

7 April 2011

Monitoring of Recommendations made by the Anti Social Behaviour Working Group

Ward(s): All

Portfolios: Cllr Z Ali – Communities and Partnerships

Executive Summary:

The Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Working Group established in 2008 by the Neighbourhoods' Scrutiny and Performance Panel, conducted an extensive investigation into how this issue is addressed through a borough-wide multi-agency approach. The Working Group witnessed examples of good practice and identified areas where process and service delivery could be enhanced. Their findings were outlined in a report which was presented to the former Neighbourhoods Scrutiny and Performance Panel on 30 April 2009 and to Council on 6 July 2009.

The final report included a number of recommendations based upon the group's experiences and observations. Subsequently an action plan was prepared to address these recommendations which was presented to Cabinet on 16 September 2009. The purpose of this report is to update the Panel on the progress made in response to those recommendations. Progress was last reported to the panel on 7 September 2010.

Reason for scrutiny:

Tackling anti-social behaviour continues to be a key strategic priority for Safer Walsall Partnership and features within all six area plans. There have been significant changes within this area of work following a change of central government and new tools and powers are currently being consulted upon. The appendix to this report demonstrates the progress made in key areas and updates Members on how partners are delivering against the recommendations in a changing economic and political climate.

Recommendations:

That the Community Services Scrutiny and Performance Panel:

a) note the update on progress against each recommendation of the ASB Working Group as shown in the final column to the original action plan, shown at appendix 1.

b) note that the Partnership will continue to develop it's response to ASB, in line with changing government legislation and within the resources available to partners.

Background papers:

1. The Anti-Social Behaviour Working Group Report to Neighbourhoods and Performance panel – April 2009. This is a large document that can be accessed via the following link:
<http://www2.walsall.gov.uk/CMISWebPublic/Binary.ashx?Document=7015>
2. Anti Social Behaviour Action Plan (September 2009 – updated.)

Resource and legal considerations:

This report outlines the actions taken in response to the recommendations of the ASB Scrutiny Working Group.

There have been significant changes both locally and nationally since the original action plan was developed.

Locally, the Community Safety Service, of which the ASB Unit is a key part, merged with the existing Public Protection Service in September 2009 to form the integrated service area of Public Safety. This resulted in a major staffing restructure, significantly within the area of Community Safety. This restructure also reflected the requirements of the new area partnership model, ensuring each are had access to a dedicated ASB Officer.

Following a requirement to deliver further savings, there are more changes to this structure currently taking place. Although the existing 6 ASB Officer posts have been unaffected, some supporting roles have been lost, either through loss of Home Office grant funding (Neighbourhood Justice Coordinator and Victims Champion) or through savings (Reassurance posts)

Although an un-ring fenced Community Safety grant has been received from central government for the year 2011/2012, we have already been advised that this will be cut by around 50% for 2012/2013 and the funding will be held by the Area Police and Crime Commissioner.

The Home Office Business Plan states that there will be further guidance issued to CSPs in June 2011 regarding the legislation which underpins their activities.

Work is on-going with partners at a local and regional level to ensure best use of resources and coordination of services

Citizen impact:

The work of partners to tackle anti-social behaviour has a significant impact on residents, businesses and visitors to the borough. This issue has a social and economic impact and influences perceptions of feeling safe and having confidence in service providers.

Environmental impact:

Anti-social behaviour may involve graffiti, fly-tipping, vandalism and other environmental crimes. Through tackling such issues, partners contribute to improving the public's perception of feeling safe in their area and contribute to making Walsall a safer, cleaner and greener borough.

Performance management:

The performance indicators against which performance was previously measured have now been dispensed with by the Home Office. Methods of measuring public perceptions, such as the Place Survey have also been discontinued. Walsall ASB Unit is currently working with West Midlands partners in order to identify local performance management bench marks against which we can monitor the efficacy and efficiency of our services. Although we are awaiting an updated strategic assessment, ASB is a key strategic priority for all 6 partnership areas.

Equality Implications:

An Equality Impact Assessment has not been carried out in connection with this report. However, equalities implications are considered in the development and delivery of projects aimed at tackling anti-social behaviour.

Consultation:

This report has been prepared with information provided by Walsall ASB Unit, IYPSS and with details of our on-going work with registered providers.

