

ITEM No ...4.....

REPORT TO: COMMUNITY SAFETY AND PUBLIC PROTECTION COMMITTEE
REPORT ON: ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR – JANUARY – MARCH 2023
REPORT BY: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES
REPORT NO: 150-2023

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an overview on the reporting figures to the Neighbourhood Services - Antisocial Behaviour (ASB) Team for the period 1st January – 31st March 2023.

2 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1. It is recommended that Committee notes the report.

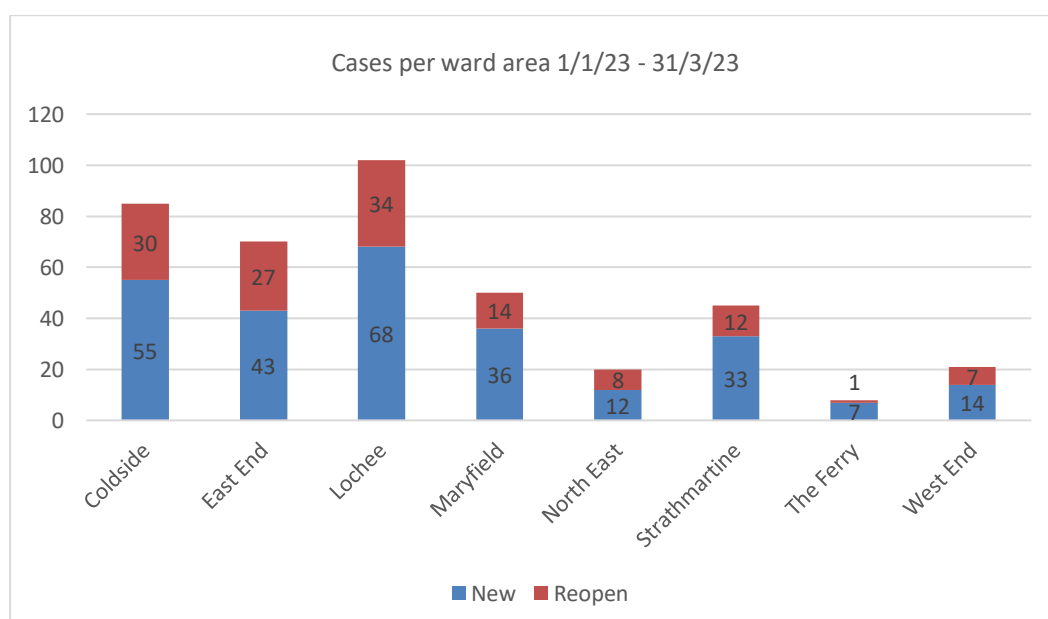
3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report.

4 DATA RELATING TO REPORTING PERIOD

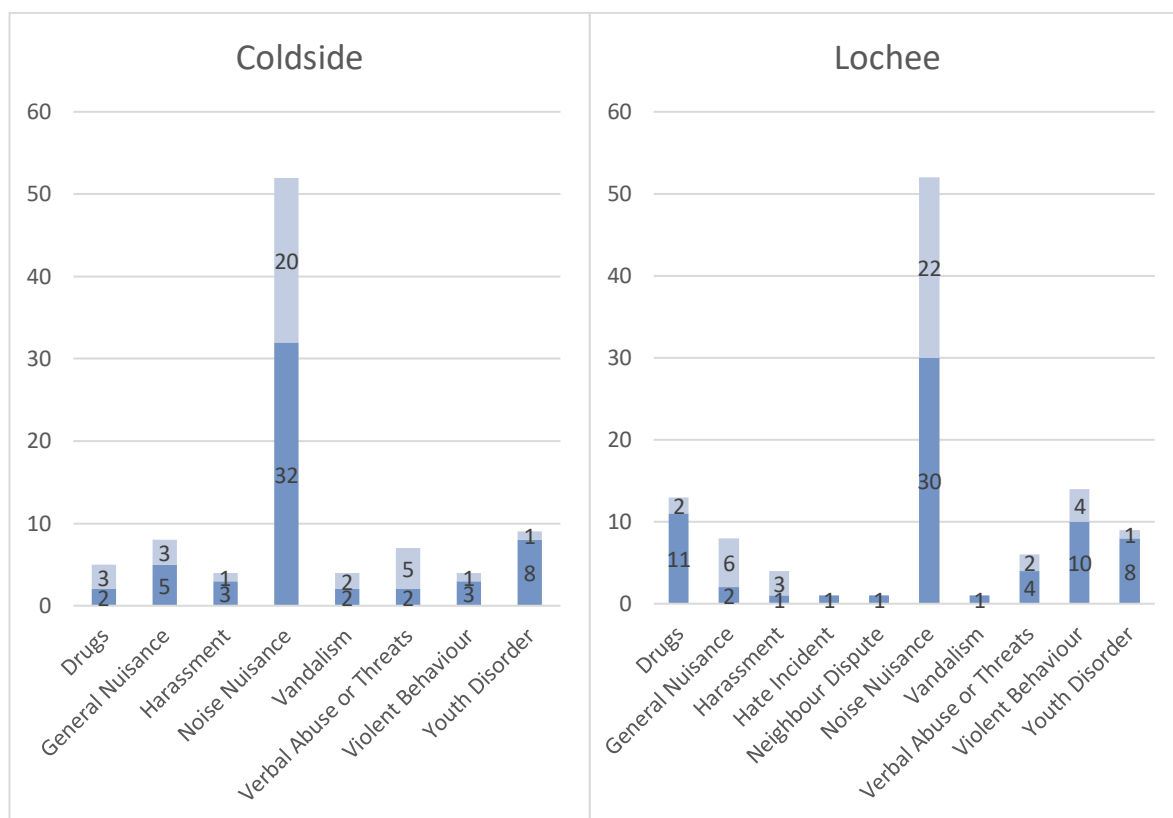
A total of 401 cases of antisocial behaviour have been recorded during this reporting period. Out of these 401 cases, 268 are new cases and 133 have been re-opened to the team. The cases re-opened are not necessarily cases which had been raised initially during this reporting period and most likely from previous reporting periods. This compares to 299 cases last quarter (186 new and 113 re-opens), the greatest increase this period is from new cases, particularly cases related to youth related antisocial behaviour and noise nuisance.

