

**REPORT TO: HOUSING COMMITTEE – 23 OCTOBER 2006**

**REPORT ON: ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR POLICY**

**REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF HOUSING**

**REPORT NO: 545-2006**

**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report seeks authorisation to implement the attached Antisocial Behaviour Policy. The Antisocial Behaviour Policy reflects the key objectives of the Dundee Antisocial Behaviour Strategy and lays out what people can expect from the Antisocial Behaviour Team.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Housing Committee approves the Antisocial Behaviour Policy, copies of which will be made available in Members' Lounges.

**3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no additional financial implications arising directly from the implementation of this policy. Significant financial resources have been made available from HRA/General Fund to pay for the running of the Antisocial Behaviour Team. The Antisocial Behaviour Team also receives funding from the Scottish Executive as set out in the Local Outcome Agreements of the Antisocial Behaviour Strategy.

**4. SUSTAINABILITY POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

The Antisocial Behaviour Policy provides a framework to ensure that people live without fear of personal violence from crime or because of their personal beliefs, race, gender or sexuality.

**5. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS**

The policy will help to prevent social exclusion by reducing and preventing violence and harassment against people because of their race, gender, sexuality or connection to other target groups.

**6. BACKGROUND**

The Antisocial Behaviour etc. (Scotland) Act 2004 imposed a duty on local authorities and partners to publish an Antisocial Behaviour Strategy.

The Strategy contains details of what organisations are involved in tackling antisocial behaviour in Dundee and additional funding to enhance existing services. The Antisocial Behaviour Policy uses the objectives of the Strategy to set out how the Antisocial Behaviour Team operates.

Dundee City Council wants to tackle antisocial behaviour within its communities. The Housing Department set up a specialist team in November 2001 to address antisocial behaviour. The Antisocial Behaviour Team has evolved since its first inception in 2001.

As demand for the service grew and the legislation changed it was recognised that to provide a coherent and consistent service on managing ASB within its communities, Dundee City Council would need to expand the team and the remit of the team. The team now provides specialist advice and assistance to all residents of Dundee City regardless of tenure.

The Antisocial Behaviour Team's aims are to try to prevent or stop antisocial behaviour at the lowest level and prevent escalation of the situation, through discussion, mediation, diversion and advice. Investigation Officers use a number of resolutions at their disposal to resolve cases. This can include encouraging neighbours to speak to each other, referrals to mediation, acceptable behaviour contracts, warnings and other actions, including Antisocial Behaviour Orders (ASBO).

The policy document provides a framework for action relating to complaints of neighbour nuisance or antisocial behaviour. The policy also links with and complements the Dundee Antisocial Behaviour Strategy, and outlines the Antisocial Behaviour Team's role in achieving the key aims and objectives of the strategy. The Antisocial Behaviour Policy explains how people can report antisocial behaviour, how the Team responds to reports, what tools it can use and when.

## 7. **CONSULTATIONS**

The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Finance), Depute Chief Executive (Support Services), all Chief Officers and all other partners have been consulted on this report.

## 8. **BACKGROUND REPORTS**

Dundee Antisocial Behaviour Strategy.  
Dundee Youth Justice Strategy.

**ELAINE ZWIRLEIN**  
**DIRECTOR OF HOUSING**

**2 AUGUST 2006**