Contact Officer:

Lynne Hughes
Area Manager – Community Safety
 01922 709189
hugheslynne@walsall.gov.uk

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR ACTION PLAN

Scrutiny Panel Recommendation	Commentary	Proposed Action	Timescale	Up date August 2010	Up date March 2011
1. A borough-wide anti-social behaviour unit be introduced combining the ASB related resources of the Council and its Partners.	The introduction of a borough-wide unit would have major implications for all current service providers and would require a total review of service delivery and resources across partner agencies. A complete buy-in to the borough-wide combined unit from all organisations would be necessary in order to provide a unified service. This may not realistically meet the needs or be deliverable within the resources of all current service providers.	Discussions to take place with Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) at senior strategic level to explore implications and opportunities for more effective working together through a more unified approach in lieu of a combined service. Develop an agreed joint protocol on service delivery targets for customers.	Sept/Oct 2009	Following the merger of the former Public Protection Service with Community Safety Services and the resulting major restructure, significant progress is being made in unifying reporting, case management and information sharing via an integrated IT system. Key partners such as the police and WHG are looking to improve coordination and develop a more unified and standardised approach to reports of ASB across the borough. At the time of writing, the tender document is being developed by a Walsall MBC systems architect.	A new ASB IT system has been ordered and we are currently awaiting installation. This new system will allow for better case management, mapping of incidents, vulnerability identification and may be accessed by partners at certain levels to allow for better information and intelligence sharing. Key partners remain involved as are council services i.e. parks so that we develop an accessible resource for reporting. We are also looking at how residents access the service and have set up an SWP micro-site through which we hope to offer a reporting portal. In addition to the new system, we are working with RSLs on developing referral protocols (WHG has recently undertaken a complete revision of their ASB offer.)

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<p>2. In the interim period before the establishment of a borough-wide Anti-Social Behaviour Unit (ASBU), consideration be given to Safer Walsall Partnership (SWP) ASBU obtaining external funding in order to further expand, be this from external sources or by recharging.</p>	<p>Current financial restraints have placed significant pressure on the ASB Unit in terms of expansion, service delivery and staff development. Bids have been made to external sources in order to meet the funding shortfall and address these areas. Other income streams will be explored as appropriate.</p>	<p>Explore further funding opportunities and deliver efficiencies through re-alignment of services. Continue to bid for external funding as appropriate.</p>	<p>Sept 2009 Onwards</p>	<p>Following the merger of the former Public Protection Service with Community Safety Services and the resulting major restructure, it has been possible to appoint 2 additional ASB case-workers, to ensure that each NMA has a dedicated ASB officer. A Home Office grant has been utilised to funding accredited training for all ASB officers within Walsall's ASB Unit.</p>	<p>An un-ring fenced community safety grant of 299,898 has been received by the council for 2011/2012 and will contribute to key areas of work such as Domestic Abuse, borough tasking, IDOM etc. This will reduce to 151,719 for 2012/2013 and will go directly to the APCC. There may be further opportunities to access funding via the Home Office Tackling Knives Action Plan which has just been announced. This funding is administered by WMP and consultation between them and local CSPs is currently in progress.</p>
<p>3. In the interim period before the establishment of a borough-wide ASB unit, a compilation document containing the range of ASB policy and practice across the borough to be drafted and made publicly available.</p>	<p>ASB legislation is complex and the tools available to local authorities and partners to tackle issues change in response to shifting priorities and Home Office directives. The current resource document is out-dated and the full range of interventions has changed. It would be necessary to compile a 'living document' that is up-</p>	<p>The ASB Unit and partners will be addressing this issue as part of the proposed ASB Strategy and guidance will be contained therein.</p> <p>Look at positively promoting the work and outcomes of the ASBU, WHG and other agencies and develop ideas to address identified gaps in delivery.</p>	<p>Commencing Sept/Oct 2009</p>	<p>Following the development of the units Delivery Improvement Plan, contact was made with the Home Office who subsequently supported us in delivering training for partners in tools and powers and provided financial support which will enable us to develop advisory literature for all service users. This has</p>	<p>Consultation on the proposed new tools and powers is currently taking place and the council's response is being coordinated through the SWP Board. Any further publication of advice and guidance has been put on hold, pending announcement of the new measures, which will be in place by</p>

