

ITEM No ...7.....

REPORT TO: CITY GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE – 17 FEBRUARY 2025
REPORT ON: ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR – OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2024
REPORT BY: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES
REPORT NO: 33-2025

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 October to 31st December 2024.

2 RECOMMENDATION

2.1. It is recommended that Committee notes the report.

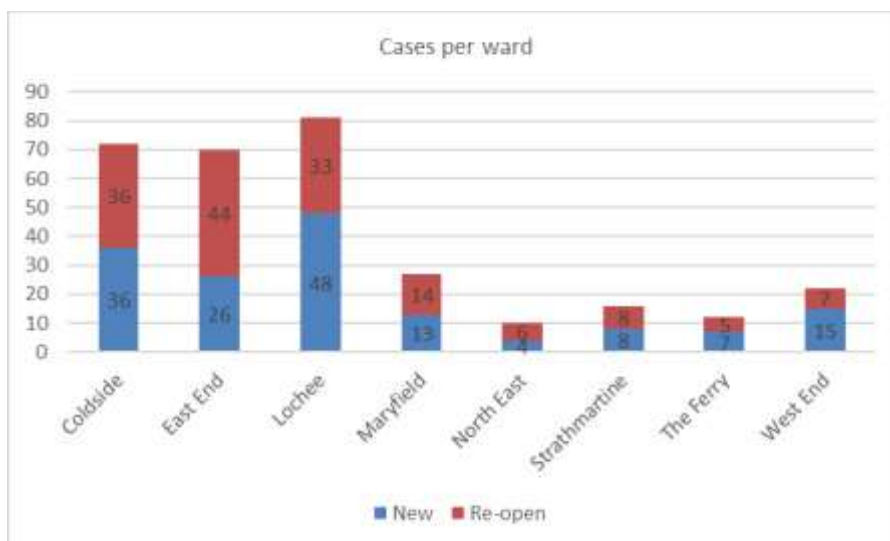
3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report.

