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Title: **ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR TEAM UPDATE**

Date: 21st October 2008

Member Reporting: N/A

Contact Officer(s): Amy Cannon, ASB Coordinator, 01628 796725

Wards Affected: All

1. SUMMARY

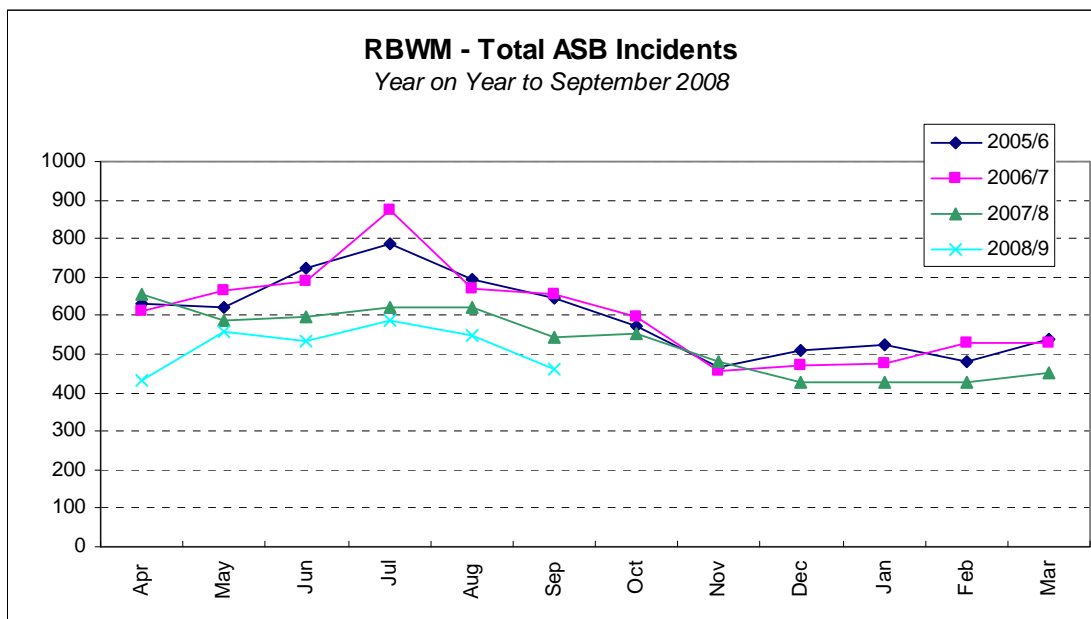
- 1.1 The ASB Team is currently dealing with 58 open cases, 35 of which are rowdy, nuisance and inconsiderate behaviour and 15 of which are rowdy, nuisance neighbours. The other categories that we are dealing with, with 1 or 2 incidents each, are criminal damage, noise, hate, street drinking and rowdy nuisance environmental damage. (These figures were correct on 8th October 2008).
- 1.2 We currently have 13 Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABCs) without interventions alongside them, and an additional 4 ABCs with interventions alongside them. We have had 40 ABCs without intervention successfully completed to date, which means we have already exceeded the 2010 LAA target of 24 successfully completed ABCs without intervention. We have had 1 ABC with intervention successfully completed to date, which means we are behind schedule in achieving the 2010 LAA target of 18 successfully completed ABCs with intervention. However, we are addressing the reasons for this slow progress, namely lack of interventions available and support offered to perpetrators undertaking the ABC with intervention. We now have a new arrangement in place with the YOT whereby we can access a number of complementary sessions which will count as interventions, and from Jan-Dec 2009 we will have a full-time officer in post to support those people undertaking interventions whilst signed up to ABCs. This officer will also be working on our LAA perception target for 2010, which is to reduce the perceptions of ASB across the borough by 5%. This will be measured through the place survey in 2008 and an independent survey in late 2009 or early 2010. (The figures in this section were correct on 8th October 2008).
- 1.3 We currently have 2 ASBOs in the borough, 1 of which expires in 2011 and the other in 2012. We also have one individual who has made undertakings to the courts not to behave in a certain manner. If the individual breaches this, they will be in contempt of court and may face imprisonment.
- 1.4 The ASB team has recently been working with a number of groups to tackle anti-social behaviour including neighbourhood watches, local youth groups, licensing and trading standards, as well as the usual partners such as police, housing associations, fire service and community wardens. We are currently coordinating the multi-agency approach to Halloween and Bonfire Night, to

ensure that both occasions (and the October half-term week) go smoothly. There is now an action plan in place, including a range of publicity and press releases.