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	<p>dated regularly in order to reflect these changes. This could make the production of one definitive guide a costly and labour intensive exercise. However, guidance on ASB is necessary and the ASB Unit and its partners are committed to improving communication with all service users.</p> <p>Accessible straightforward information must be made available for all service users. The ASB Unit is supporting this by taking a pro-active part in community events in order to distribute information and guidance.</p>			<p>subsequently been put on hold, pending an announcement on what the new tools and powers will be. This follows a recent speech by the Home Secretary in which proposed changes were announced. At this stage, we have no knowledge of what these changes will be or when they will take place, other than it will be imminently.</p>	<p>Spring 2012.</p>
<p>4. The 'Referral Process for ASB' to be implemented by SWP.</p>	<p>There are several referral methods currently in place, designed to meet the needs of our diverse community.</p>	<p>A more unified process will be developed to ensure efficiency of response is maximised. The referral process will form part of the planned ASB Strategy document. This will then be publicised and introduced to all service users.</p>	<p>Commencing Sept 2009</p>	<p>As part of work around the Delivery Improvement Plan protocols for referring ASB between agencies are being re-visited/reinforced.</p>	<p>Following a revision of WHGs ASB offer and in response to requests from smaller registered providers, we are revising our referral protocols, in close collaboration with the Respect providers group. We are also looking at how partners can work together to put into place a simplified referral route. In addition, we are waiting to hear from the</p>

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					Home Office on their proposal to introduce single 'non-emergency' numbers.
<p>5. A generic ASB referral form be developed for use by the Council and its partners.</p>	<p>Each organisation has its own referral process at the moment. The form currently in use within the ASB Unit required modification to enable officers to respond quickly and not be delayed by lack of information at the referral stage.</p> <p>A new referral form has been developed and consulted upon with RSLs. It contains a 'check-list' to ensure that adequate information is being provided and appropriate avenues have been explored prior to referral to the ASB Unit. Use of the form is currently being introduced.</p>	<p>New referral form to be introduced.</p>	<p>Sept 2009</p>	<p>Work is currently underway on the implementation of a new or upgraded ASB case management/ and recording system. In addition to integrating with other council systems this will include standardisation of forms and procedures</p>	<p>This has been a more challenging issue, as partners require different data from their referrals. To include everything on one form would've been unrealistic. However, the new ASB IT system will allow for some standardisation.</p>
<p>6. Financial assistance is provided to SWP to improve the publication of ASB orders and other similar convictions.</p>	<p>It is current practice within the ASB Unit to produce information leaflets when an Anti-Social Behaviour Order (ASBO) has been granted. This is designed to advise the immediate community which has often been</p>	<p>Explore with partners opportunities for additional funding to assist with publicising ASB Orders and similar convictions.</p> <p>Utilise opportunities within partner agencies to publicise activities.</p>	<p>Sept 2009 onwards</p>	<p>The ASB Unit continues to welcome the support of the partnerships communications group in publicising its work. The remit of the Neighbourhood Justice Coordinator includes</p>	<p>The work of the Partnership continues to be well publicised through use of traditional local media and via new technology, such as text alerts. CSS is currently working with Supt. Fraser</p>

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	<p>affected by the actions of the perpetrator.</p> <p>The use of publicity where young people are involved is currently under review by the ASB Unit and Youth Offending Service (YOS). The production of publicity material must be contained with the budget available.</p> <p>Local media is currently being utilised to advise residents of any actions taken to tackle ASB.</p>			<p>developing publication of sentencing outcomes, which is currently being discussed for Walsall at senior police/criminal justice levels. This would provide a means to publish the outcomes of local cases, thus ensuring that justice is seen to be done.</p>	<p>and members of the LCJG on publishing sentencing outcomes via the new SWP micro-site. This will be in place during April 2011.</p>
<p>7. Walsall Council re-establish an ASB mediation service.</p>	<p>Mediation is recognised as a valuable approach to resolving conflict situations. An external service provider has been used in the past, but is no longer available. Accredited training of ten members of staff from SWP has now taken place so that this service can be delivered 'in-house.' This is in addition to the service provided by Walsall Housing Group (WHG) and other partners.</p> <p>SWP Mediation Service is currently in development with a proposed commencement date of September 2009. This date is dependent upon all</p>	<p>Introduce the new SWP Mediation Service subject to accreditation from the awarding body.</p> <p>Maximise take up of SWP and WHGs service amongst customers.</p>	<p>Sept 2009</p>	<p>Accreditation has now been received and, following the completion of the staffing restructure, mediation training will be put in place for new officers. Although this intervention has been delivered informally as individual cases require it, a formal service will be developed and form part of the service areas delivery plans.</p>	<p>Following the restructure, officers new to the service are awaiting training in mediation. Although this service is provided on a case by case basis, the SWP Mediation Service is yet to be fully established. As the new tools and powers are announced and an emphasis on restorative approaches is introduced, it is envisaged that the service will form part of this offer.</p>