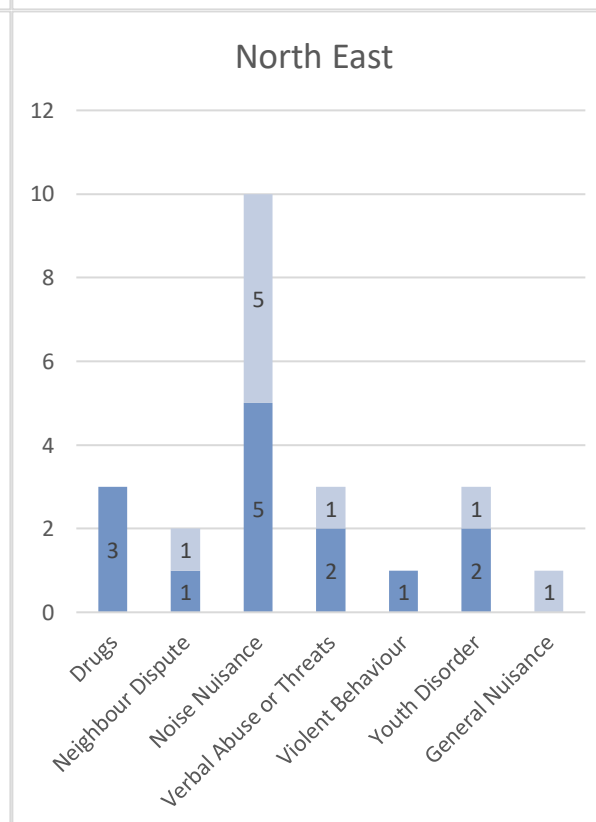
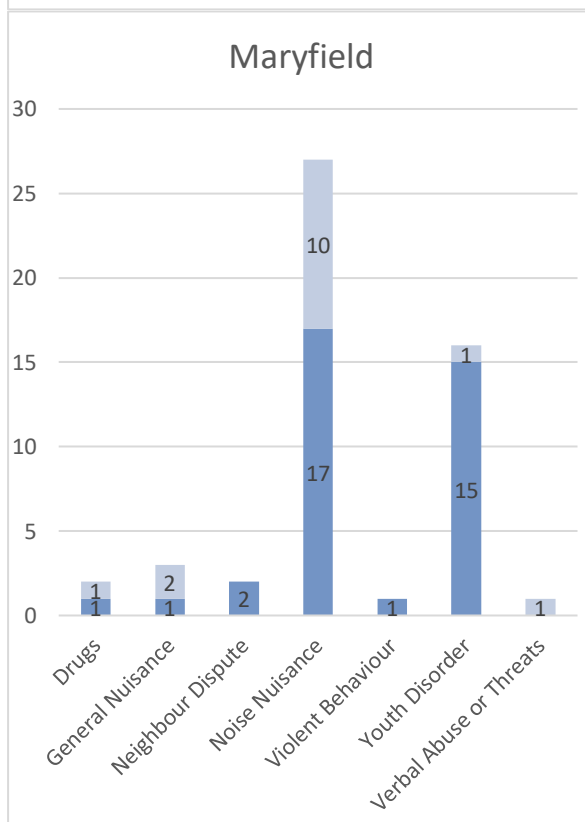
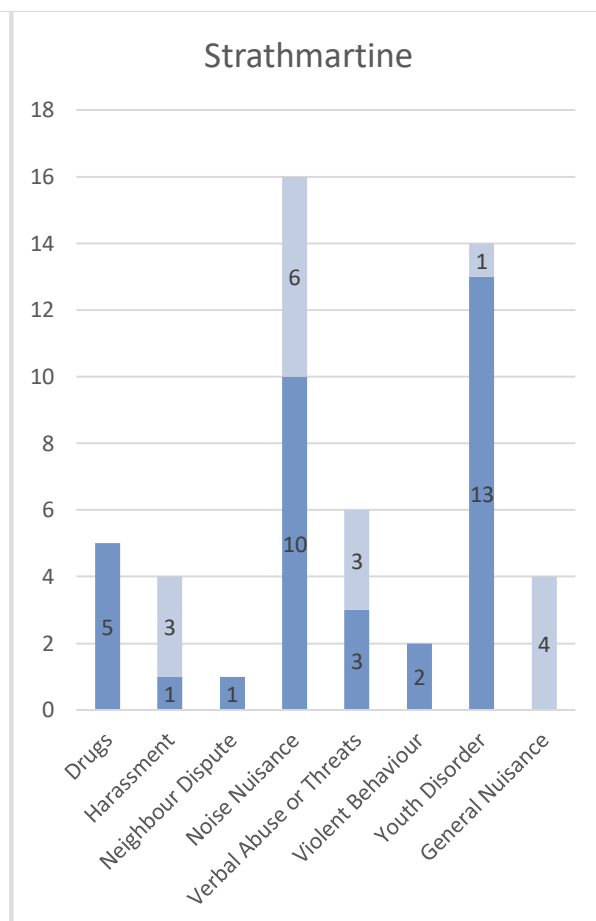
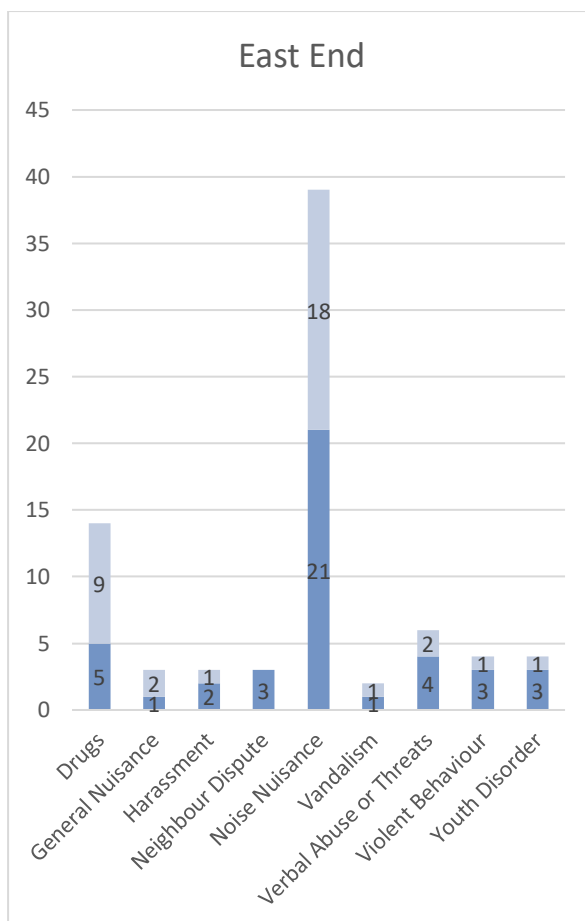
- 4.1 Number of cases recorded per multi member ward area between 1/01/23 – 31/03/23:

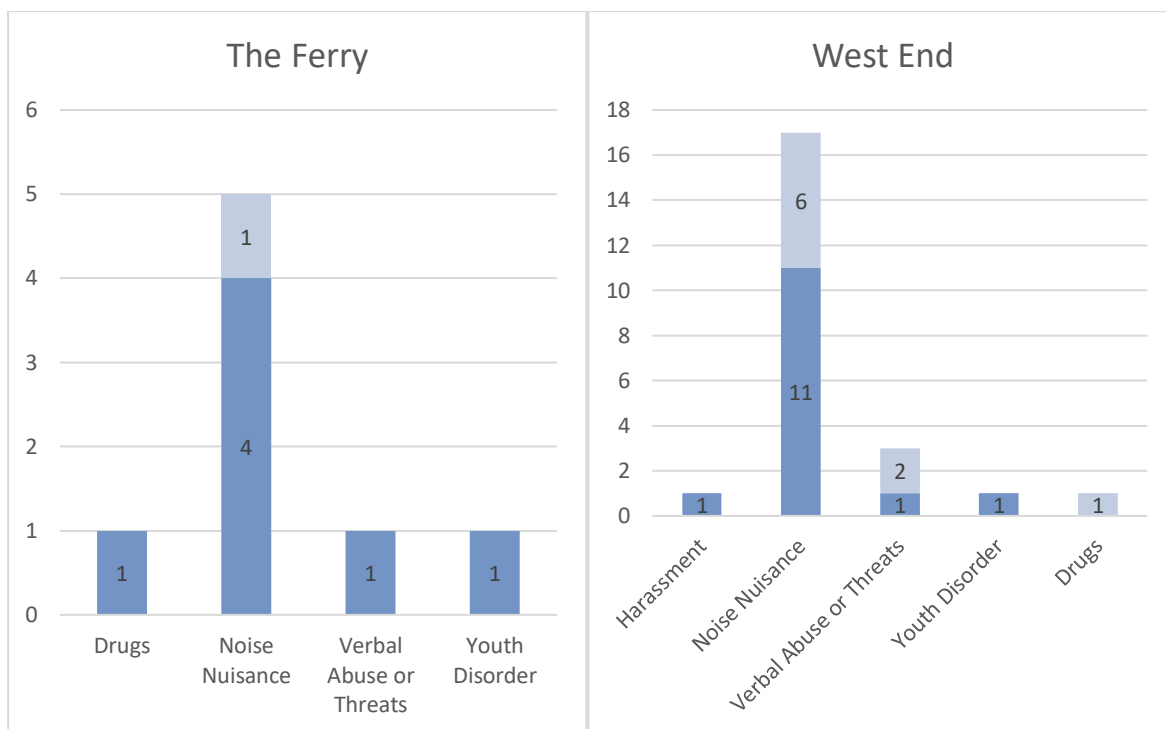


The above graph shows the number of new cases against the number of re-opened cases reported to the team. This will continue to be closely monitored to further reduce the number of recurring complaints.

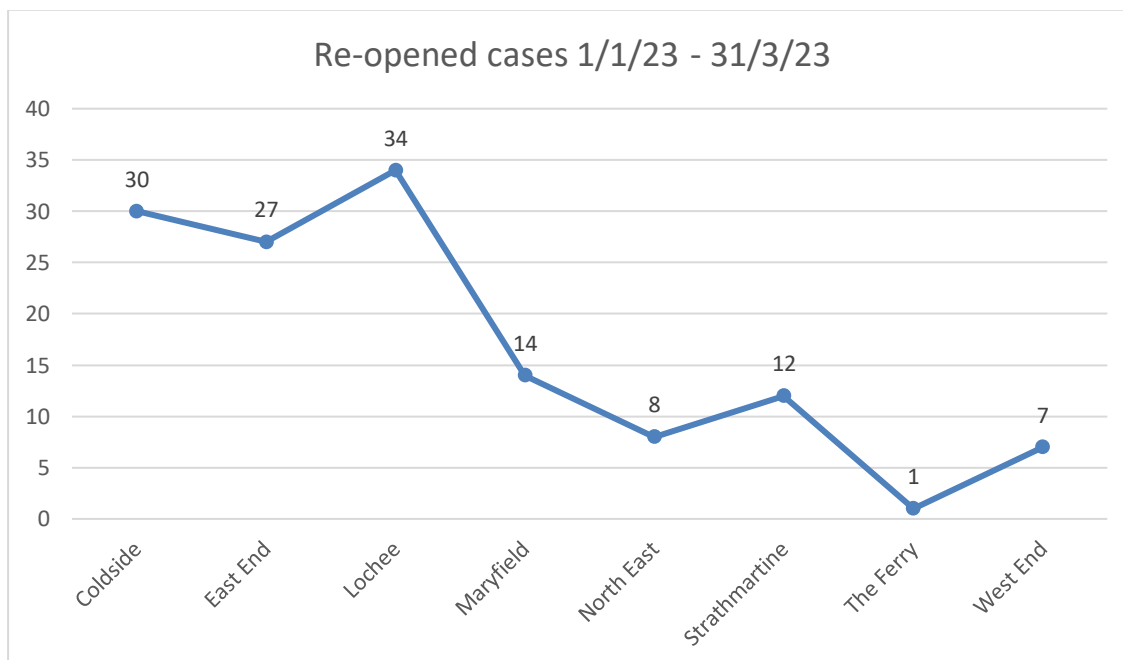
- 4.2 Types of complaints per multi member ward area between 1/1/23 – 31/3/23. Please note some cases have multiple categories applied, therefore the total numbers of categories are slightly higher than the number of cases. Again, the new cases and re-opened cases have been emphasised.







4.3 The graph below shows the number of re-opened cases in each ward area:



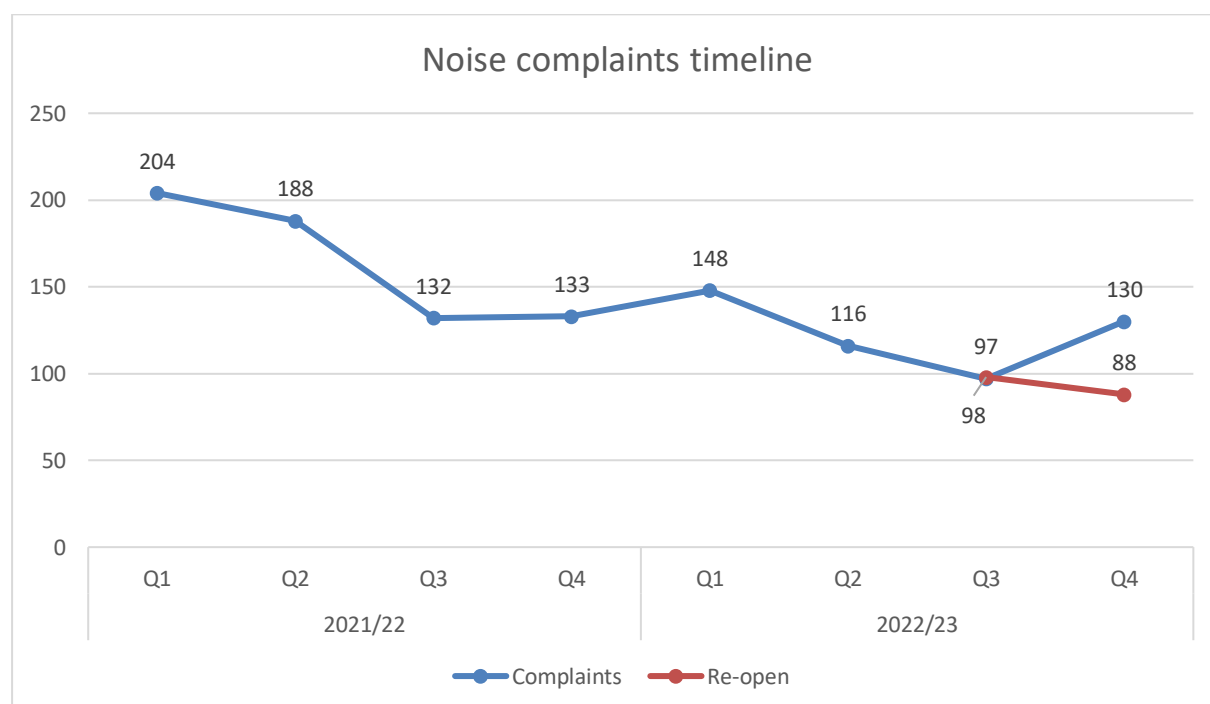
Along with the ward specific graphs above, this shows the majority of re-opened cases remain in the areas with the highest number of over all complaints. Noise complaints account for the majority of re-opened cases (88).

Re-opened cases have slightly increased since last quarter (113 up to 133). Work will continue to further reduce re-opened cases.

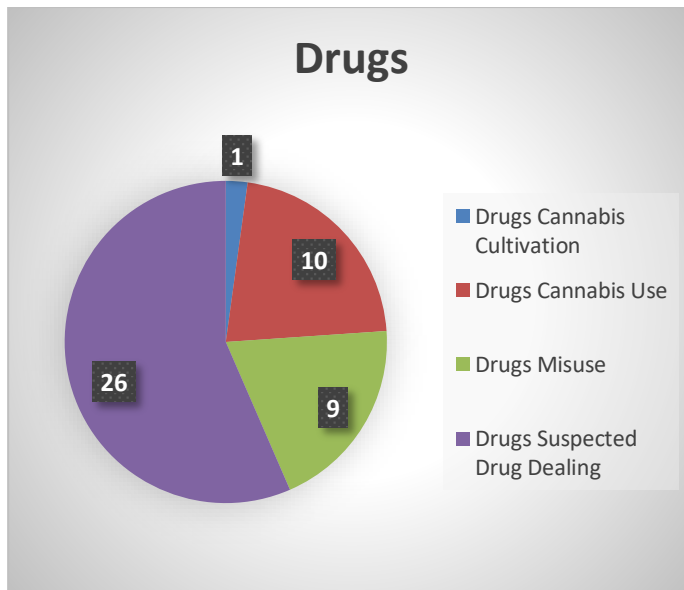
Below are the cases received during the reporting period, where 5 or more incidents have been reported. This shows only a small amount of cases where there are repeated issues, and the main causes of repeated incidents being noise: loud music, parties and household noise.



