, in addition to existing legislation are delivered to all appropriate staff, providing them with the knowledge, understanding and confidence in using them. Consistent, multi-agency training should be delivered across the partnership to ensure uniformity in delivery. Training for staff at the point of report (e.g. call handlers) is vital for them to be able to identify vulnerable and repeat victims correctly and consistently. Case law and best practice will be a necessary and important aspect of guidance now the new powers have come into force, requiring frequent updates to be shared county wide through the Strategic Group.
- 9.4.2 We will raise public awareness of the impact of anti-social behaviour, whilst informing our communities of how to deal with it.** A partnership communication plan, led by the Strategic Group on all community safety issues will enable more powerful messages and promote confidence in our services. We will challenge attitudes and behaviour through the individual and partnership work we promote, reinforcing the message that ASB will not be tolerated in our communities.
- 9.4.3 We will ensure that we have sufficient information sharing in place to identify repeat and vulnerable victims and to ensure that data can be routinely analysed and evaluated to inform resource allocation and interventions.** Protecting victims and responding appropriately to perpetrators can only be done through clear and accurate information sharing between partner agencies. This helps to avoid time delays and duplication of work, ensures efficient evidence gathering, identifies any gaps in service delivery, assists with conducting accurate risk assessments, ensures appropriate interventions are put in place for perpetrators, victims and witnesses and prevents unnecessary repeat contact with victims and witnesses. The use of E-cins offers the opportunity for improved information sharing and case management across Northamptonshire as more agencies sign up and make use of the intelligence, case working and task management modules. E-cins should be used as the briefing tool for all ASBAGs, enabling updates, tasking and information sharing to be done in live time. ASBAGs will follow a similar/constant agenda format countywide to ensure consistency in approach and language, as agreed by the Strategic Group.

## **10 Appendices**

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**Appendix 1 – Summary of New Powers**

New Power	Old Powers	Key points
<b>Criminal Behaviour Order (CBO)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Anti-Social Behaviour Order on conviction (CRASBO)</li> <li>▪ Drinking Banning Order (DBO)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Civil order in criminal court</li> <li>• Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) is most likely to be the applicant whether through their own initiative or following a request from the police or council</li> <li>• Breach is criminal offence</li> <li>• Positive conditions can be included</li> <li>• The ASB does not have to relate to the criminal offence</li> <li>• Consultation requirement with YOTs for under 18s</li> </ul>
<b>Crime Prevention Injunction <u>or</u> Injunction to prevent nuisance &amp; annoyance (IPNA)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Anti-social Behaviour Order (ASBO) on application</li> <li>▪ Anti-Social Behaviour Injunction (ASBI)</li> <li>▪ DBO on application</li> <li>▪ Individual Support Order (ISO)</li> <li>▪ Intervention Order</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Civil order in County Court or Youth Court for 10-17yr olds</li> <li>• Power of arrest can be attached</li> <li>• Positive conditions can be included</li> <li>• Local councils, social landlords, police (including BTP), Transport for London, Environment Agency &amp; NHS Protect can apply</li> <li>• Breach is a civil matter punishable as contempt of court</li> </ul>
<b>Community Protection Notice (CPN)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Litter clearing notice</li> <li>▪ Street litter control notice</li> <li>▪ Defacement removal notice</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applies to individuals aged 16 and over, organisations &amp; businesses</li> <li>• Council officers, police officers, PCSOs (if designated) &amp; social landlords (if designated by the council) can issue them</li> <li>• CPN follows a written warning when behaviour persists</li> <li>• Breach is a criminal offence</li> </ul>
<b>Community Protection Order (CPO) (Public Spaces) <u>or</u> Public Space Protection Orders</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Designated Public Place Order (DPPO)</li> <li>▪ Gating order</li> <li>▪ Dog control order</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council makes a PSPO after consultation with the police, PCC and other relevant bodies</li> <li>• Can be enforced by police officers, PCSOs &amp; council officers</li> <li>• Breach is a criminal offence</li> </ul>

<b>(PSPO)</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will replace any existing DPPOs &amp; need to be renewed after 3 years</li> <li>• Order must be published</li> </ul>
<b>Dispersal Power</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Dispersal Order</li> <li>▪ Direction to leave</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Powers for Police Officers in uniform and PCSOs if designated by the Chief Constable</li> <li>• Dispersal for up to 48 hours within a specified area</li> <li>• Under 16s can be returned home or taken to a place of safety</li> <li>• Powers to confiscate any item that could be used to commit asb, crime or disorder</li> <li>• Breach is a criminal offence</li> </ul>
<b>Closure Power</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Premises Closure order</li> <li>▪ Crack house closure order</li> <li>▪ Noisy Premises Closure order</li> <li>▪ S161 Closure Order</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Police and Council can apply</li> <li>• Closure notice - up to 48hrs</li> <li>• Closure Order - up to 6 months</li> <li>• Breach is a criminal offence</li> </ul>
<b>Absolute Ground for Possession</b>	NEW!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social landlords and private sector landlords can apply</li> <li>• Can apply to the tenant, a member of the tenant's household or a person visiting the property</li> <li>• Grounds include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Convicted of a serious offence</li> <li>ii. Found by a court to have breached a civil injunction</li> <li>iii. Convicted for breaching a CBO</li> <li>iv. Convicted for breaching a noise abatement notice</li> <li>v. Tenant's property has been closed for more than 48hrs under a closure order for asb</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



**NORTHAMPTONSHIRE VICTIM ASB SCREENING TOOL**

Name:  Case Ref:

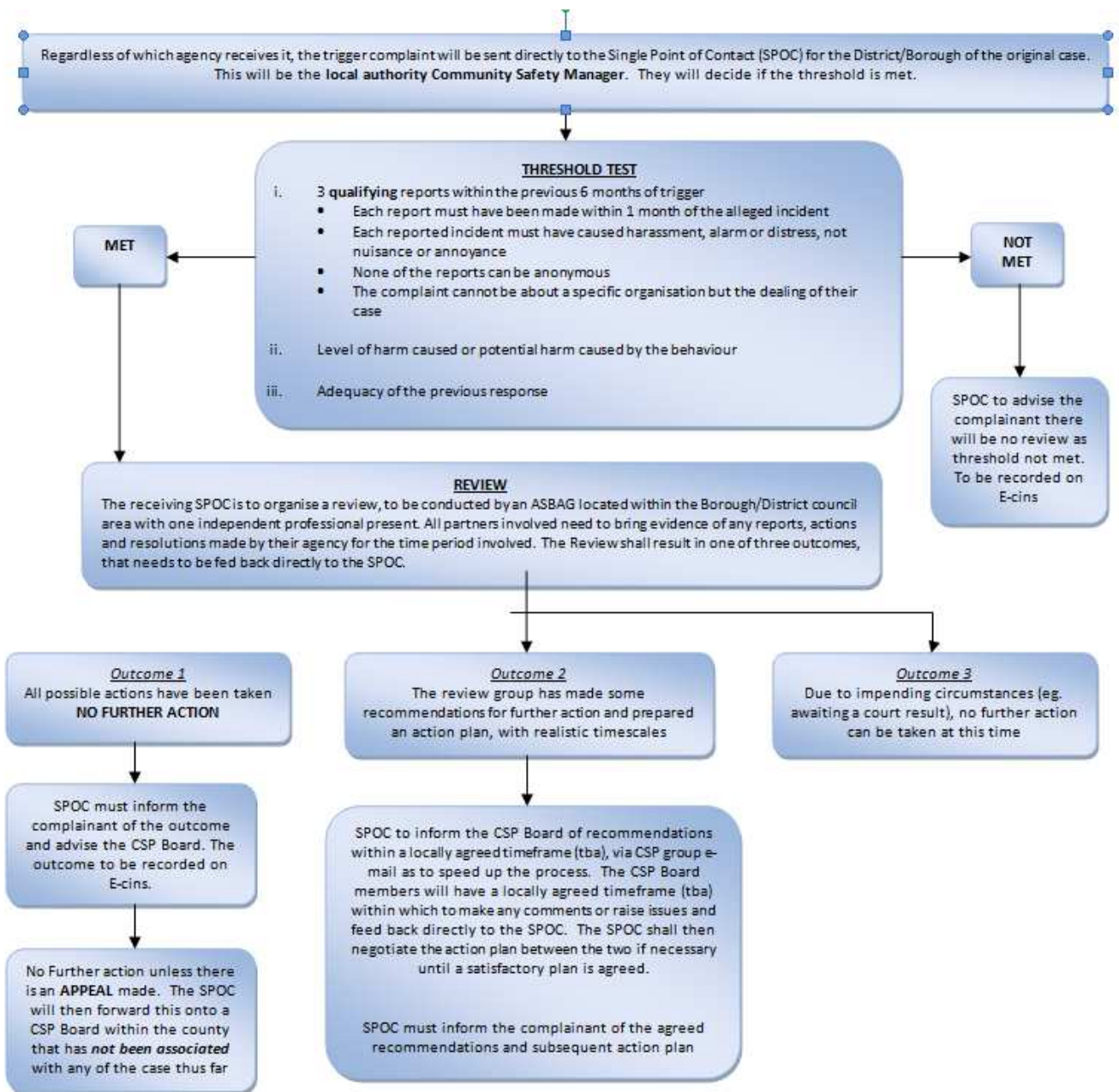
Address:

		SCORE	Scoring Options
<b>Offence</b>	Other than this occasion - how often do you have problems?	0	None previously
		1	Rarely
		3	Occasionally
		5	Frequently
		0	No
<b>Offender</b>	Do you think that incidents are happening more often and/or are getting worse?	2	Yes
		0	No
	Do you know the perpetrator(s)?	1	Yes
		2	Know each other well
		0	No
	Is anyone in particular being specifically targeted by this behaviour?	1	A number of people
		3	Your family
		4	You
		0	No
	Do you feel that this incident is associated with your faith, nationality, ethnicity, sexuality, age, gender or disability?	3	Yes
0		No/Don't know	
Does the perpetrator (or their associates) have a history of or reputation for intimidation or harassment?		2	Have not intimidated/harassed the complainant, but have a history or reputation for harassment or violent behaviour
	3	Have intimidated/harassed the complainant in the past	
	5	Currently intimidating/harassing the complainant	
<b>7+ MEDIUM risk, 15+ HIGH risk</b>		<b>OFFENCE: STANDARD / MEDIUM / HIGH</b>	
<b>Impact</b>	How affected have you been by what has happened?	0	Not at all
		2	Changed routine or avoid locations
		4	Distressed
		5	Affected physical or mental health
	Do you have any friends, family or professionals to go to for support?	0	A close network of people to draw on for support
		1	A few people to draw on for support
In addition to what has happened, do you feel that there is anything that is increasing you or your household's personal risk (e.g. because of personal circumstances)?	3	Lives alone and is isolated	
	0	No	
<b>3+ MEDIUM risk, 6+ HIGH risk</b>		<b>IMPACT: STANDARD / MEDIUM / HIGH</b>	
<b>Scale</b>	Are any other agencies involved with this problem?		
	Apart from any effect on you, do you think anyone else has been affected by what has happened?		
<b>OVERALL ASSESSMENT ( If any of the above section scores HIGH then overall score is HIGH)</b>			<b>STANDARD / MEDIUM / HIGH</b>
Give reasons if this is different to either of those above (professional judgement & rationale)			

Disclaimer: I confirm that the victim has been advised that as part of the multi agency approach to tackling ASB in Northamptonshire that details contained in this assessment may be shared with other partner organisations tasked with supporting the reduction of ASB.

Yes  No

### Appendix 3. Community Trigger Process



**Appendix 4. Community Remedy Document**

*Currently unavailable*

# **Northamptonshire Community Safety Agreement**

**2015 – 2016**

<b>1. Introduction .....</b>	<b>3</b>
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## Introduction:

- 1.1. The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 gave statutory responsibility to local authorities, the police and key partners to reduce crime and disorder in their communities.
- 1.2. Each Community Safety Partnership is required to undertake a strategic assessment and from this produce an annually refreshed Partnership Plan. For two tier authorities, such as Northamptonshire, a requirement to produce a community safety agreement was introduced through the Police and Justice Act (2006).
- 1.2. The 2007 Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy) Regulations identify the following requirements for a community safety agreement:
  - The community safety agreement shall be based on the strategic assessments for that year prepared by the strategy groups for the areas in the county area.
  - The community safety agreement shall identify—
    - the ways in which the responsible authorities in the county area might more effectively implement the priorities set out in these strategic assessments through coordinated or joint working; and
    - how the responsible authorities in the county area might otherwise reduce crime and disorder or combat substance misuse through coordinated or joint working.
- 1.4. The Statutory Instrument introduced in 2012 as an amendment to the Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy) Regulations [2007]), requires the following:

*“(a) The county strategy group shall send a copy of the community safety agreement to the elected local policing body for the police area which comprises or includes the county area.”*
- 1.5. The amendments to the Crime and Disorder Act that were implemented on 1st June 2011 state that there is a continued requirement for a community safety agreement for the county to be produced on behalf of the responsible authorities. Therefore this agreement will be reviewed every 12 months.

## 2. Purpose of this agreement:

- 2.1. To deliver the statutory duty under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (as amended by the Police and Justice Act 2006); two tier authorities are required to prepare a Community Safety Agreement for the county. Section 17 recognises that there are key stakeholders that have responsibility for a wide range of services to the community that can deliver community safety solutions.
- 2.2. To develop a more joined-up approach to public service delivery, enable more effective and co-ordinated strategic planning across partner agencies and to ensure sustainable and lasting improvements in delivering outcomes.

- 2.3 To recognise that community safety issues do not always respect district boundaries, and that co-ordination of effort can lead to economies of scale, joined up working, and more effective outcomes.
- 2.4 To articulate the structures, processes and priorities associated with community safety in Northamptonshire.

### 3. Principles:

The principles on which we base this agreement are:

- Principle 1:** Northamptonshire will have fit for purpose partnerships, that evolve through a cycle of continuous improvement.
- Principle 2:** Northamptonshire will ensure a focus on outcomes and evidence-based responses, with a clear emphasis on prevention and considering the perspective of victims.
- Principle 3:** Together, as partners, we should identify, and work towards what it means to be the Safest County in England.

### 4. Community Safety Agreement priorities 2015 – 16:

- 4.1 Each CSP has a statutory responsibility to produce a community safety plan. The plan identifies the priorities that the Partnership has agreed to respond to as well as putting in place targets that they will aim to achieve by the end of the plan period. Sitting below the plan are action plans that identify how these targets will be met, by whom and by when. This helps to ensure accountability.
- 4.2 The Partnership Strategic Assessments for 2015-16 were produced in February 2015. A review was undertaken of police recorded crime to assess the volume of crime types and any particular shifts in offending over the last few years. The review found that the volume of violence against the person was higher than any other crime type for the force area as a whole including serious acquisitive crime. A decision was taken by CSPs to focus the PSA on violent crime and particularly in relation to offender and location profiling.
- 4.3 The Police Control Strategy for 2015-16 identifies the following priorities:
  - reduce violence
  - protect vulnerable people
  - effectively tackle ASB
  - reduce acquisitive crime
  - understand and reduce cybercrime
  - reduce the supply and impact of controlled drugs
  - effectively tackle Serious and Organised Crime
  - respond to and manage current and emerging security threats
- 4.4 The Police and Crime Plan 2014-17 identifies the following outcomes:
  - A reduction of at least 40% in violent crime
  - A more visible police force

- The safest roads
  - Anti-social behaviour robustly and intelligently tackled
  - Drugs eradication and the reduction of acquisitive crime
  - A secure place
- 4.5 Public attitude surveys consistently identify ASB as a top priority for residents in the county.
- 4.6 A new statutory duty around Preventing Violent Extremism is being introduced during 2015. Devising a countywide response to this will be a key challenge for partners over the next year.
- 4.7 To date the county has not adopted a partnership approach to tackling organised crime. Following a seminar on the 6<sup>th</sup> March 2015, a number of key actions were identified for the partnership and it is therefore a priority for the forthcoming year to embed this
- 4.8 The following have been identified as the countywide strategic partnership priorities based on the documents referenced above:
- Violence, including interpersonal violence
  - Child Sexual Exploitation
  - Substance Misuse
  - Anti-social Behaviour
  - Organised Crime
  - Prevent
- 4.9 Local priorities will be determined by the CSP taking into account current strategic countywide issues.

## **5. The community safety arrangements in Northamptonshire:**

- 6.1 The main delivery vehicles to promote Community Safety are the six Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) within Northamptonshire - Corby CSP, Daventry District and South Northamptonshire CSP, East Northamptonshire CSP, Kettering CSP, Northampton CSP, and Wellingborough CSP.
- 6.2 Each CSP membership includes the relevant District or Borough Council, Northamptonshire County Council, Northamptonshire Police and other key local/regional agencies depending on the need of each CSP area.
- 6.3 Northamptonshire has a statutory duty to have a countywide community safety strategy group. The County Chief Executives meeting has this remit of acting as the statutory vehicle for community safety, receiving an update every 6 months in regards to community safety activity in the county.
- 6.4 The Partnership Strategic Assessments should be undertaken between June and October. The Partnership Strategic Assessments will undertake analysis of progress on priorities at both county and CSP level, and examine what the priorities for the following year should be.
- 6.5 In 2014-15, there were three countywide delivery groups for:

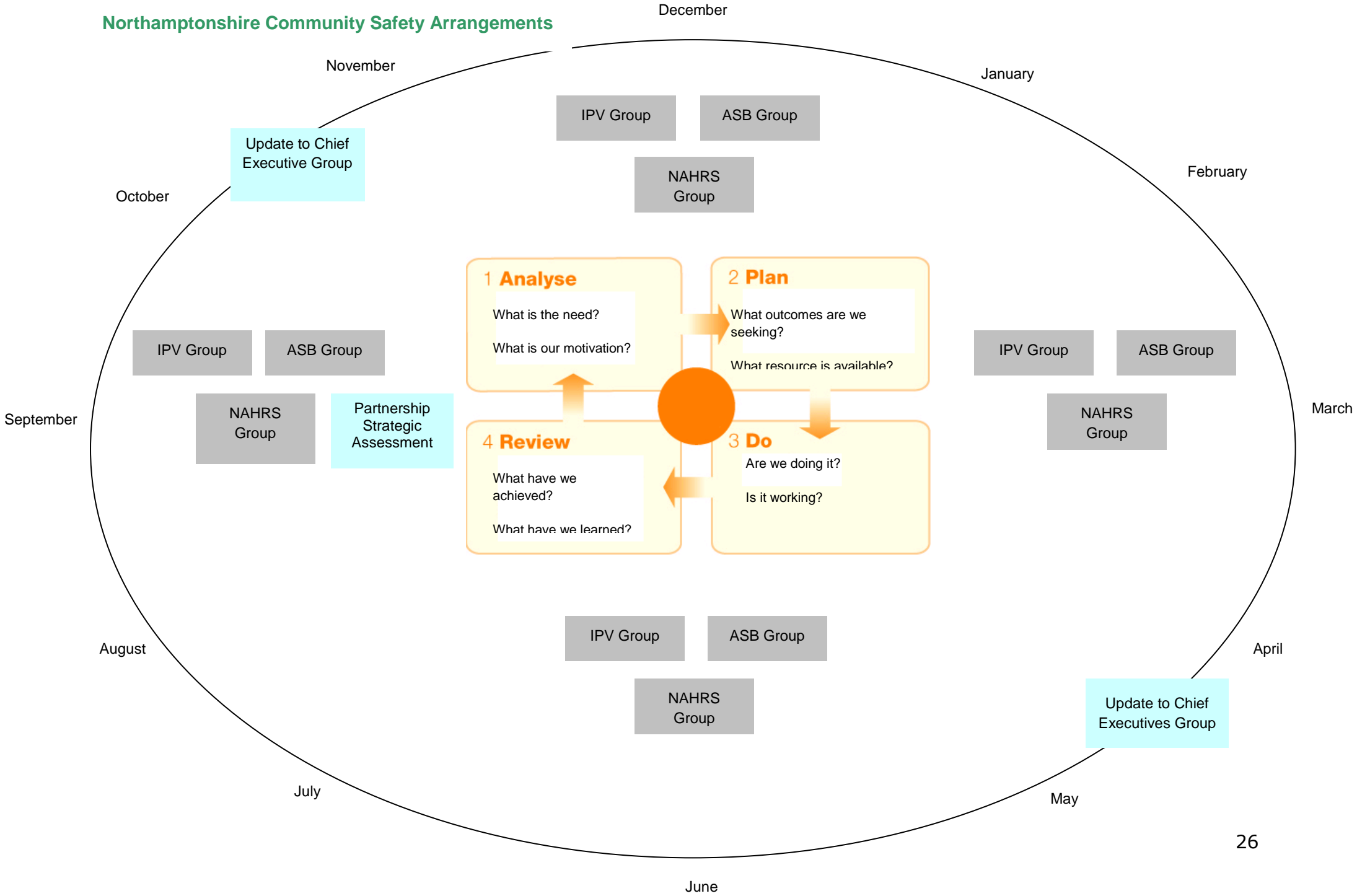


- Anti-social Behaviour and hate crime,
- Interpersonal Violence and
- Alcohol Harm Reduction.

These groups are responsible for ensuring a strategy is produced and for delivering improvements. These groups will continue in 2015-16.

- 6.6 The CSE and Missing sub-group of the NSCB will continue to lead the work on the CSE strategy and action plan.
- 6.7 Discussions are taking place in regards to establishing a county group to develop a county response to organised crime and preventing violent extremism for 2015-16.
- 6.8 Representatives should have delegated authority to act on behalf of their own organisation and the responsibility for taking actions through their organisation on behalf of the group they are a member of. Participating organisations need to understand what is expected of them and what they should expect of other organisations. Organisations need to decide how best to do this to suit their own structures.

# Northamptonshire Community Safety Arrangements



## SUB GROUPS - TERMS OF REFERENCE

### **ASB and Hate Crime Group:**

Purpose: To establish an understanding of, and mitigate risk in relation to victimisation from ASB and Hate Crime.

- The group will agree the approach to reducing ASB and hate crime for the following year and ensure this is communicated to the wider partnership.
- The group will ensure there is a clear pathway in place for victims.
- The group will work to ensure consistency of approach across all agencies in the county in their response to Hate Crime and Anti-social Behaviour.
- The group will coordinate necessary development work to deliver consistency and service quality across the county.
- The group will maintain oversight of the process to develop and embed E-CINS, facilitating engagement by all current and future partners where possible.
- The group will contribute to the PCC's objective of establishing a "One Stop Shop" for ASB (when agreed).
- The group will maintain a focus on legislative changes in relation to ASB and Hate Crime and ensure a countywide response is delivered.

### **Alcohol Harm Reduction Group:**

Purpose: To reduce the harm associated with alcohol

- The group will agree the approach to reducing alcohol harm for the following year and ensure this is communicated to the wider partnership.
- The groups will ensure that there is a clear pathway in place for service users
- The group will commission services appropriate to their aims.
- The group will contribute to the campaign to influence cultural change in the perception of alcohol harm in Northamptonshire's residents.
- The group will be responsible for delivering the outcomes in the Northamptonshire Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy, through the production of an action plan.

### **IPV Group:**

Purpose: To work together to reduce the number of repeat victims of interpersonal violence

- The group will agree the approach to reducing interpersonal violence for the following year and ensure this is communicated to the wider partnership.
- The group will ensure that there is a clear pathway in place for victims and perpetrators of interpersonal violence.
- The group will commission services appropriate to their aims.
- To contribute to implementation of appropriate recommendations in the Victims' Voice report.

### **Community Safety Managers Group:**

The Community Safety Managers Group will bring together personnel from organisations with a community safety responsibility, as now.

The Community Safety Managers Group will:

- Provide a forum through which proposed changes or initiatives can be informally discussed.
- Provide an advisory service to the community safety Core Group, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and relevant organisations on operational community safety matters, and the impacts new strategies or policies may have.
- Facilitate changes in community safety across the county.
- Coordinate activity between countywide organisations and localities, ensuring communication of plans and activities.
- Facilitate the flow of information between the Office of the Police and Crime Commission and other community safety organisations or partnerships.
- Identify best practice from across county.
- Identify best practice from across the country

## 6. Resourcing Community Safety in Northamptonshire:

6.1 For 2015/16 the Office of Faith Based and Community Initiatives is leading on developing a new commissioning framework that aims to:

- **build capacity** and capability across two sectors in relation to crime prevention and community safety.
- **invest** in faith-based and community organisations to help them to prevent and reduce crime, support victims, increase community safety and cohesion.
- **help** these two sectors to more effectively **measure and evidence** the positive impact they are having on people and their communities

6.2 The bigger opportunity for community safety funding lies in how mainstream resources are utilised and aligned within partnerships. Agencies across the county are working to align mainstream resources to ensure effective delivery, minimise duplication and generate added value against agreed priorities.

6.3 Northamptonshire County Council provides a number of support services to vulnerable people living in the county that all contribute to delivering against agreed priorities. These include Public Health commissioning, including the commissioning of services to tackle substance misuse, Adults and Children's Social Care, the Targeted Prevention and Early Help team, the Troubled Families team, and the Supporting Services contracts for domestic abuse, parenting support and adolescents with challenging behaviour.