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	accreditation from awarding body being in place.				
8. All Councillors trained in mediation techniques.	Ten officers within Safer Walsall Partnership have received accredited training on mediation. WHG also offers this service. Following discussion with the member development team, training of members may be cost and time prohibitive. It may also impact upon the development of the services already being set up within the partnership.	An awareness session will be delivered in order to advise members of the services available, what mediation entails and when it may be appropriate.	Oct/Nov 2009	Mediation awareness will be delivered in conjunction with on-going elected member training and information sessions from Sept./Oct. 2010 onwards.	The awareness session for councillors is still outstanding.
9. Further training opportunities on ASB related topics be organised for all Councillors.	The training session delivered during the scrutiny process was very positively received. The potential for delivering an on-going programme of training on all community safety issues has been discussed with the member development team.	Training to be made available to all members on a twice yearly basis, commencing September/October 2009.	Sept/Oct 2009	Upon completion of the merger and restructure, training for elected members will re-commence from Sept/Oct. 2010 onwards and information sessions will be delivered, outlining the services now delivered via Public Safety and how to access them.	Training/awareness sessions have been put on hold pending announcements on the changes within the ASB and community safety agenda.
10. Councillors be kept fully aware and informed of all activities and initiatives that are relevant to their responsibilities as ward and borough-wide Members.	The group identified the need for improved communication between service providers and elected members. Current methods of communication include regular written updates to portfolio holders, CATS	Explore further opportunities to ensure that members are informed of all relevant issues relating to ASB and its management within their wards. Joint reporting mechanism developed with RP's (formerly RSL's) informing councillors of tools and techniques in use by RP's and raising awareness of	April 2009 onwards	Portfolio Holders up-dates are continuing and members are advised of specific ASB actions within their area i.e. dispersal orders etc., Specific issues, including ASB, relating to individual wards will now be discussed within area	Monthly newsletters are now issued to elected members within each partnership area. Information will also be available through the SWP micro-site. ASB is also a key priority within all 6 partnership areas and is discussed through

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	meetings, updates from individual service areas (i.e. Safer Walsall Newsletter.) Further methods will be explored through on-going work with the Corporate Communications Team and member Development Team. All service areas will be required to ensure information is shared with portfolio holders and relevant elected members.	what RP's do.		partnership meetings.	partnership meetings.
11. RPs adopt a common database of tenants and common tenant application form to assist in vetting process of prospective tenants.	Following a meeting of Walsall Housing Partnership in July, the RPs advised that 'vetting' was inappropriate terminology as prospective tenants should be assessed on their need for housing rather than their suitability. It is proposed that this will be discussed within the Respect group and as a part of the broader work for the forthcoming ASB strategy document.	It has since come to our notice that RPs are looking to implement a common housing register as Choose and Move is rolled out for use by all RPs operating in Walsall – which will result in a common housing application form.	August 2009 onwards	Although this option was thoroughly explored by RPs, this system was not implemented. One of the reasons cited was that agencies have different criteria, client bases and assessment needs, so a generic form was seen to be unworkable.	
12. The Young Advisors Scheme, as utilised at the Young Persons Information Centre in Blakenall, be recognised as a model of good practice and rolled out across the	The group felt that the function of this service and the work carried out in areas such as peer mentoring was of particular merit and would be a positive addition to service provision across the borough.	To note the recommendation and Youth Services' response.	On going	Senior young person scheme is being developed within an overall integrated young people's service volunteering strategy. The best practice identified through the	Activities are currently being considered as part of the IYPSS Early Intervention Plan.