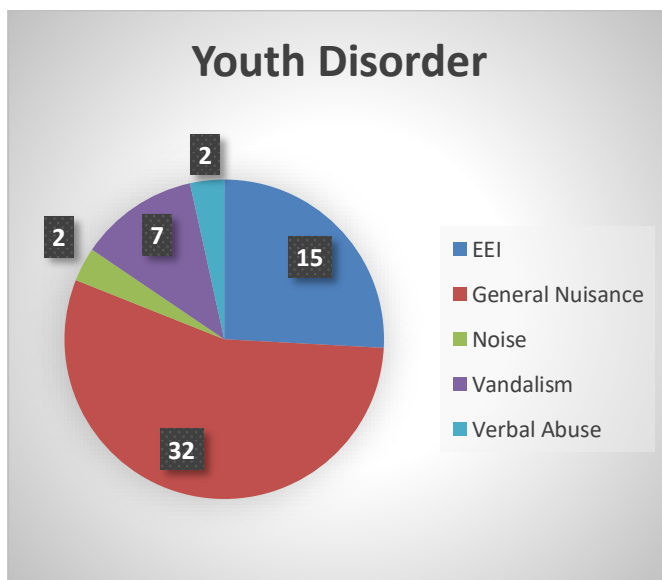
4.4 Consistent with previous reports, noise nuisance has been the highest reported complaint over all. Records had been showing a downwards trend in relation to new noise cases being recorded, however in Q4 a higher number of new noise complaints were recorded. The number of noise complaints being re-opened had however reduced. The noise timeline below shows the figures in more detail.



4.5 The graphs below show further breakdowns of all complaints in terms of sub-categories:

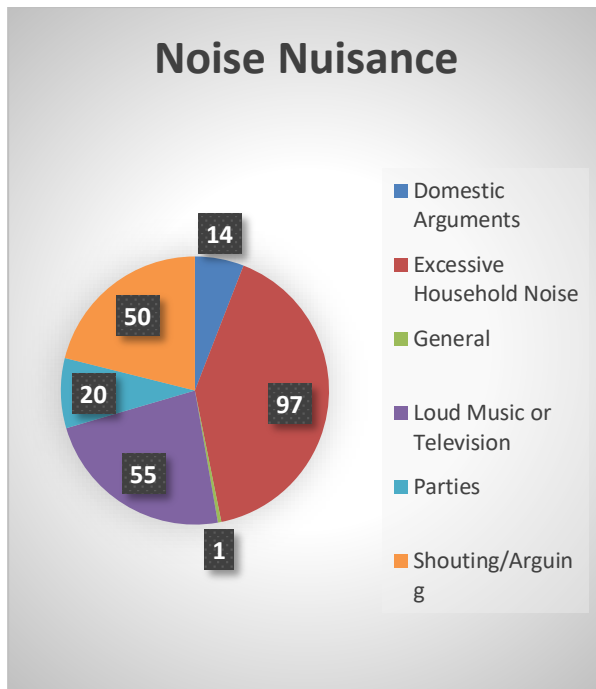


Drugs cases have increased since last quarter from 38 to 46. Figures for each sub-category have, however, remained fairly consistent with suspected drug dealing remaining the most reported type of drug related antisocial behaviour.



This period has seen a significant rise in recorded youth disorder. This shows a higher number of youth related antisocial complaints have been positively detected by the team and partners. Youth disorder has been on the increase post-pandemic and strong links for identifying those responsible has resulted in this increase of recorded complaints. Youth cases in this period total 58.

This period the largest number of youth related cases have been via proactive sharing from Police Scotland via valiants and through identification from CCTV footage.



There have been 237 reported noise related sub-categories which is slightly higher than the number of noise related cases reported of 218 due to multiple categories being applied to cases.

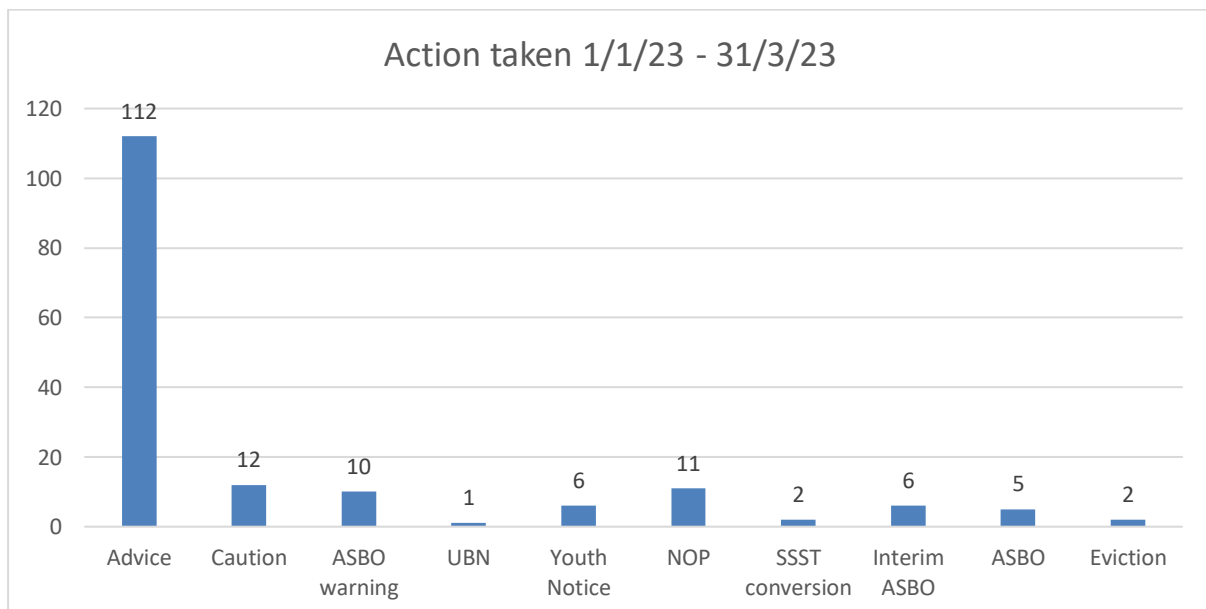
Reports of excessive household noise again dominates the complaints received. And again, this is followed by loud music or television consistent with previous reports.