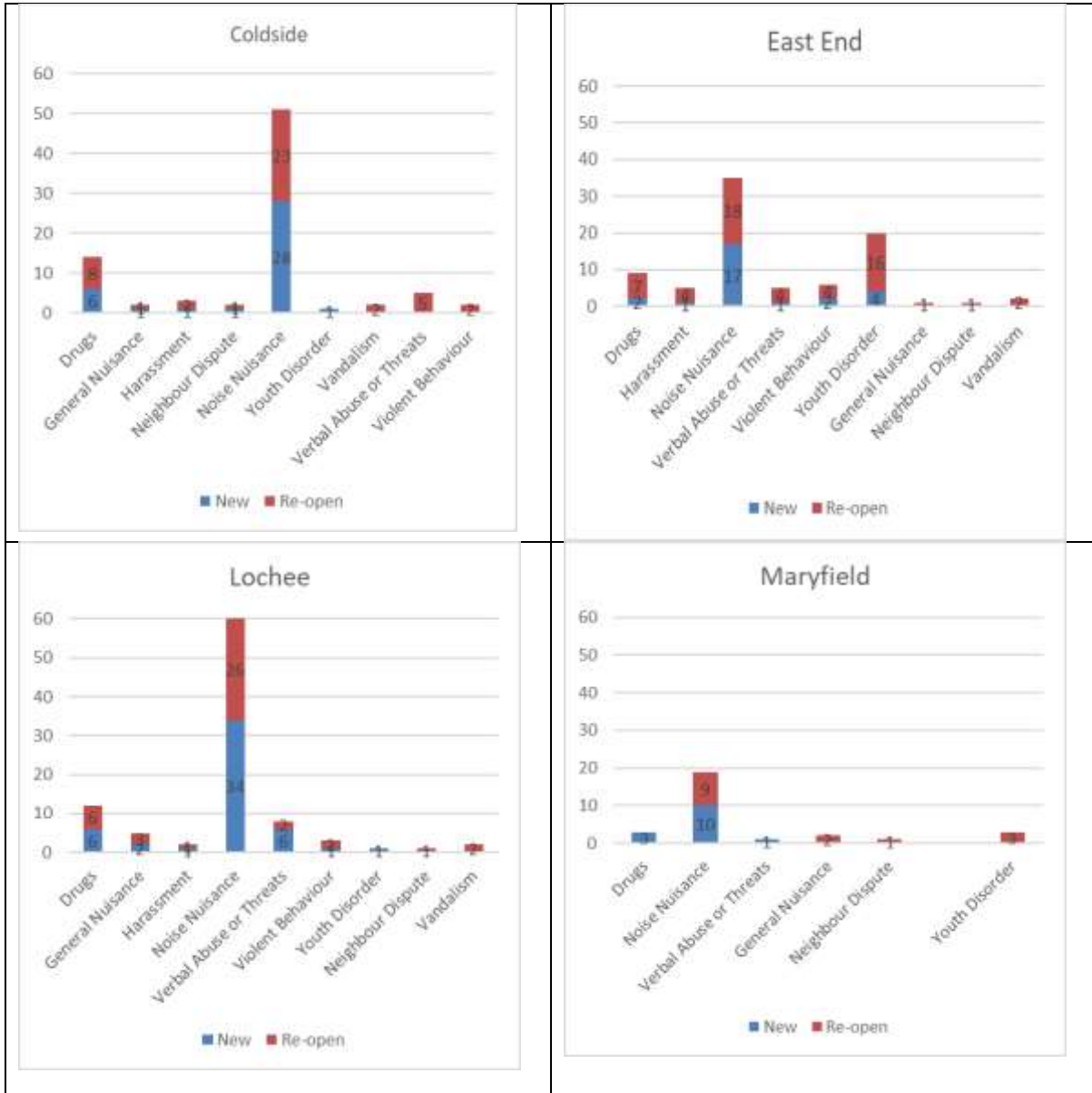
4 DATA RELATING TO REPORTING PERIOD

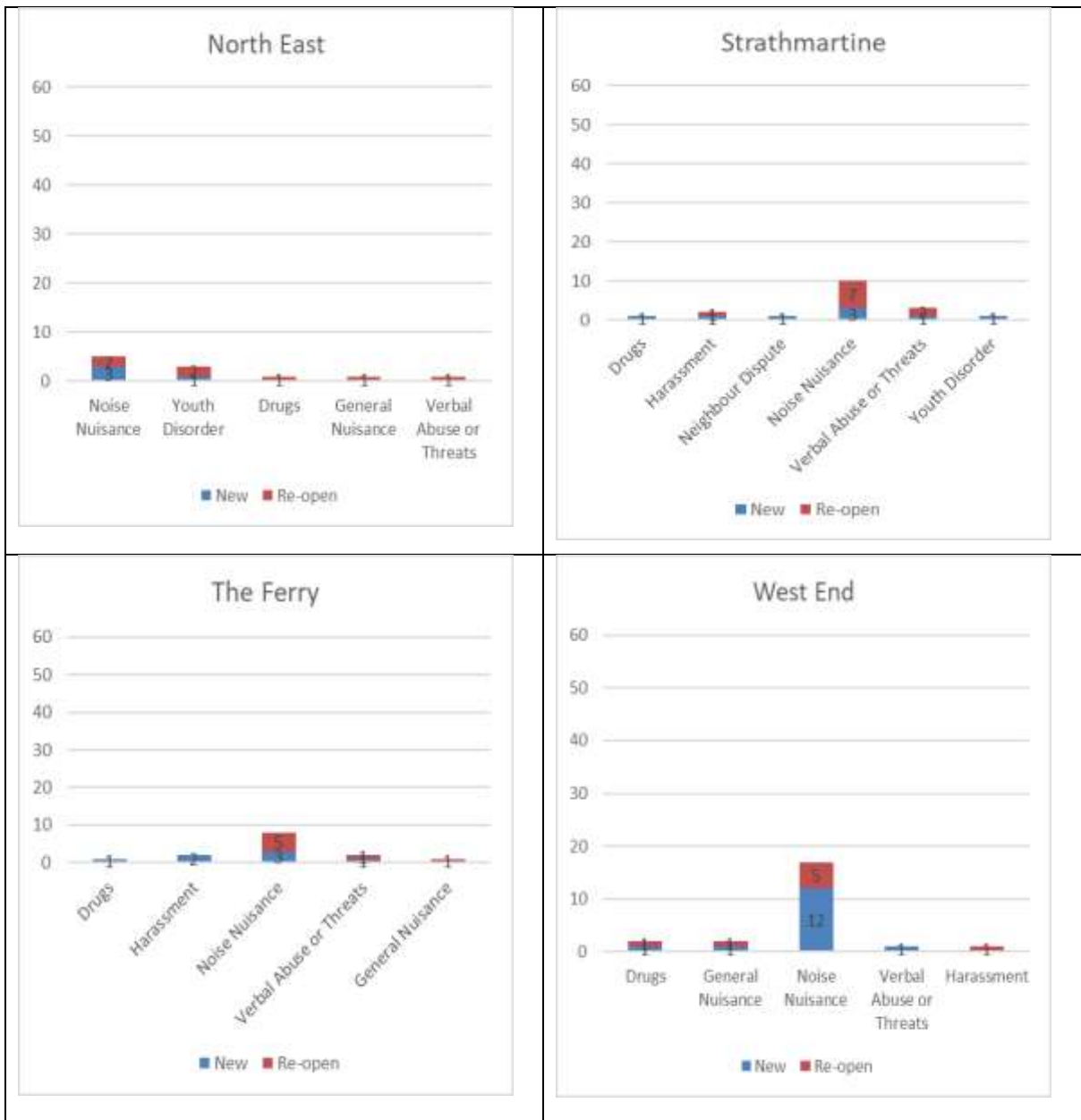
4.1 311 cases of antisocial behaviour have been recorded during the reporting period. 158 are new cases and 153 have been re-opened. The cases re-opened are not necessarily cases which had been raised initially during this quarter and most likely from previous reporting periods. This compares to 339 cases last quarter (207 new and 132 re-opens). This is a reduction