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borough.	The Youth Service has now implemented a senior young person's scheme which follows a similar process to the young advisors, and is accredited by OCN (Open College Network). Developing across localities.			work developed by YPIC will be considered as part of the positive activities review and the development of the positive activities offer over the next couple of months.	
13. That a borough-wide comprehensive needs assessment be carried out as regards the allocation of youth provision. This will ensure that resources are based on need not deprivation.	<p>The group identified areas where youth provision was less apparent than in others. A borough wide assessment would identify gaps in provision and areas of need.</p> <p>An audit of location of buildings and provision has taken place as a pre-cursor to the full exercise, which is currently pending.</p>	Further work is planned by IYPSS supported by Regeneration and Property services.	On going	Youth assets review is an integral part of the AM 2012 programme. IYPSS is working closely with property services to review all of young people's centres across the borough	This work has been on-going.
14. The Youth Service provides a seven days a week service.	<p>The group recognised the positive contribution of Youth Services in engaging young people who otherwise may be involved or at risk of becoming involved ASB. The need for provision at key times i.e. Friday, Sat evenings etc was identified.</p> <p>Provision is currently under review. Some localities are offering 6 days a week service to young people in partnership with YCAP developments. Further</p>	Complete Youth Services' review.	On going	An Autumn review of Positive Activities will be using the working smarter model to redesign youth provision across the borough. A pilot is being planned in the south area partnership with the aim to roll this out across the borough. The Youth Service has now fully reconfigured under IYPSS. IYPSS now provides services	Please see recommendation 17

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	developments will be part of the IYPSS programme.			<p>across 4 strands : Positive Activities, Information and guidance, Targeted Youth Support and Youth Justice.</p> <p>A consultation around need in weekend provision has been undertaken and the outcomes from this will inform youth work provision across the borough.</p> <p>Further reconfiguration of LA provided youth work will be informed by the PA review.</p>	
<p>15. All school pupils be encouraged to participate in the Safer Schools Programme.</p>	<p>Safer Schools Partnership is an on-going process of working together with key agencies. Walsall Children's Services (Serco) has representation at Borough Tasking Group. There has been a range of collaborative initiatives with the police service within the Anti-Bullying Strategy through Helen Turnbull (Bloxwich Police Station.) safer schools partnership has presented to the annual Anti-Bullying</p>	<p>Participation at Borough Tasking will continue, with the partnership welcoming further engagement with appropriate agencies. ASBU will explore further appropriate engagement with Safer Schools partnership</p>	<p>Oct. 2009</p>	<p>The ASB Unit has built up links with a number of schools across the borough and has undertaken some proactive work. These links will be further developed when following the Public Safety restructure ASB officers are aligned to the six Neighbourhood Management areas. This work will also be supported by the recently formed Reassurance</p>	<p>Reassurance and ASB officers continue to develop positive relationships with schools within their partnership area. This is supported through the partnership meetings. Discussions are currently underway with an area partnership to deliver a pilot ASB programme through schools.</p>

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	Conference which is open to all schools in the borough.			Team	
16. The Youth Warden Scheme to be rotated across all secondary schools that wish to take up the scheme and not be fixed on any particular schools for indefinite periods.	A strategy document outlining the possible future direction of the Youth Wardens has been prepared. This includes the preferred use of a rotation system and potential for development of their role.	Further consideration be given to the strategic response to this issue. Consultation with schools to be undertaken.	Sept 2009	The role of Youth Warden is no longer within the staffing structure of Public Safety. Six new generic roles of Reassurance Officer and Asst. Reassurance Officer have been established in order to engage, inform and provide an advice and education service across all communities within the six NMAs. These officers will continue to liaise with all schools and support the ongoing work of police schools liaison officers and IYPSS officers.	The role of Reassurance Officer remains within our current structure, though in order to meet savings targets, the number has reduced from 6 to 4.
17. Further targeted positive activities for young people of all ages should be operated in key periods, such as school holidays, to divert young people from anti-social behaviour.	Youth provision has a key role to play in positively engaging young people and diverting them away from negative behaviour during key periods. Core work is still targeted at 13 – 19 age group. See also response to recommendation 14 above. Work already completed or planned includes:- - Summer programmes/Half Term activities offered in partnerships with other	Complete Youth Services' Review.	2009/2010	Please see point 14 Availability of 3 detached teams and 3 hoppers (mobile buses) and a technology bus to respond quickly to youth ASB issues as identified through areas, partners and borough tasking. Currently in the process of developing an ASB / Positive Activity strategy.	We have now got 6 detached teams to respond to youth related ASB hotspot areas, but still the 3 hoppers. PA strategy completed and ASB plan in place. Positive Activities website in place as part of my Walsall website (link: www.mywalsall.gov.uk/positiveactiviti)

