



Anti Social Behaviour Team

Annual Report

2008

Forward

Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) is behaviour that effects the quality of life of another. ASB has an impact on individuals and whole communities alike.

Victims and even witnesses experience a wide range of emotions including isolation, fear, sadness, vulnerability and anger.

When victims of ASB approach the ASB Team at Blaby District Council it is usually after they have had to endure their particular problem for sometime.

The ASB Team offer a service that includes being listened too, being believed, understanding of the issues, action being taken and being regularly updated on progress of their case.

The ASB Team investigate all information provided to them whether it is from the public, the Police and other departments and agencies.

When the perpetrators come into contact with the ASB Team they experience swift and positive action against their unacceptable behaviour. They experience a ASB Team that will not be intimidated or swayed from carrying out it's work to stop them causing more misery to people. Equally the perpetrator or parent of a perpetrator will be able to access help and assistance through the ASB Team to help them to address their behaviour and reduce the chances of them being put before the judicial system. 2008 brought many new challenges to the Council's ASB Team and with it many new tools to reduce ASB and improve the quality of life of the residents of Blaby District. It has been a good year but there will be more challenges in 2009

Steve Parker
Community Safety Officer (ASB)

Targets

Sustainable Community Strategy

- Anti Social Behaviour is a thing of the past
- The safety, strength and health of its communities
- People work together to make their communities safer
- Older people are independent and enjoy a good quality of life

Community Safety Plan

- ASB monthly and quarterly reports show a reduction
- Communities feel reassured that effective action is being taken to address anti social behaviour and improve the sense of safety
- Reduce the % of people who perceive people being drunk in their local area to be a problem by 5% by 2011

Local Area Agreement

- NI 27 Understanding of local concerns about anti social behaviour & crime by the council and the police

The Team

The ASB Team consists of;

- Steve Parker, Community Safety Officer (ASB)
- Sandra Wooding, Asst Community Safety Officer (ASB)

The ASB Team is part of the Community Safety Team whose overall aim is to make Blaby a safer place to live, work and visit.

The role of the ASB Team

The ASB Team receive referrals from the Police, Public, District and Parish Councils.

The complaints received are varied.

The Team investigate all complaints of ASB and bring them to a satisfactory conclusion using a variety of methods.

During 2008 the team have extended their work to include more Proactive/preventative work with different members of the community. These include;

- Primary School presentations,
- Sheltered Housing presentations
- Visiting Parish Councils throughout the District to promote our work.

The ASB Team works closely with a number of external agencies including Police, Youth Offending Service, Parish Councils, Education, Registered Social Landlords, and many more.

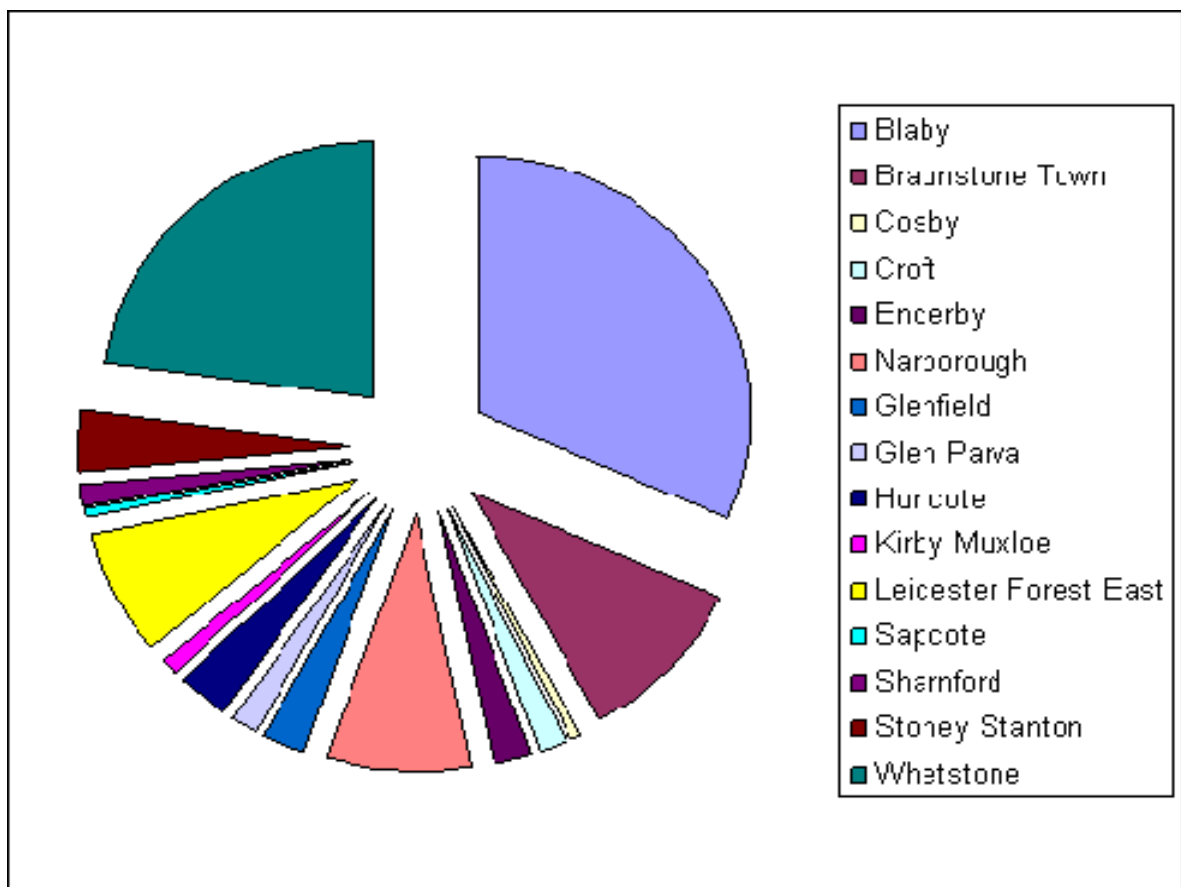
The ASB Team also signpost victims and perpetrators to other agencies or other colleagues on the Community Safety Team where additional support & help is needed for the family or individual. For example the Community Safety Youth Development Officer can work with individual young people or number of young people. The Domestic Violence CoOrdinate can work with families suffering Domestic Violence.