6.4 The county council also provides Trading Standards services, highways and street lighting, libraries and transport planning services which can all either directly support community safety initiatives or contribute to the agenda. The Fire and Rescue Service and Youth Offending Service are also part of the county council. The county council also has a dedicated community safety team working to coordinate and align activity and policy across the county.

6.5 Districts and Borough Councils support their respective CSPs and provide a range of community safety activities, which vary between them, but may include:

- funding of PCSOs
- provision of CCTV
- carrying out their licensing functions
- promoting safer town centres

- tackling environmental crime and improving neighbourhood safety
- carrying out community development initiatives, and supporting neighbourhood watch schemes;
- providing community payback projects for the Probation Service
- ensuring good quality design in new developments and supporting “target hardening” work
- dealing with anti-social behaviour, including commissioning youth services, and where they are stock holding authorities, as a landlord.
- support for victims of crime
- providing advice and carrying out regular consultation with local people on community safety matters

## 7. Scrutiny of Community Safety:

### Local Authority scrutiny:

- 7.1 The Police and Justice Act 2006 and supporting regulations set out the requirements for Local Authorities to scrutinise crime and disorder matters. These requirements include:
- Every local authority is required to have a ‘Crime and Disorder committee’ to review and scrutinise the decisions made, or other actions taken in connection with the discharge of crime and disorder functions by the local authority and its partners
  - The “Crime and Disorder Committee” is to be an Overview and Scrutiny Committee of the Local Authority
- 7.2 Each local authority in Northamptonshire has arrangements in place to comply with this statutory requirement.

### Police and Crime Panel:

- 7.3 Northamptonshire has established a Police and Crime Panel as part of the requirements of the Police Reform & Social Responsibility Act 2011. As stipulated by the Act, it is the responsibility of the local authorities for the police area to make arrangements for the establishment and maintenance of the Panel (‘Panel Arrangements’). Each local authority in the Force Area and each member of the panel must comply with the arrangements.
- 7.4 Northamptonshire County Council has led the process to establish the Panel Arrangements for Northamptonshire and will be the host authority for the Panel. Each local authority has agreed the Panel Arrangements and appointed councillors to sit on the Panel through their relevant democratic process. The Panel shall be promoted and supported by each local authority in the police area through:
- (a) The publication of information on their respective websites about the work of the Panel and links to web-pages on the host authority’s website.
  - (b) Sharing of information about the work of their designated statutory crime and disorder committee to assist in ensuring that the Panel’s work and local scrutiny work are complementary.

**Acceptable Behaviour**  
**Contracts**

**Guidance Document**

**Northamptonshire ASB & Hate  
Crime  
Strategic Group**

**May 2015**

Change History  
Version Date Reason  
1.0

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## Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABCs)

### 1. Introduction

The aim of this document is to translate nationally recognised best practice on ABCs into guidance to assist agencies to work together to tackle anti-social behaviour (ASB) in Northamptonshire. This guidance has been produced by Northamptonshire ASB & Hate Crime Strategic Group, in line with the partnership ASB Strategy, in order to reinstate the use of ABCs by PCSOs and Police Officers working in Safer Communities Teams, to ensure a consistent approach to the use of ABCs across agencies.

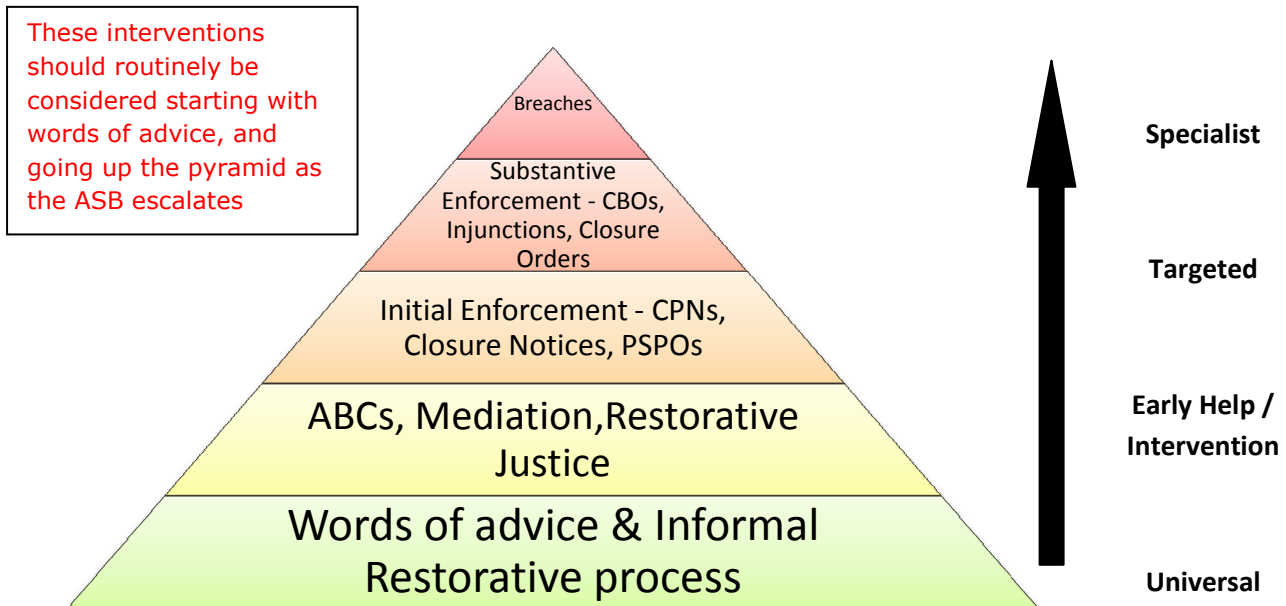


Figure 1.

### 2. Background

#### 2.1 What is an Acceptable Behaviour Contract (ABC)?

An ABC is a written voluntary agreement between a person who has been involved in ASB and one or more agencies whose role it is to prevent such behaviour. ABCs can be used effectively with adults, young people and children (10yrs +).

#### 2.2 What is a Parenting ABC? (In Home Office guidance - Parenting Contract)

A Parenting ABC is a written voluntary agreement between the parent(s) of a child or young person aged 17 or under, and the Local Authority or Youth Offending Service if about crime/ASB; a RSL if about housing-related ASB, or a school if about truancy. Police do not have powers to issue a Parenting ABC. The contract includes a statement by the parent that they agree to comply with the requirements set out in the contract, which are targeted at reducing ASB. A Parenting ABC may complement an ABC for a young person.