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	<p>agencies to ensure that all ages are catered for.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Over 100 activities were offered to young people across all districts throughout the summer i.e. residential, away days , trips to leisure facilities. Publicity book is available. - A Positive Activities TAP is being produced which involves key partner agencies. 			<p>Currently developing a positive activity website. This will be a website where all partners will be able to publicise positive activities for young people. The website will be launched the first week in November. Working together with the 3rd sector, Leisure services and IYPSS to develop a coordinated holiday offer for young people.</p>	<p>es) Holiday activity offer as part of the Area Partnership children and young people work streams</p>
<p>18. The Youth Service and other key anti-social behaviour related Partners make reports and presentations to Local Neighbourhood Partnerships on local activities.</p>	<p>The sharing of information about service delivery was identified by the group as a key area for proposed improvement. This would also serve to enhance intervention through improved coordination. Reports are taken to Borough Tasking and also YCAP steering group and LNPs.</p>	<p>Note the recommendation and proposed response.</p>	<p>On Going</p>	<p>IYPSS representation at all Borough Tasking meetings, CAP and Area Partnership meetings has been agreed. Regular reports are being provided at these meetings</p>	<p>Working links continue to develop with IYPSS representation at SWP Board level and vice versa. Effective working together continues to take place through area partnerships.</p>
<p>19. Key partners, such as Police, PCT and Council with the SWP Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT) explore and implement further initiatives that could</p>	<p>Service providers have been asked by DAAT to look at current practice on needle exchange and supply.</p> <p>This issue is being looked at as part of the current year's delivery and will form part of</p>	<p>Implement review.</p>	<p>Review date Mar 2010</p>	<p>Addaction have reduced the quantity of needles they gave out at any one time (10 disposable & a sharps box which should be used and returned)</p> <p>Borough Tasking is</p>	<p>Work is currently on – going to reconfigure this area of work as there are emerging cross-boundary issues with neighbouring areas which no longer provide a service.</p>

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<p>be introduced to better manage the quantity of needles supplied in a batch, improve both the return of needles by drug users and the removal of discharged needles, in line with practises in other boroughs.</p>	<p>subsequent service level agreements to ensure on-going development takes place.</p>			<p>funding Hi's & Lows to clear up designated sites and to respond to public/partner calls for this service.</p> <p>A sharps bin has been purchased and will be fitted at a town centre near to a location with considerable drug related activity. Users will be educated to use this facility.</p> <p>Work is being undertaken with the support of neighbourhood managers to deal effectively with sites that are identified. It is recognised however that this really serves to move the problem elsewhere. In addition pharmacists still report low return rates of used needles. This cannot however be used as a sanction and stop further needle issue as the primary aim is to prevent blood borne infection.</p>	<p>Continuation funding has been allocated to Hi's and Lo's and local issues are being addressed through area partnerships.</p>
<p>20. Consideration be given to continue support to Hi's and Low's to assist with needle clean-ups</p>	<p>Funding for provision of the Hi's and Low's clean-up function was temporarily halted from April 2009. The project's other services were</p>	<p>Service to be reviewed in conjunction with relevant partners.</p>	<p>Review date March 2010</p>	<p>Funding has continued and will be reconsidered with other requests when available funds for April 2011 onwards have been</p>	<p>Continuation funding has been confirmed for 2011/2012.</p>

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and to encourage drug users in treatment programmes.	unaffected. Funding was reinstated from July 2009 until March 2010.			confirmed.	
21. SWP investigates approaches to restorative justice in detail and considers where this type of approach could be considered for introduction in Walsall	The use of restorative justice would enable the ASB unit to explore alternative approaches to enforcement, where appropriate. This would enhance the work currently being developed through the Youth Offending Service (YOS) and support work to address emerging issues such as gang culture. However, the introduction of this approach would have resource implications and an appropriate funding stream would need to be sought. Training provision has been identified and an external funding bid has been submitted.	Staff training to be provided to inform practitioners of the methods available and how they should be used.	Jul - Sept 2009	Most ASB staff now trained in mediation. This will be extended during 2010, when a mediation service will be set up following the completion of the new staffing restructure.	Restorative justice is a recurring theme in the governments approach to tackling crime and anti-social behaviour. We await the report on tools and powers and will access any training that becomes available
22. Consideration be given to a further investigation into alcohol related anti-social behaviour by the Neighbourhoods Scrutiny & Performance Panel.	The group identified the correlation between ASB and use of alcohol. It was recommended that a further scrutiny exercise be carried out around alcohol issues across the borough. However, this has now been postponed due to competing work priorities.	This recommendation will be actioned later in the year, pending completion of other areas of work.	2009	This has now taken place and the report submitted to Cabinet.	