This shows the majority of noise reports remain of a low level nature.

The largest increase this quarter is in relation to shouting/arguing complaints.

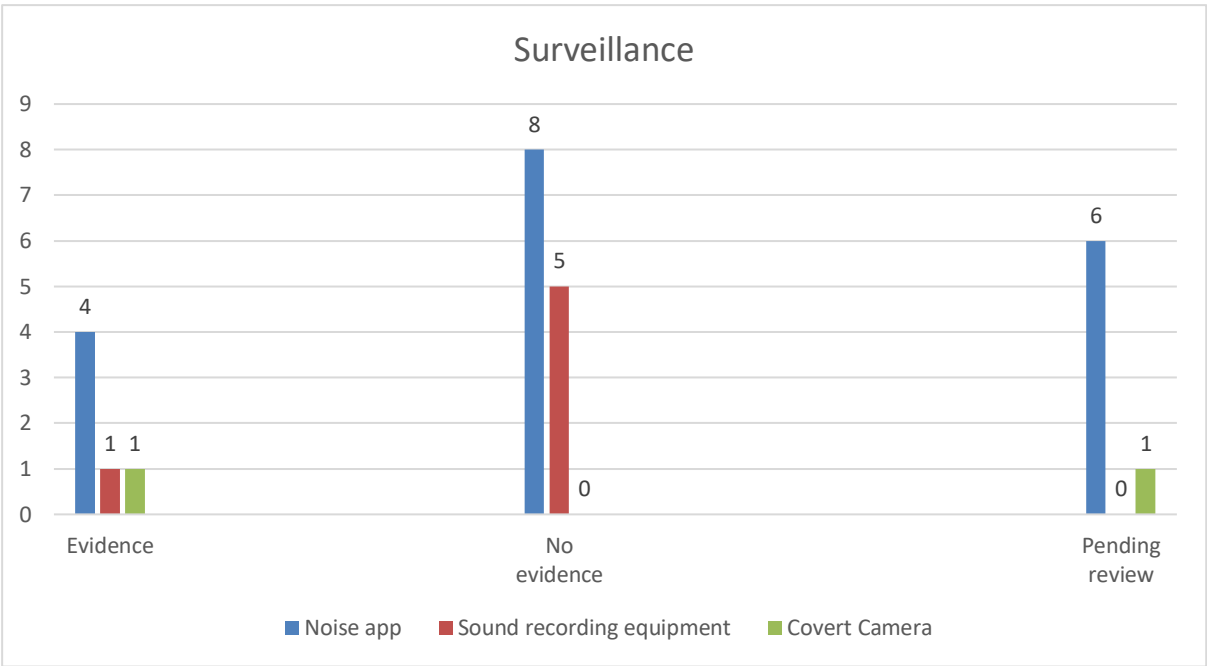
4.6 Actions taken:

Given the small number of legal actions required, this report will provide figures on a citywide basis to ensure anonymity.



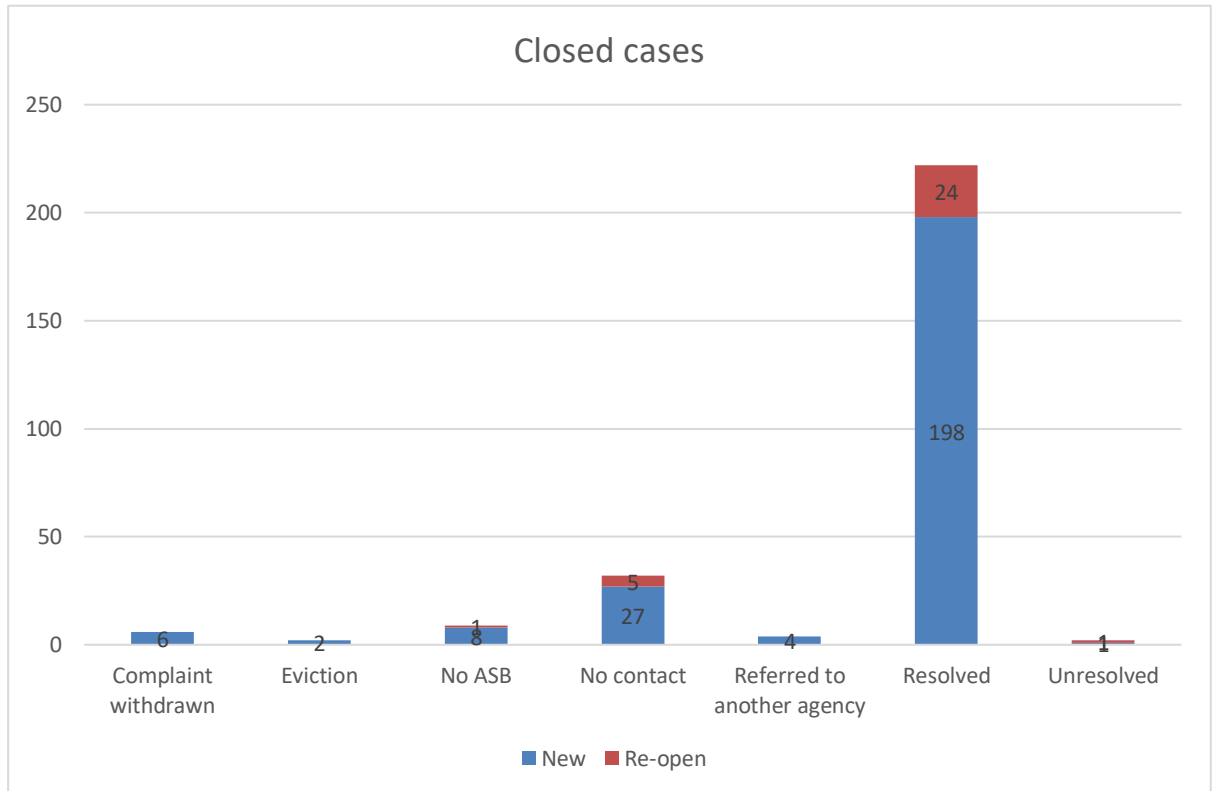
4.7. Surveillance:

To assist with investigating complaints of antisocial behaviour, the team has access to various surveillance options. The table below shows the use of surveillance over the reporting period and outcomes:



Either outcome provides a resolution to the case. Use of surveillance will either allow the team to progress appropriate action or to feedback that the complaint does not constitute antisocial behaviour.

4.8 277 cases have been closed within the reporting period. The graph below shows the case closure reasons, the majority of cases shown are resolved, with only a nominal portion being closed as unresolved (2). There is also a portion which have been identified as no antisocial behaviour (9). This is a relatively new option in terms of the recording system and this figure may increase in the next report.



4.9 Case Study:

This information is provided to give some more context to some of the work carried out by the team. As can be seen from the above data, a number of cases are resolved at a very low level. There is also occasionally the requirement to use more punitive measures or to create new ways to act. To respond to continued reports of youth disorder and antisocial behaviour occurring within a local community our youth team have been working very closely with a number of partners. This behaviour included targeting of a local shop, vandalism and verbal abuse. This was discussed at a partnership meeting within the community and resulted in the following actions:

- Improved communication between the local shop and the Antisocial Behaviour Team directly to identify those responsible;
- Targeted patrols by Community Safety Wardens, directed by MATAC (multi agency tasking and co-ordinating) meeting;
- Inputs at local primary schools to primarys 5 – 7, and an additional session with targeted groups from each of the schools to encourage improved behaviour;
- Increased identification which led to more visits being carried out to parents/guardians of the young people responsible;
- Discussions with the local shop regarding the possibility of adding to the CCTV already in place to assist with overspill of the issue into a sheltered housing complex.

There is still work ongoing to address this issue as despite an improvement in the behaviour it is recognised that the work requires to be ongoing to see these improvements remain.

Additional plans include potential restorative work by developing and facilitating inter-generational connections within the community.

5 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 This report has been subject to the Pre-IIA Screening Tool and does not make any recommendations for change to strategy, policy, procedures, services or funding and so has not been subject to an Integrated Impact Assessment. An appropriate senior manager has reviewed and agreed with this assessment.

6 CONSULTATIONS

- 6.1 The Council Leadership Team were consulted on the preparation of this report and agree with its contents.

7 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1 None.

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5 May 2023