Reactive work

During 2008 the ASB Team investigated a total of 277 cases of Anti Social Behaviour, each case may have more than one incident recorded.

This compares to 272 in 2007.

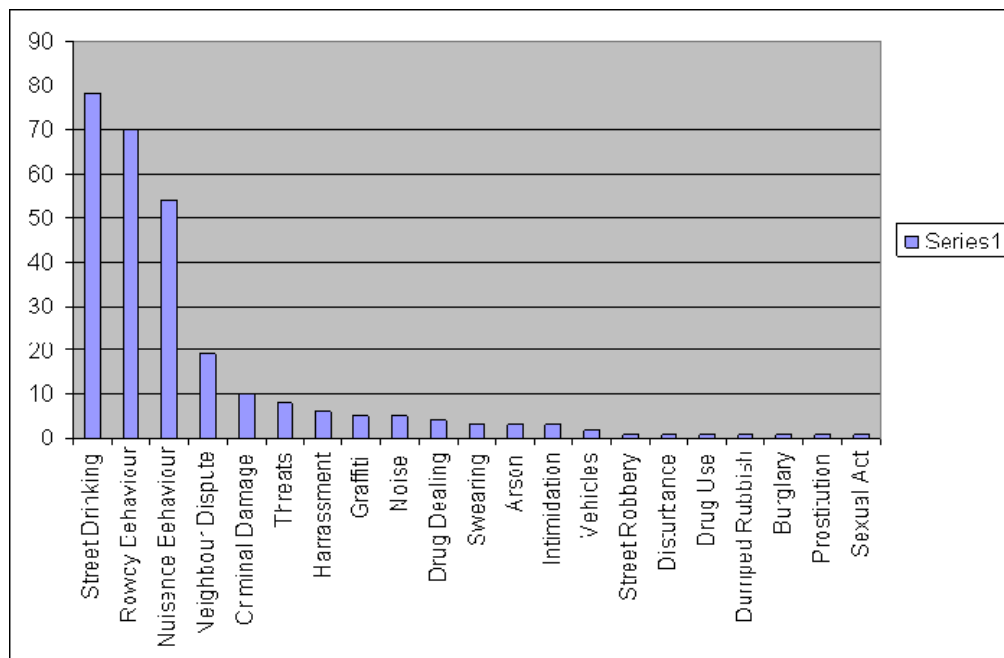
The following Parishes account towards the 277 cases; Blaby 76, Braunstone Town 27, Cosby 2, Croft 4, Countesthorpe 9, Enderby 6, Narborough 22, Glenfield 7, Glen Parva 4, Huncote 8, Kirby Muxloe 3, Leicester Forest East 20, Sapcote 1, Sharnford 4, Stoney Stanton 10, Whetstone 69



Types of ASB

The following types of Anti Social Behaviour were reported to the ASB Team;

Street Drinking, 78, Rowdy Behaviour 70
 Nuisance Behaviour 54, Neighbour Dispute, 19
 Criminal Damage 10, Threats 8, Harassment 6
 Graffiti 5, Noise 5, Drug Dealing 4, Swearing 3
 Arson 3, Intimidation 3, Vehicles 2, Street Robbery 1
 Disturbance 1, Drug Use 1, Dumped Rubbish 1,
 Burglary 1, Prostitution 1, Sexual Act 1



Tools Used to combat Anti Social Behaviour

The following tools were used during 2008 to address Anti Social Behaviour;

	2007	2008
ASB Advice letters	8	228
ASB Warning Notice	80	158
Acceptable Behaviour Contract	11	65
Mosquito Device	2	9

Success Rate

ASB letters;

A total of 386 perpetrators were issued with ASB letters in 2008, 321 of those people stopped their anti social behaviour and did not commit another offence.