on last period of 28 cases and, in comparison with Q3 of 2023-24 this is an increase of 32 cases.

4.2 Number of cases recorded per multi member ward area between 1/10/24 and 31/12/24:



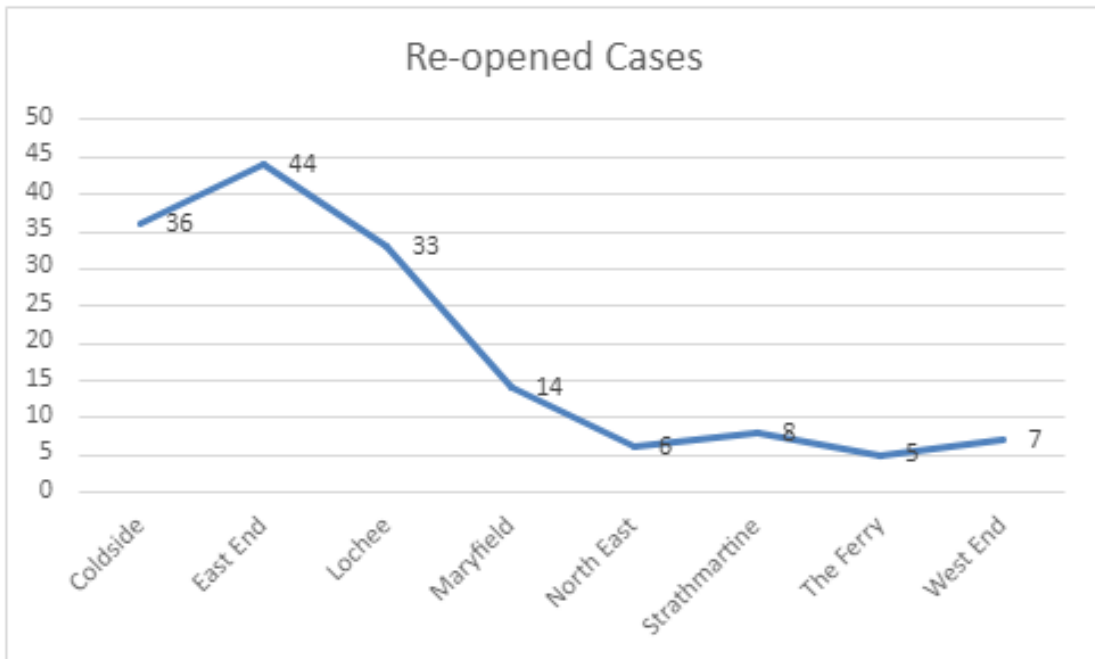
4.3 Types of complaints (new and re-opened) per multi member ward area between 1/10/24 - 31/12/24. Please note some cases have multiple categories applied, therefore the total numbers of categories may be slightly higher than the number of cases.





