

# **REVIEW OF THE NATIONAL ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR STRATEGY**

## **6th PROGRESS REPORT – OCTOBER 2008**

The Review Project Team is gearing up for the final stretch of the review. With the Expert Advisory Group holding their final meeting on 6 October at COSLA Headquarters, attention is now focused on developing a strategic framework that will be agreed and owned by all of the key partners involved in tackling antisocial behaviour in our communities and making Scotland safer and stronger.

The COSLA Community Wellbeing and Safety Executive Group, chaired by Councillor Harry McGuigan, met on 23 October. A large number of councillors attended and the group were presented with a paper detailing the strategic aims identified by the EAG. The group welcomed the strategic direction and asked a number of technical policy questions which the Review Project Team will respond to in writing in November. In addition to this, we will be sharing the National Actions and Local Recommendations of the review with the group via correspondence.

The Review Project Team is now in the process of drafting the final report which will be cleared through the EAG during November and December and through Cabinet and COSLA Leaders in January. The report will be published and put before Parliament in early 2009.

### **External Advisory Group**

The External Advisory Group met for a third and final time as a group in its present form on 6 October to agree the contributions of the four sub groups and agree the delivery process and structure for the final report. It was agreed at this meeting that the findings of the review should be presented in the form of National Actions and Local Recommendations covering the four core themes of the antisocial behaviour review: PIER Balance, Integrated Services, Community Engagement and Media and Communications.

### **Research Update**

The reports of the interviews with young people and the focus groups with adults are now available on the internal review website at [www.antisocialbehavioursotland.com/review/members](http://www.antisocialbehavioursotland.com/review/members). In addition to this, the reports of the interviews with the police (at which the use of the police ASB measures were discussed) and the report of the interviews with Local Authority ASB co-ordinators are also available on the members' website. The current plan is to publish these reports in separate volume that will accompany the final report of the review. This volume will also highlight findings from the ASBO breach rate project and any emerging findings from the evaluation of fixed penalty notices that will begin shortly.

The draft final report from the evaluation of intensive family support projects (including the 3 Breaking the Cycle projects and the Aberdeen and Dundee Families Projects) has been submitted and is of a high standard. Key findings from this work were presented to the Expert Advisory Group at its last meeting in October. The full evaluation report will be published on the Scottish Government website either before or at the same time as the report of the national antisocial behaviour strategy review is published.

### **Visits and events**

The Minister for Community Safety, Fergus Ewing MSP, has been out to visit examples of good practice that are helping to tackle antisocial behaviour. There is a wide range of good practice already going on throughout Scotland which is helping to make Scotland safer and stronger and we will ensure that this is captured in the final review report.

**Street Base** – the Minister visited Street Base, a youth alcohol diversionary project, in South Lanarkshire in October to meet and talk with young people who have been involved in the service. The Minister found out about the work that Street Base are doing in engaging with young people who are involved with, or in danger of misusing alcohol, binge drinking behaviour and alcohol fuelled ASB.

**Tayside Community Safety Taskforce** – at the end of October, the Minister visited the Tayside Community Safety Task Force at their Tayside Exhibition command vehicle in Arbroath High Street. The Task Force are working, in partnership with local agencies, to reduce crime, the fear of crime and antisocial behaviour within Arbroath by focusing on the following five themes - drugs, crime, ASB, alcohol and roads policing. The Minister met with police officers and local partners involved in the initiative and also chatted with the public to find out about their views of how they think the Task Force is working.

**Safer Communities Conference: anti-social behaviour: prevention and enforcement, are we getting the balance right?** – Nigel Don MSP, a member of the Justice Committee, is going to be giving the keynote address at a MacKay Hannah Safer Communities Conference on November 13. Bryan Healy, Neighbour Relations Manager with Glasgow Housing Association will be talking about empowering communities: a neighbourhood strategy. Superintendent Fiona Barker, Deputy Divisional Commander for Fife Constabulary and member of the PIER Balance Sub-Group will be representing ACPOS at the conference and considering the prevention / enforcement balance: the police perspective.

**Social landlords tackling anti-social behaviour effectively Conference: Registered Social Landlords Crime and Nuisance Group** – on November 17, the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing, Nicola Sturgeon MSP, will speak about what the Scottish Government is doing to tackle antisocial behaviour and the role of social landlords. Trish Pryce, Scottish Government National Antisocial Behaviour Co-ordinator and Project Manager of the Integrated Services Sub-Group, and Professor John Flint, Sheffield Hallam University and member of the Expert Advisory Group, will be talking to attendees about the ASB Review.

## **Timeline**

**November 2008** – drafting of final review output and consultation with COSLA Community Wellbeing and Safety Executive Group

**November/December 2008** – Clearance of review output through Expert Advisory Group

**January 2009** – Clearance of review output through Cabinet and COSLA Leaders

**Early 2009** – review output laid in Parliament

## **Contact Details**

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September 2008