That is a success rate of 84%

Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABC);

Of the 65 people placed on Acceptable Behaviour Contracts, only 1 person has gone on to commit further offences.

That is a success rate of 94%

Mosquito Device

The Mosquito is a ‘ultra sonic sound system’ that emits a high pitched sound which affects young people under the age of 25yrs. The device does not cause any medical harm when switched on, however the device is used to disperse groups of young people who persistently gather in areas that have a negative impact on the local residents. Blaby District Council currently has 4 Mosquito devices which have been deployed 9 times to the following locations;

Whetstone	4
Blaby	2
Countesthorpe	1
LFE	2

In each of the nine areas that the Mosquito was deployed it succeeded in reducing the number of incidents involving young people and improved local resident’s **‘quality of life’**.

That is a success rate of 100%

Proactive & Preventative Work

Parish Councils;

During 2008 the ASB Team visited 11 Parish Council meetings by appointment and gave a short presentation on how the District tackles Anti Social Behaviour and the tools it uses. The ASB Team also addressed some of the myths relating to Anti Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs).

In each of the Parishes the feedback has been positive. The team intends to repeat this exercise in 2009/10.

Sheltered Accommodations;

In early 2008 it was brought to the attention of the ASB team that 2 Blaby District Council's Sheltered accommodation premises (now Three Oaks Homes) had been subject to 'distraction burglaries'. The residents by the nature of their mature age are very vulnerable to this type of crime. Therefore the ASB Team visited all 12 Sheltered Accommodations and spoke to the residents about Personal Safety, Security and Bogus callers.

Approximately 120 residents received our presentation.

As a result of our visits to the various accommodations in the District we identified 4 properties with a range of security issues i.e. poor lighting, window security, door security etc. All these issues were brought to the attention of the Housing Manager.

'Respect' Campaign;

The 'Respect' campaign is a 3 stage imitative;

Stage 1 – The production and distribution of 'Respect' posters throughout the District. This was completed in May 2008.

Stage 2 – Visiting 26 Primary Schools within the District and carrying out a presentation about ASB to yr 5/6 (9-11 yr olds).

By the end of 2008, 23 schools were visited, and 1051 children received the presentation. In early 2009 a further 3 schools will receive the presentation bringing the total number of children who have received the 'Respect' presentation to 1210 people.

At the end of each presentation each child receives a Pencil, a plastic Credit Card with reminders on it about Respect and what is ASB. The children also receive a wristband. All the items have the ASB helpline telephone number on them.

An evaluation was carried out amongst the children and at the time this report was written a total of 560 evaluation forms have been returned and the results so far are;

Good 438

OK 118

Bad 4

A separate evaluation report will be written for the 'Respect' campaign.

Stage 3 – In 2009 the production and distribution of ‘Young People’ friendly ‘Respect Posters’ promoting good behaviour will be distributed throughout the district.

ASB Operational Procedures Policy

In Feb 08 the ASB Team produced an ASB Operational Procedures protocol/policy. The purpose of which was to standardise the way that all our partner agencies address ASB. This document has been signed by the Police, Youth Offending Service and Social Housing Agencies.

In Feb 09 a review of this document will be taking place.

A copy of the Operational Procedures document can be found attached at Appendix 1.

Plans for 2009

- Continued promotion of the work carried out by the ASB Team via public meetings
- Training of the Police Community Support Officers (PCSO) with regards to the evidence needed when referring cases to the ASB Team’.
- An increase in the overall success rate of the ASB Team.
- Improve our ability to put together Court files regarding ASBOs & Injunctions etc.
- The sharing of ASB databases with the Police

Comments from the Public

- I couldn’t believe my luck when I found out there was someone there to help us
- The support given to us in our needy times changed our lives
- The ASB Team gave me the strength to speak out
- The ASB Team sat down and listened to what I had to say.

In conclusion it has been a productive year for the ASB Team. In 2009 we will continue to work with our colleagues within the Community Safety Team and external agencies to prevent and tackle Anti Social Behaviour to make Blaby a safer place to live, work and visit.