#### 2.3 Purpose of ABCs

ABCs are not intended to stop people socialising, to stop children from behaving like children, nor prevent lawful and reasonable behaviour. In Northamptonshire, for an ABC, there is a need to demonstrate an ongoing



pattern of behaviour that has a negative impact on individuals, the community or environment. This might be from reported incidents or observed behaviour. ABCs are intended to address low level behaviour and provide an early intervention. If it is more serious or you are in any doubt, please contact the ASB Unit for advice. An example of a case in which you should contact the ASB Unit is where the risk assessment identifies someone as high risk.

#### **2.4 Principles**

ABCs are an effective method for intervening early, preventing further ASB, and achieving long-term behavioural change. The principle factors when considering an ABC as part of the ASB toolkit are:-

- Multi-agency consultation and involvement
- Effective information sharing
- Early intervention
- Assessment of underlying causes of ASB
- Effective co-ordination and case management
- Quality not quantity, both in terms of the use of ABCs generally, and in terms of the volume of conditions agreed as part of an ABC
- An ABC is not a means to legal enforcement tools – but is an engagement tool to help encourage a positive change in behaviour
- Single agency ABCs are the exception rather than the norm
- Adequate risk assessments are used to identify risks and vulnerabilities of victims and offenders – Northamptonshire ASB screening tools are available through the ECINs system

#### **3. Multi-agency Delivery**

ABCs are most effective as a multi-agency tool due to the need to address underlying causes of the ASB. However, there may be circumstances where a single agency ABC would be appropriate, for example, noise nuisance, neighbour disputes, where only one agency is involved and no underlying issues have been identified.

Where a perpetrator of ASB is coming mainly to the attention of the Police but is also a social housing tenant, the ABC should be delivered in partnership with the Registered Social Landlord (RSL) where possible, to reinforce the tenancy conditions around acceptable behaviour. This should happen even if the perpetrator is a child and it is the parent's tenancy. Logos from all involved agencies should be clearly displayed at the top of the contract.

#### **4. Information Gathering/Checks**

Gathering information from amongst agencies working with the individual is essential to establish a full picture about them before making a decision about whether to use an ABC. Cases should be managed on ECINS (see paragraph 6) and if the system identifies any agencies working with the individuals, those agencies should be contacted and information requested; partner agencies should respond as soon as possible but within two weeks. The ASB Unit should be notified. For children and young people, the local Youth Offending Service must be contacted to establish if they are already working with the young person. To help gather information about which agencies are involved with a family, consider asking the family, check with Early Help Assessment (Troubled Families), Social Care, ECINS and the Force Intelligence System. These checks

are important because we need to establish what other work is being done so that the ABC does not cause conflict, for example by putting in a curfew, or an exclusion zone, which then prohibits them from attending a beneficial activity that has been arranged with them.

## **5. Role of the Lead Officer (LO)**

The Lead Officer is likely to be from the agency that first identified the need for the intervention. The Lead Officer should:-

- Conduct all intelligence, incident and partner checks
- Manage the Profile and Case records on ECINS
- Notify the ASB Unit and consult on conditions
- Arrange the ABC meeting (see below)
- Lead the discussion with the individual (and their family)
- Negotiate the terms of the ABC
- Draw up the contract
- Provide copies of the ABC to partners who have agreed to monitor the ABC
- Co-ordinate the on-going case management
- Provide regular feedback to the individual
- Address any breaches of the ABC
- Should there be any serious breaches of the ABC, escalate to the ASB Unit urgently for consultation and a decision on future actions

## **6. Process**

### **6.1 Initial action**

The lead officer (LO) intending to do an ABC must firstly do checks with ECINS, FIS, Storm and any partner agencies i.e. housing to establish if there are any partners working with them already and if there are other incidents or criminal activity, to establish if this an appropriate intervention. If there any partners involved, the LO will contact the partners and advise them of the intention to draw up an ABC, asking if there any specific conditions they would like.

### **6.2 ABC Request**

The LO will then contact the subject to advise them of their intention to do an ABC and ask if they will agree. If they refuse, they need to be advised that this will be recorded as an official refusal to engage and this can be used in evidence if further action needs to be taken. If they agree, an appointment needs to be made at a suitable time and place (home, police station, housing office etc) and with an appropriate adult if a young person/vulnerable adult. This meeting should be arranged as soon as possible for all parties.

### **6.3 Drawing Up The Contract**

The LO will draw up the ABC prior to the meeting targeted at preventing the specific offending behaviour, ensuring that all partners are happy with the conditions. They will prepare a copy for themselves, one for the subject and one for any partners who attend. The subject's personal details should be completed on all of the copies prior to the delivery meeting.

The ABC should be written in plain language, using terminology relevant to the age and ability of the individual and avoiding the use of jargon. For young

children or young people with learning difficulties, pictures may be more appropriate. The standard length of an ABC is six months; however, partners may decide that for children and young people, a shorter term is more appropriate.

A template for an Acceptable Behaviour Contract is included at Appendix B and examples of suggested conditions in Appendix C.

#### **6.4 Conditions**

The ABC should include:-

- Prohibitive conditions only (e.g. I will not...)
- A warning about the potential consequence of breaching the ABC ie legal action, such as an IPNA, a Community Protection Notice (CPN), Criminal Behaviour Order (CBO), Injunction or eviction.

The conditions should be jointly agreed with the individual in an initial approach. The professional would meet the individual (with parent/guardian etc) to discuss the behaviour, note the language they use, and incorporate their language in the conditions, for example if they agree that their behaviour is anti-social because they use "rude words," then in the conditions, the wording should include "not to use rude words."

There should be a maximum of six conditions to address the specific behaviour, which the individual is required to change. With youths, there should be as few conditions as possible. Partner agencies must be able to monitor each of the conditions. In the case of children or young people, the conditions should also be agreed with their parent/guardian.

If there is a proposal for a condition in which a map or exclusion area is to be used, the ASB Unit MUST be consulted first to ensure that freedom is not restricted unnecessarily. A list of example ABC conditions is included at Appendix B.

#### **6.5 ABC Delivery Meeting**

The LO will explain the process and initiate the discussion around the impact the current behaviour of the subject is having on others. As the LO works through each of the conditions there may be need for some negotiation but this will be down to the LO to decide if the negotiated condition will help achieve the aim of the ABC. Once all is agreed explain how the ABC will monitored, reviewed and the consequences of breaches. Get the subject, appropriate adult (if appropriate) and any partners to sign the back of EACH copy for their records and keep one for themselves.

#### **6.6 After the Meeting**

A signed copy of the ABC should be uploaded onto the relevant ECINS Case, under the 'Documents' tab, so that it can be accessed by all relevant parties.

The ABC should also be recorded on ECINS in the Case as an 'Action', to enable performance management statistics to be extracted. The LO should inform the ASBU who need to advise the ASBAG.

The Lead Officer should provide feedback to the victim. The form this takes will be different in each case, but sufficient information should be provided to reflect the level of intervention and monitoring.

#### **6.7 Monitoring the ABC**

There should be a proactive approach to monitoring which allows for both recognition of positive changes in behaviour and the prompt acknowledgement of every breach. The ABC should be monitored on a regular basis to ensure compliance with the conditions.

The Lead Officer should obtain feedback from partner agencies responsible for monitoring different aspects of the ABC. This information should be fed back to the individual and their family as part of the reviews.

## **6.8 Breaches**

A serious breach or number of breaches should result in the ASB Unit being notified. The Youth Offending Service must be informed of all breaches by youths.

The breach of an ABC, or the refusal to sign an ABC could be used as evidence for further legal enforcement action by the ASB Unit, so all breaches need to be recorded on ECINS. Consideration will be given to legal options such as injunctions and tenancy related proceedings.

The ASB Unit MUST be consulted on any breaches involving non-attendance at school, as this may be a complex issue.

## **7 E-CINS**

ECINS stands for Empowering Communities Inclusion and Neighbourhood-Management System. It is a secure, cloud-based computer system that enables the police and partners to share information, regarding victims and offenders of anti-social behaviour (ASB), fast and effectively and reduces the need for meetings.

### Other Related documents

This guidance should be read in conjunction with the following documents:-

- Northamptonshire ECINS Information Sharing Agreement
- Northamptonshire E-CINS User Guide

Both documents are available via the 'Downloads' button on the live ECINS system, and on the police intranet.

## **8 Case Management**

ABCs will be managed on ECINS, using the ASB Perpetrators Gallery, and a case named as follows: "ABC (beat code) (offender's name)."

If a Profile does not already exist, one will need to be created for an ASB perpetrator, who is being considered for an ABC. The perpetrator will be managed on ECINS until the ASB has ceased and the ABC has expired. At this point the case will be archived, unless any other agencies continue to work with the individual. Before closing a case, risk assessments should be done again.

If the ABC escalates, the conditions of the ABC can be changed, a new ABC can be negotiated, or the case can be renamed as an AO1.

A guide on how to use the Access Tab on ECINS is shown as Appendix A.

## **Appendix A: ECINS CASE ACCESS GUIDE**

To manage an ABC on ECINS, create a profile for the offender and victims where necessary, and create a case named as follows:  
"ABC (beat code) (offender's name)."

In the Access Tab of the profile and also of the case, allow permissions as appropriate to the circumstances of those individuals, and following circumstances would result in the corresponding access permission.

<b>Circumstance</b>	<b>Access</b>
The individual is under 18 years old	Youth Offending Service
The individual is a child subject to a local authority care order or accommodated by the local authority	Youth Offending Service
The individual is considered to be vulnerable (safeguarding issues)	MASH (any safeguarding referrals should be done through the normal routes, not on ECINS)
The harassment is of a racial nature	The Northants Rights Equality Council, Hate Crimes Officer
The parents of a young person are being considered for a parenting contract / order	MASH, Youth Offending Service
The individual has substance misuse problems	Local drug/alcohol treatment services (they are not yet on ECINS but tick the box anyway)
The individual has mental health problems	Local Community Mental Health Team
The individual is known (or it is suspected) to be supervised by the Probation Service.	Northamptonshire Probation Service/Bench/relevant commissioned service
The individual resides in social housing	Relevant housing provider
Animal welfare concerns	Rural Crime Team

Remember that granting them access does not mean that they will know it is there. Contact them if discussion appropriate.

## **Appendix B: ABCs - Suggestions for suitable conditions**

This is guidance for the drafting of Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABCs). **Please note that Acceptable Behaviour Contracts should only be used by those who have had the relevant training.** Training comprises familiarisation with this document and viewing of the ABC video. For further information please contact sector ASB champions or the ASB Units. The conditions have been categorised so that it is easier to find the most appropriate.

Please note that these are only general conditions. When completing an ABC for an individual, the conditions can be adapted or altered to correspond with the behaviour being committed and on an individual needs basis. **The conditions should also be drafted taking into consideration the age and understanding of the individual and should also use appropriate language e.g. words that the individual uses, avoiding the use of legal jargon.**

### **Behaviour/gestures**

- Not urinate in a public place including people's gardens.
- Not use violent, abusive or threatening behaviour or language to any employee, representative or agent of the council or police.
- Not block the communal areas for any reason by using // or other articles.
- Not swear or use offensive or threatening words or behaviour in a public place.

### **Alcohol related/use of illegal substances**

- Not possess any alcohol in any street or public place.
- Not be drunk or high in any street or public place.

### **Noise**

- Not cause nuisance by loud noises or ongoing noises such as [shouting/ etc] in the street and the surrounding areas.
- [As above]....to the disturbance of your neighbours.
- [As above]... between these times: \_\_ am/pm to \_\_ am/pm.

### **Group related**

- Not congregate in groups of 3 or more people in a manner causing or likely to cause any person to fear for their safety.

### **Associating with others**

- Not associate with // in public or in a place where the public have access, unless supervised by a parent or appropriate adult.

### **Preventing property damage**

- Not carry any marker pens, spray cans or lighters in a public place.

### **Throwing of objects**

- Not throw or kick any object unless engaged in a legitimate sporting activity.

### **Encouraging others to commit ASB**

- Not encourage anyone to behave in a manner that causes or is likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress, or nuisance or annoyance to any person.

### **Exclusion areas/places (ASB Unit must be consulted first)**

- Not enter the area shown on the attached map [may specify the street names/ park etc].
- Not enter any property or premises without the owner's permission [may specify the street names/ park etc].

### **Curfews**

- Not be out after // unless accompanied by //. On Friday and Saturday night this time is extended to //.

### **Other**

- Not miss school unless you have a medical reason or other legitimate reason that a parent or other appropriate adult is aware of.



## ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR CONTRACT

Lead Officer: Role:

Secondary Officer: Role:

<b>NAME:</b>	<b>DATE OF BIRTH:</b>
<b>ADDRESS:</b>	
<b>CONTACT NO.:</b>	

### I agree from now on I will:

- Not cause harassment, alarm, distress, nuisance or annoyance to any person.
- Not use violent, abusive or threatening behaviour or language to any employee, representative or officer of the council, police, fire or ambulance service.
- Not associate with \_\_\_\_\_ in public or in a place where the public have access, unless supervised by a parent or appropriate adult.
- Not be out after 9pm unless accompanied by a parent. On Friday and Saturday night this time is extended to 10pm.
- Not be drunk or high in any street or public place.

This contract will last for 6 months, to be regularly reviewed.

### Breach

If there is a breach of this contract recognised by any of the agencies involved which amounts to anti-social behaviour an application *may* be made to the Magistrates' Court for an **Antisocial Behaviour Injunction to Prevent Nuisance and Annoyance (IPNA)**. Breach of an IPNA may result in a court imposing up to two years imprisonment and/or an unlimited fine for an adult; a supervision order with a supervision, curfew or activity requirement for people under 18 years of age, or a detention order for up to 3 months for those aged 14 to 17.



**DECLARATION**

I confirm that I understand the meaning of the contract and that the consequences of a breach of the contract have been explained to me.

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_  
*[Signature of Individual]* *[Signature of Parent/Guardian]*  
DATE: DATE:

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_  
*[Signature of Lead Agency]* *[Signature of Secondary Agency]*  
DATE: DATE:



## ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR CONTRACT

Lead Officer: \_\_\_\_\_ Role: \_\_\_\_\_

Secondary Officer: \_\_\_\_\_ Role: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>NAME:</b>	<b>DATE OF BIRTH:</b>
<b>ADDRESS:</b>	
<b>CONTACT NO.:</b>	

Agrees to the following conditions:

1. Not to behave in a manner that causes or is likely to cause alarm, harassment or distress, nuisance or annoyance to members of the public;
2. Not to use threatening or abusive language or behaviour to any other person, including .....
3. Not to cause, provoke or encourage conflict between your mother and any other person(s), particularly \*\*\*\*\* & \*\*\*\*\*.

The above behaviour constitutes breaches of the tenancy agreement and conditions of your parents Mr. & Mrs. \*\*\*\*\*.

In particular 5.4.1 of the tenancy agreement which states: "That you are responsible for the behaviour of every person (including children) living in or visiting your home. You are responsible for them in your home, on surrounding land, in the communal areas (stairs, landings, entrance halls, paving, shared gardens, parking areas) and in the neighbourhood locality around your home.

This contract will last for 6 months, to be regularly reviewed.

### Breach

If there is a breach of this contract recognised by any of the agencies involved which amounts to anti-social behaviour an application *may* be made to the Magistrates' Court for an **Antisocial Behaviour Injunction to Prevent Nuisance and Annoyance (IPNA)**. Breach of an IPNA may result in a court imposing up to two years imprisonment and/or an unlimited fine for an adult; a supervision order with a supervision, curfew or activity requirement for people under 18 years of age, or a detention order for up to 3 months for those aged 14 to 17.

**DECLARATION**

I confirm that I understand the meaning of the contract and that the consequences of a breach of the contract have been explained to me.

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_  
*[Signature of Individual]* *[Signature of Parent/Guardian]*  
DATE: DATE:

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_  
*[Signature of Lead Agency]* *[Signature of Secondary Agency]*  
DATE: DATE:

## ABC PROCEDURE

### Individual Identified

#### Checks on:

- ECINS
- PNC
- Police Intel/Storm
- External Agency involvement

Contact subject to see if they will agree to negotiate an ABC. If not, advise that this will be recorded as a refusal to engage and could be used against them. Record on ECINS. If they agree, arrange appointment (with AA if required) asap.

Draft a copy of ABC to target specific ASB, in agreement with second agency.

### ABC Delivery Meeting with Subject

Attend delivery meeting with partner agency and take the draft ABC with you. If agreed, get ABC signed then. It is ok at this stage to REMOVE conditions or make SMALL AMENDMENTS with a signature of proof. If not possible, a further meeting needs to be arranged with terms that have been agreed at this meeting. Copies of signed ABC to both partner agencies and the individual.

#### ABC Refused

An official refusal needs to be entered onto ECINS and the exhibit number to be written at the top of the proposed ABC. This should be placed into the ABC file.

#### ABC Signed

- Update ECINS
- Endorse ABC with exhibit number and place into ABC file
- Update agencies and provide a copy where appropriate

### Monitor the ABC

- Proactive approach to monitoring, allowing for recognition of positive changes, and prompt response to breaches, all of which must be recorded.
- Complete all checks periodically for updates on individual, including feedback from other agencies.
- Amendments to be agreed where necessary & appropriate. Prepare a new ABC to deliver before the end of the ABC, if appropriate, in a face to face review.

#### Expired ABC

- Entry made on ECINS with the ABC endorsed with exhibit number.
- ABC moved to expired ABC file.

#### Renewed ABC

- Same procedure as with initial contract
- Refer individual for the next Action Group

# ASB Service Standards

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Northamptonshire Community Safety Partnerships will make certain that victims are at the centre of their response to anti-social behaviour by ensuring that:

- Each complaint will be investigated and taken seriously.
- All information you give us will be treated in confidence and in accordance with data protection legislation.
- Our staff will be trained to give you the correct advice.
- A risk assessment will be completed to help identify vulnerable and repeat victims.
- We will respond to high risk incidents within one working day.
- We will respond to non high risk incidents within 5 day working days.
- You will be informed who the lead organisation will be and be provided with appropriate support. The lead organisation will work with partners and other service providers where necessary.
- You will have a single point of contact (SPOC) within the lead organisation dealing with your ASB issue and be provided with their contact details.
- We will ideally resolve the complaint to your satisfaction, through the compliance of an agreed action plan produced with consideration of the full range of actions available.
- We will support you in collecting evidence to enable positive action to be taken. We will regularly review this information and explain what action is to be taken and why.
- We will keep you informed about your case and provide updates within timescales agreed with you.
- We will contact you via telephone, text, e-mail, letter or in person as agreed with you.
- We will monitor your satisfaction with the way we have dealt with your case.
- The lead agency will ask the court for special measures for vulnerable or intimidated victims and witnesses where appropriate.
- We will make a referral to the witness service if appropriate during criminal proceedings.
- Where appropriate, we will keep communities informed of what is happening within their neighbourhood through a range of means including street briefings, newsletters and leaflet distribution.
- We will promote another route if you are not satisfied with the outcome.

