

# REVIEW OF THE NATIONAL ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR STRATEGY

## 2<sup>nd</sup> PROGRESS REPORT – APRIL 2008

The review of the national antisocial behaviour strategy is now well under-way and is making good progress. Since the first meetings of the internal Steering group and the external Expert Advisory Group in late-February, four sub-groups to the Advisory Group have been established to consider emerging key themes. These groups, which will be chaired by external members of the Advisory Group, will hold their first meetings in early-to-mid-May (further information below).

In addition to this, research in a number of areas is continuing apace and a number of consultation events are imminent. Please continue to check our webpage on the review ([www.antisocialbehaviourscotland.com/review](http://www.antisocialbehaviourscotland.com/review)) for updates – there have been a number of additions since our last Progress Report was published (and an Advisory Group members' area is due to go live shortly).

Once again, we encourage you to raise any questions you may have on the review, feed in views and share ideas with us as appropriate – contact details are provided at the end of the report.

### External Advisory Group

As mentioned in the last progress report, the external Expert Advisory Group met for the first time on 27 February and will meet twice more throughout the review. The minutes of the first meeting can now be found at [www.antisocialbehaviourscotland.com/review](http://www.antisocialbehaviourscotland.com/review). In addition to the three Advisory Group meetings, Expert Advisory Group members will have the opportunity to participate in the review through sub-groups focusing on four key themes which emerged at the first meeting: the balance between prevention, intervention, enforcement and rehabilitation; community engagement; integrated service provision; and media and communications.

### Sub-Groups

The sub-groups will allow Expert Advisory Group members to take an active role in the work of the review and maintain engagement throughout the review period. Policy leads from across Government will also provide input to the sub-groups helping to draw links between related policy areas. The sub-groups will be chaired by members of the external Advisory Group and will also provide external stakeholders with an opportunity to input through specific workshops. Each sub-group will consider the cross cutting issues of: victims; young people; best practice and links to related policy agendas. The four sub-groups are:

- The **PIER Balance Sub-Group** focusing on the balance between prevention, intervention, enforcement and rehabilitation. This will be chaired by Deputy Chief Constable Norma Graham and will meet for the first time on 14 May;
- the **Community Engagement Sub-Group** focusing on community empowerment, community justice, public reassurance and the role of elected members. This will be chaired by Councillor Harry McGuigan and will meet for the first time on 16 May;

- The ***Integrated Services Sub-Group*** focusing on aligned approaches and policy integration, integrated plans and co-location. This will be chaired by David Hume, Chief Executive of Scottish Borders Council and will meet for the first time on 6 May;
- the ***Media and Communications Sub-Group*** focusing on marketing strategies to publicise services, clarify agencies' roles, communicate the new ASB strategy's narrative, support practitioners, reassure the public that action is being taken locally and nationally, manage expectations and counter negative stereotyping. This will be chaired by Jim Sweeney, Chief Executive of YouthLink Scotland and will meet for the first time on 9 May.

## **Workshops**

In addition to meeting twice, the sub-groups will be hosting a practitioner workshop event in Edinburgh at the end of July. This will provide an opportunity for practitioners to present examples of good practice to the sub-groups. Antisocial behaviour practitioners and other experts from across Scotland have been invited to submit proposals for the workshop presentations. Application forms can be found at [www.antisocialbehavioursotland.com/review](http://www.antisocialbehavioursotland.com/review) and the deadline is 9 May.

## **Consultation Events**

As set out in the response to the [parliamentary question](#) from Nigel Don MSP, we will shortly be consulting with practitioners through their national officer associations. Consultation events are planned to be held by the Anti Social Behaviour Lawyers Forum (ASBLF) on 28 April in Dundee, the Anti Social Behaviour Officers Forum (ASBOF) on 30 April in Edinburgh and the Scottish Community Safety Network (SCSN) on 7 May in Hamilton. The Review Project Team will be providing input to these meetings.

As well as consultation with national bodies, a number of focus groups and public forums are to be held across Scotland, including one specifically involving younger people. Expressions of interest have been requested from contractors to run the focus groups, which will be held in late spring/early summer.

## **Research Up-date**

We now have approval from the Scottish Household Survey to re-approach respondents to explore their experience of and views on antisocial behaviour through focus group. We have discussed with Young Scot how best to engage young people in the consultation element and are considering some options, including inviting young people to produce video blogs as well as taking part in a focus group. Draft topic guides for these focus groups and the focus groups with adults will be posted on the website shortly and Internal Steering Group and External Advisory Group members will be invited to suggest questions.

Dr Liz Levy is presenting the findings from her interviews with the police to the ACPOS joint co-ordinating group on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May. In the meantime, analysis of these interviews has been sent to the police who were interviewed to give them an opportunity to comment before it is made more public. The intention is to post the analysis on the website after the presentation to ACPOS on the 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Analysis of the interviews with Local Authority Antisocial Behaviour Co-ordinators has began and the typical process through which Local Authorities deal with antisocial behaviour complaints has been produced and will be made available to the PIER balance sub-group which is due to meet in mid May. Other analysis from these interviews will be presented at the workshop plenary planned for the end of July.

Justice Analytical Services Division is hosting a Stakeholder Engagement event on 30<sup>th</sup> April to which a broad range of researchers have been invited. Liz Levy will host a session at this event to explain the Review of the National Antisocial Behaviour Strategy and explain how the wider research community can make a contribution to this at the workshop event in July.

*Timeline for analytical contribution*

<i>Analytical input</i>	<i>Timescale</i>
Key findings on use of seizure of vehicles	With police for comments
Evidence on closure orders (from interviews)	With police for comments
Summary of key evidence on dispersal orders (To include results of dispersal order evaluation and feedback from police interviews)	With police for comments
Mapping of typical process through which Local Authorities deal with ASB complaints with over view of the use of ABCs, mediation and early intervention.	Typical process has been represented on a flowchart
Summary of key evidence on ASBOs. (To include results from DTZ research, breach rate study, Open University study and feedback from interviews)	Being prepared
Summary of key evidence on noise nuisance (including messages from interviews)	Early May
Findings from focus groups with SHS respondents	Late May
Findings from focus groups with young people	Early June – postponed to late June to take account of exam season
Scoping for evaluation of fixed penalty notice evaluation (including review of Tayside evaluation and messages from interviews)	Late June
Summary of key findings on community wardens (including from national and local evaluations)	Early July
First draft findings from Evaluation of Intensive Family Support Projects	Late September

## Visits

The Minister for Community Safety, Fergus Ewing MSP, will be visiting South Ayrshire on 28 April to look at an example of partnership working and how local agencies are tackling antisocial behaviour in the area.

The Minister for Children and Early Years, Adam Ingram MSP, will be visiting NCH Scotland's Dundee Families Project on 13 May to find out first hand about NCH Scotland's successful model for intensive family support which provides solutions to antisocial behaviour by vulnerable families.

## Timeline

**End-April/early May** – officer association consultation events

**Early-Mid May** – 1<sup>st</sup> Advisory Group sub-group meetings

**Late-Spring** – Focus group exercise

**Late-Spring** – 1<sup>st</sup> wave of research findings

**25 June** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Advisory Group meeting

**June-August** – Ministerial Summer Tours

**Mid-Summer** – 2<sup>nd</sup> wave of research findings

**End July** – Advisory Group sub-group workshop event

**Mid-August** – final set of Advisory Group sub-group meetings

**17 September** – final Advisory Group meeting

**End-September** – Draft review output submitted to Cabinet

**Autumn** – final wave of research findings

**December** – review output laid in Parliament

## Contact Details

If you have any queries about the review, you can telephone the Community Safety Unit on 0131 244 4946 or email [christine.finnigan@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:christine.finnigan@scotland.gsi.gov.uk).

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