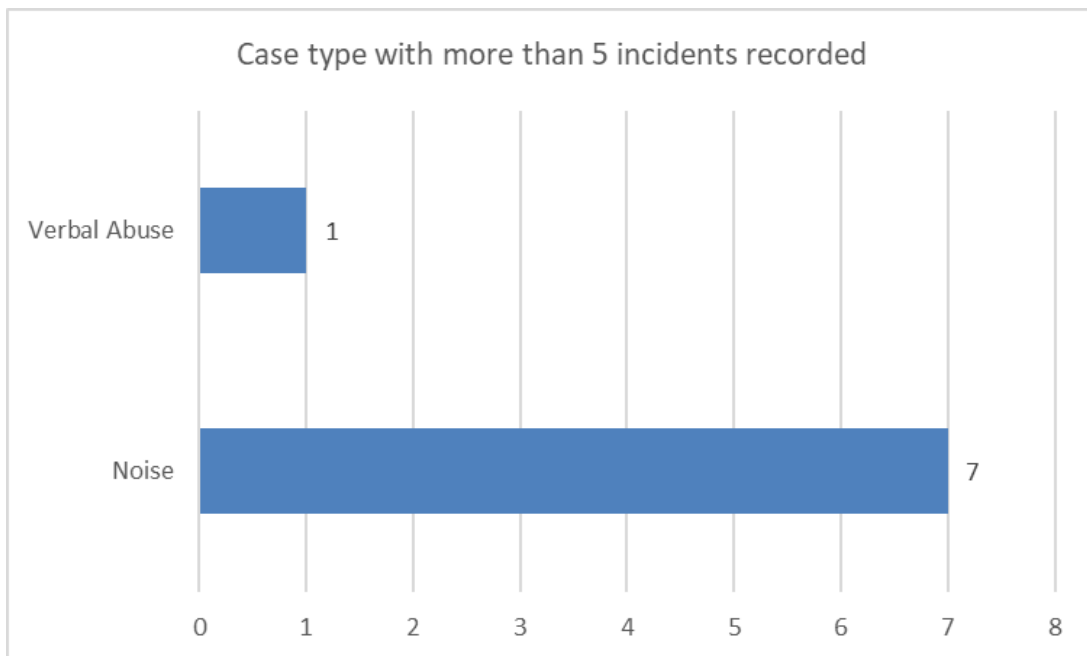
As with usual trends for ward areas, Coldside, Lochee, and East End continue to report the highest proportion of antisocial complaints per area. Noise nuisance is the highest reported problem in all ward areas.

4.4 The graph overleaf shows the cases which were re-opened in each ward area:

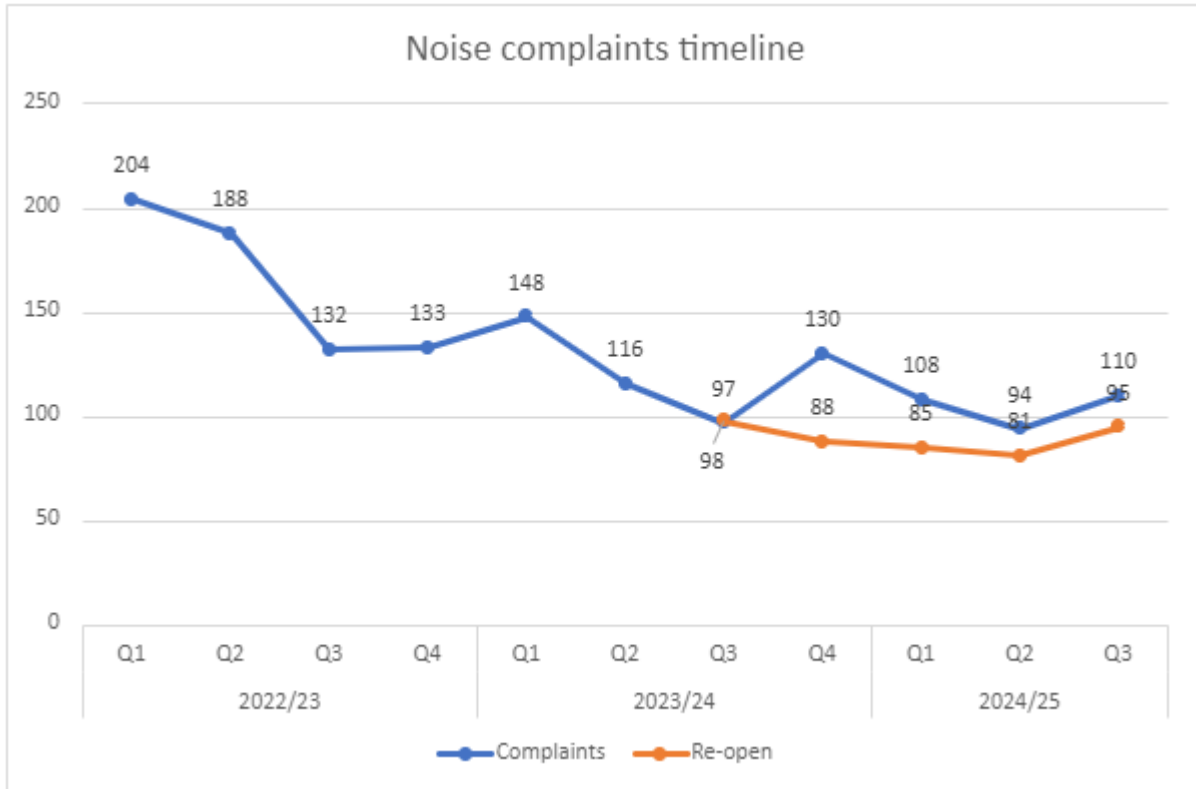


As with the ward specific graphs above, this shows most re-opened complaints are in the areas with the highest number of overall complaints. Noise complaints account for approximately 50% of re-opened cases.

4.5 Below are the number of cases received during the reporting period, where 5 or more incidents have been reported. This shows where there are repeated issues during the reporting period.

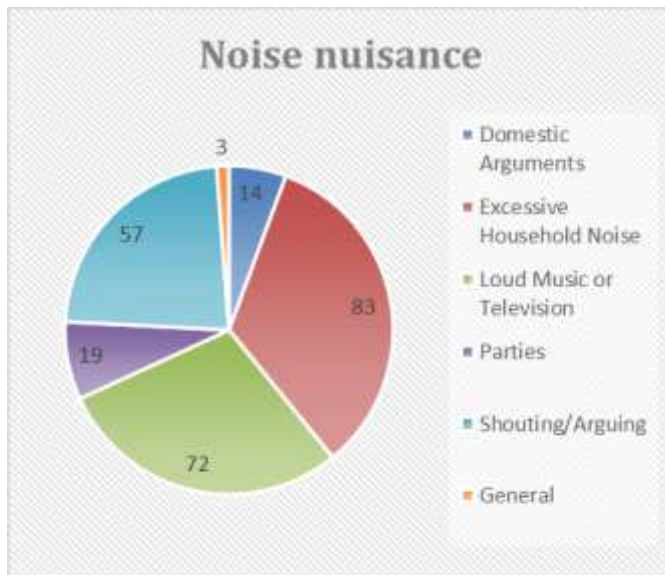


4.6 The noise timeline below shows the current pattern for noise complaints. It should be noted that data up to Q2 of 2022/23 did not illustrate how many complaints were new and this was applied from Q3 of that year onwards. Noise complaints have increased this quarter, which is in line with trends last year. There are a total of 205 noise complaints reported between 1/10/24 and 31/12/24, which is slightly more (+10) than the same period last year (195).



NB at Q3 of 2023/24 the figures are 98 new complaints and 97 re-opens.

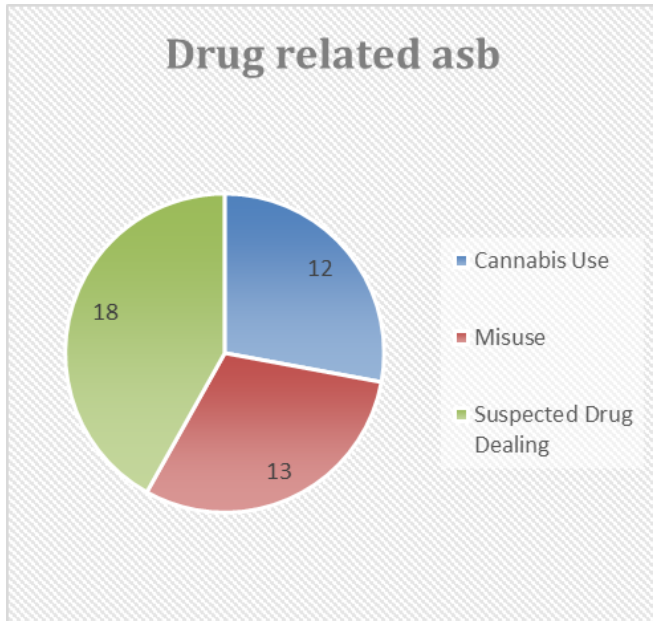
4.7 The graphs below show further breakdowns of complaint and sub-categories:



Of the 205 cases for noise, there are a total of 248 reports of various types of noise, meaning some cases have multiple types of noise category applied.

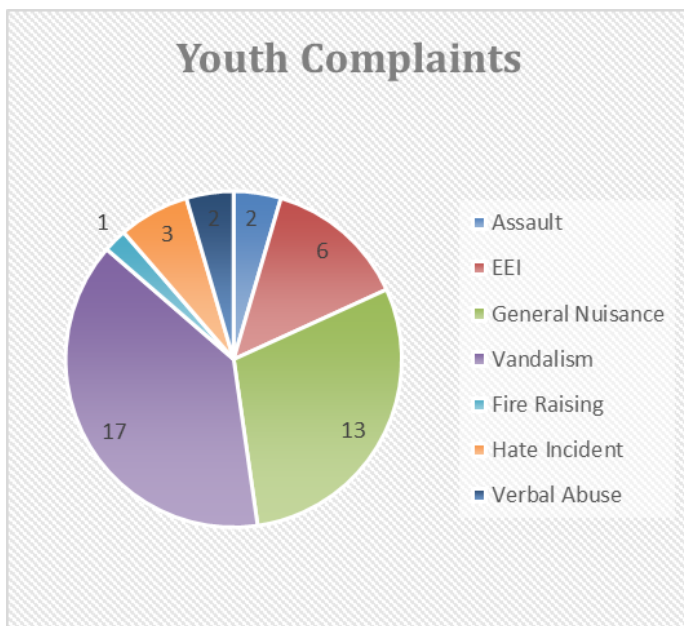
This is an increase on last quarter of 30 complaints overall.

However, as with previous reporting periods most complaints relate to lower-level noise issues such as excessive household noise and loud television or music (75.6%)



Drugs cases have reduced this quarter, after consistent periods of increased cases in this category. Cases have reduced from 67 last quarter to 43 this quarter.

These figures are more in line with report from Q3 from the previous year and may be indicative of less reporting during the winter months.

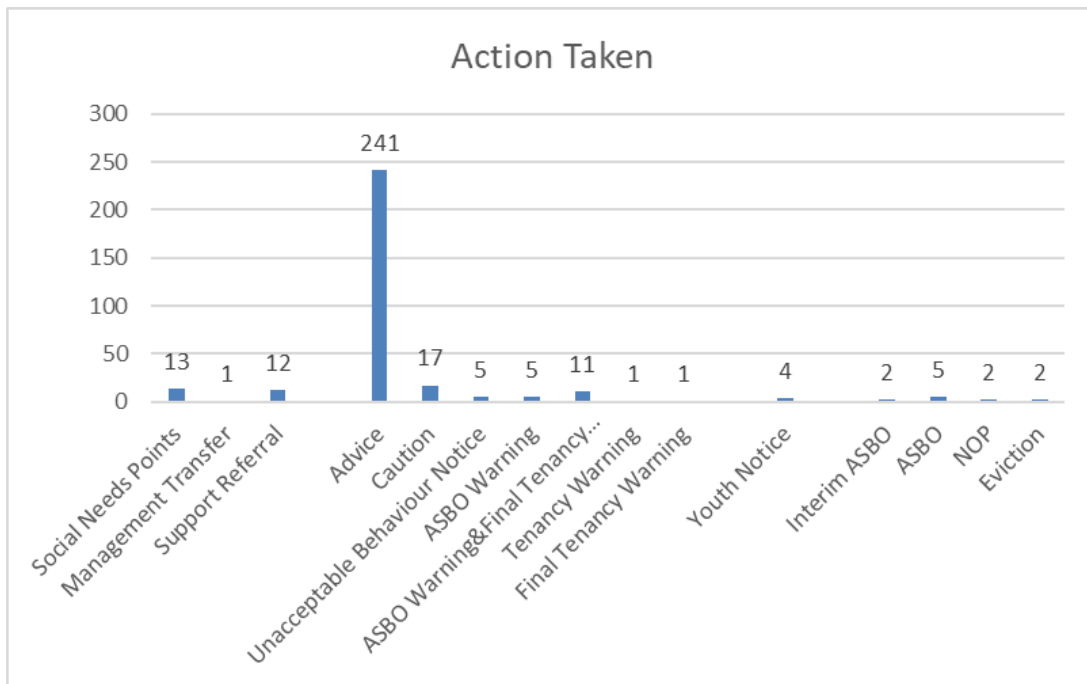


44 reports relating to youth disorder were received this period. This is a reduction of 18 on last quarter, although this period we have an increase in incidents of vandalism. Further interrogation of cases shows this is due to a spike in incidents in the East End ward involving some of the same group of youths. Also worth noting is although there were 3 cases opened relating to hate incident, this was one incident with 3 youths involved.

The team continue to engage with young people wherever possible to prevent involvement with antisocial behaviour and divert those who have been engaging in this behaviour.

4.8 Actions taken

Given the small number of legal actions required, this report will provide figures on a citywide basis to ensure anonymity. Advice accounts for most of the action taken as the team will always aim to resolve issues at the lowest possible level. This is supported by a greater number of lower-level warnings being issued and only a small percentage of cases moving to legal action.



4.9. Surveillance

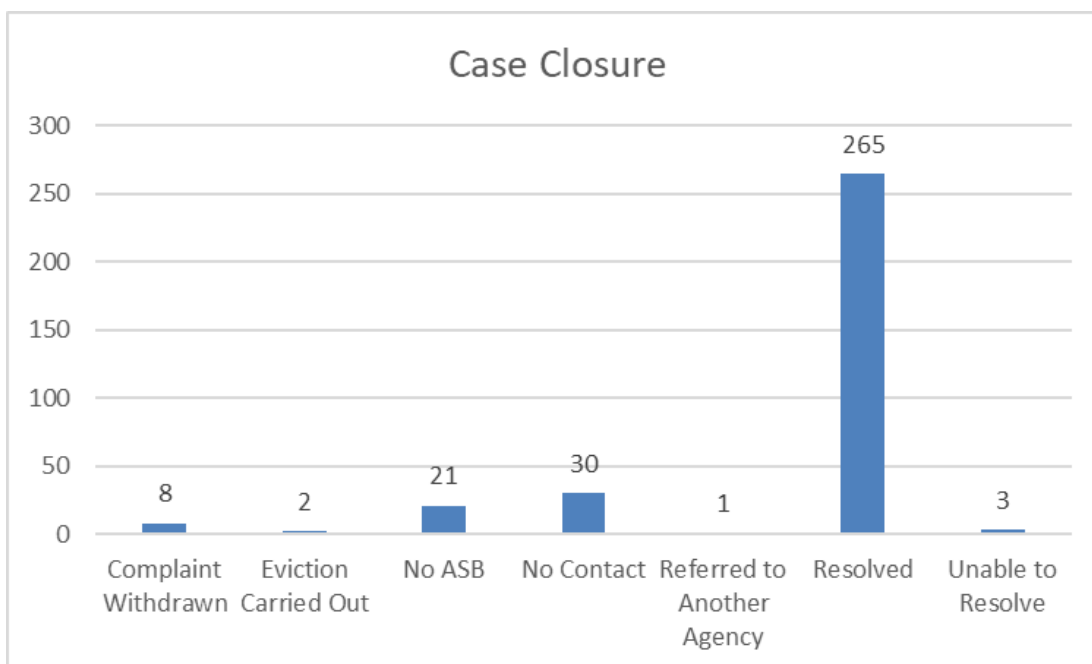
To assist with investigating complaints of antisocial behaviour, the team has access to various surveillance options: overt and covert CCTV, sound recording equipment, and a noise app.

In this period 14 cases have required the use of surveillance to gather further evidence. In 9 cases, the noise app was used and in the remaining 3 sound recording equipment was deployed. Of the 14 cases, 8 have been reviewed with no evidence of antisocial behaviour recorded in 6 cases and evidence of antisocial behaviour in 2, resulting in relevant action being taken. Six of the cases remain under investigation.

This is a relatively low number compared to the level of complaints received, however, surveillance can be intrusive and therefore the team will continue to use all other methods of gathering evidence in the first instance.

4.10 Case closure

330 cases have been closed within the reporting period. The graph below shows the case closure reasons, the majority of these being closed off as resolved.



The three cases which were unable to be resolved all related to neighbour disputes. All parties concerned were offered conflict resolution, however, this was refused. Despite having good quality information relating to conflict resolution meetings and how these works, it can be common for this to be refused. The team are looking at other methods of promoting the positive outcome conflict resolution sessions can have.

5. TEAM QUARTERLY UPDATE

- 5.1 The team were significantly involved in the preparation and planning for Halloween and bonfire night this quarter. Across our partners there is considerable work input into making this a safe and enjoyable time for everyone across the city.
- 5.2 Supporting the wide range of planning and interventions, officers from the Antisocial Behaviour Team arranged and delivered targeted inputs to schools in areas where there has been previous disorder; played a key role in sharing information and intelligence; and engaged in proactive visits along with colleagues in Police Scotland to advise young people of the other activities available in their area and reminding them of the negative impact disorder has on their communities.
- 5.3 In addition to the above colleagues and partners carried out proactive patrols in areas, arranged various diversionary activities for families and young people, and arranged special uplifts of combustible materials co-ordinated with community clean ups as part of the Take Pride campaign.
- 5.4 This is the second year of additional interventions being put in place over this period, and partners in Police Scotland and SFRS both report continued improvement in behaviours over Halloween and, although there was a lot of activity on bonfire night this was mainly carried out in a peaceful and safe manner.

6. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 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.

7. CONSULTATIONS

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

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 None.

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14 January 2025

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