

SCRUTINY COMMISSION - MONDAY, 3 JULY 2023

Report of the Director of Housing and Wellbeing and the Director of Customer Experience Lead Members: Councillors Colin Hamilton and Elizabeth Blackshaw

Part A

UPDATE ON INTERNAL ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR REVIEW

Purpose of Report

On the 12th December 2022 the Commission was updated on the outcomes of the internal ASB service review which concluded in September 2022.

Scrutiny requested a further update be provided after a period. This report is that update.

Action Requested

To consider the update, the recommendation to conclude scrutiny of the ASB service review, and / or identify any further action that should be taken.

Recommendations

1. That the Commission note the update.
2. That the Commission conclude its scrutiny of the ASB service review.

Reasons

1. To confirm scrutiny has considered the update.
2. The ASB review concluded in September 2022. New working practices are embedded. The actions identified by scrutiny at its last meeting are complete or scheduled.

Policy Justification and Previous Decisions

At the meeting of the Scrutiny Commission on the 12th December 2022 it was resolved...

1. *that the Commission noted the report.*
2. *that the report return to Scrutiny Commission in 6-months time.*
3. *that the job title of 'ASB Facilitator' be refined.*
4. *that training be provided for Councillors.*
5. *to check the position of anonymity when reporting ASB on behalf of someone else.*

...for the following reasons:

- 1&2. *To support effective scrutiny of the matter.*
3. *To more accurately reflect the role.*
4. *To ensure that Councillors knew the process and could assist with reporting and track progress.*
5. *To explore the possibility of allowing anonymous reports when reporting on behalf of someone else.*

Implementation Timetable including Future Decisions

Not applicable.

Report Implications

Financial Implications

There are none.

Risk Management

There are no specific risks identified with this report.

Equality and Diversity

No equality and diversity implications have been identified.

Climate Change and Carbon Impact

No climate change or carbon impact implications have been identified.

Crime and Disorder

The subject matter of the report relates to anti-social behaviour (ASB) which may include disorder. The Commission's consideration of this item will likely assist elected member understanding around the Council's approach to ASB which will support members in their community engagement role, particularly where ASB services are concerned. A positive impact on the prevention and reduction of disorder has therefore been identified.

Wards Affected

Wards are not significantly affected.

Publicity Arrangements

Not applicable.

Consultations

Not applicable.

Links to the Corporate Strategy

Caring for the Environment	No
Healthy Communities	Yes
A Thriving Economy	No
Your Council	Yes

Key Decision: No

Background Papers: UPDATE ON INTERNAL ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOR (ASB) REVIEW - Scrutiny Commission 12th December 2022

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Part B

Background

A review of how ASB is coordinated and managed within Charnwood Borough Council commenced at the end of 2019, however due to the impact of Covid-19 the review was paused and re-commenced at the end of August 2020, when an independent consultant was commissioned to conduct a high level review and make recommendations to bring together our ASB (Anti-Social Behaviour) teams to enable them to work more effectively with the police and partners.

The review concluded in September 2022 and the Commission received an update on the outcomes of the review at its meeting on the 12th December 2022. The report *Update on Internal Anti-Social Behaviour Review* can be found on the Council's website.

Update on Actions Identified by Scrutiny

At its meeting on 12th December the Commission identified a number of actions to be taken. These are set out below, along with a status / progress update.

Action	Status
That the job title of 'ASB Facilitator' be refined to more accurately reflect the role.	Complete. The job title is <i>Anti-Social Behaviour Services Facilitator</i> .
That training be provided for Councillors to ensure that Councillors knew the process and could assist with reporting and track progress.	In progress. Member training is being scheduled for September / October 2023.
To explore the possibility of allowing anonymous reports when reporting on behalf of someone else.	Complete. Generally, anonymous reports are discouraged. There is no victim to engage, and risk assess so the response to an anonymous report of ASB is likely to be compromised. That said, officers will attempt to investigate where an issue appears serious. Safeguarding issues are referred on. The Commission identified it was not possible for people reporting on behalf of others to remain anonymous. Reporting data has been analysed and there does not appear to be a significant need for anonymity for people reporting on behalf of others. Of 1386 cases reported 148 were reported by third parties. Third party reporting

	does therefore not account for much of the reporting, and as stated, it is desirable to have the details of parties involved in reporting ASB to support investigation. Further system development is therefore not planned.
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Appendices

There are none.