- 1.5 The levels of ASB have been steadily falling across the borough. The following table illustrates the actual numbers of ASB incidents recorded in September 2008 compared to those in September 2007:

Area	Sep-07	Sep-08	% Change
Windsor	289	236	18% decrease
Maidenhead	255	224	12% decrease
Ascot	63	42	33% decrease
RBWM	544	460	15% decrease

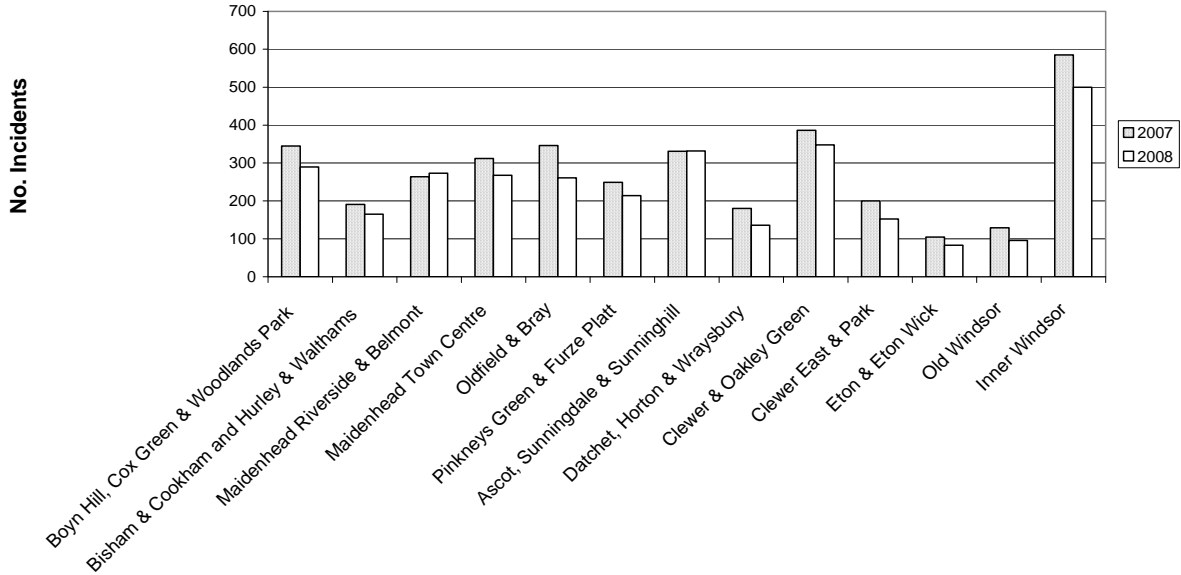
- 1.6 The following graph illustrates the levels of recorded ASB across the borough over the past three years. The pale blue line represents 2008/09 so far and this is consistently lower than previous years. We believe that the introduction of neighbourhood policing, community wardens and work of the ASB team and partners such as housing associations have all contributed to this steady reduction.



- 1.7 This next graph shows the levels of reported ASB in specific neighbourhoods for the period April-September 2008 compared to the same period in 2007. Inner Windsor is the neighbourhood with the highest levels of reported ASB, this is due to the night-time economy. Clewer and Oakley Green is second highest, due to problems with groups of youths. There are strategies in place in both neighbourhoods to address these issues, but there are a number of causative factors which also need to be addressed, and do not have straightforward solutions. Therefore, it could take some time before we see a

substantial reduction in incidents in these two neighbourhoods. However, we are confident that we will see a reduction.

Breakdown of Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents in RBWM by Police Neighbourhood
April to September 2008 compared to 2007



2. RECOMMENDATION:

That the Crime and Disorder Forum notes the recent work of the Anti-Social Behaviour Team and the reduction in reported ASB incidents across the borough. Councillors are also requested to inform residents of the ASB team's work.

What will be different for residents as a result of this decision?

Residents will be informed of the falling levels of ASB in the borough and the support available to tackle it, thus improving public confidence.

3. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Background

3.1 The Crime and Disorder Act (1998) defined ASB as 'acting in a manner that caused or was likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to one or more persons not of the same household [as the defendant]'.

3.2 The ASB team tackles ASB in the following ways:

- Investigates reports of ASB and takes action to stop it
- Supports residents in reporting anti-social neighbours

- Support projects to improve local communities
- Co-ordinates work with partner agencies to tackle ASB
- Takes action against perpetrators of ASB
- Makes it clear to perpetrators that ASB is unacceptable and will be acted on

4. OPTIONS AVAILABLE AND RISK ASSESSMENT

4.1 Options

	Option	Comments	Financial Implications
1.	Do nothing	Residents will have the same level of information about the work of the ASB team and ASB levels in the borough as they have now	Revenue: We may not achieve our 2010 LAA target and may miss out on the reward funding Capital: None
2.	Where relevant, to inform residents of the work of the ASB team, via Councillor's surgeries and one-to-one discussions	More residents will know of the support that is available to them in tackling ASB, and they will know that levels of ASB are falling across the borough	Revenue: We will have an increased chance of achieving our 2010 LAA target and reaping a reward of £276,000 for the community safety partnership Capital: None

4.2 Risk assessment

- 4.2.1 The main risks associated with this report are that we may fail to achieve the LAA reward targets for 2010 and that we may see an increase in ASB. These risks are to be managed through the employment of the full-time officer for 2009 and the ongoing co-ordinated efforts across the community safety partnership.

5. CONSULTATIONS CARRIED OUT

- 5.1 The police and partner agencies have been consulted regarding targeted actions for hotspots of ASB and the forthcoming Halloween and Bonfire Night period
- 5.2 Residents of the borough are to be consulted through the Place Survey which will include questions about perceptions of ASB

6. COMMENTS FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL

- 6.1 N/A

7. IMPLICATIONS

The following implications have been addressed where indicated below.

Financial	Legal	Human Rights Act	Planning	Sustainable Development	Diversity & Equality
✓	✓	✓	N/A	N/A	✓

Background Papers: