

17 June 2015

South Cambridgeshire District Council

Report To:Housing Portfolio HolderLead Officer:Director of Housing

Anti-Social Behaviour Policy and Procedure Statement

Purpose

- 1. To seek the approval from the Housing Portfolio Holder for the adoption of the revised policy and procedure for responding to reports of nuisance and anti- social behaviour.
- 2. This is not a key decision.

Recommendations

3. It is recommended that the Housing Portfolio Holder approves both the policy and the procedure attached as **Appendix A**.

Reasons for Recommendations

4. There are statutory obligations that the Council must comply with when responding to reports of nuisance and anti social behaviour. These have been refreshed with the introduction of the Anti Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. The proposed revised policy and procedures for dealing with anti -social behaviour ensures that these statutory obligations are addressed within the Council's overall approach.

Background

- 5. The Council has a duty to investigate reports of nuisance and anti-social behaviour and take the appropriate enforcement action. The Antisocial Behaviour Act 2003 requires the Council to publish a statement of policies, a statement of procedures and a summary statement of the policy and procedures.
- 6. The Anti Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 require the Council to adopt an approach that considers prevention and early intervention as well as introducing new enforcement powers.
- 7. Responding to complaints of nuisance and anti social behaviour is also a commitment the Council makes to its tenants as part the contract between landlord and tenant specified in the tenancy agreement. It is recognised that doing this in a timely and effected manner is an important element of the business we conduct on behalf of our customers.

Considerations

8. Anti social behaviour in and around the homes that the Council own and manages can be experienced by residents or service users, council staff or contractors and other residents in the neighbourhood. It therefore extends to where a council tenant is the alleged perpetrator or where council tenants are also affected by the behaviour.

- 9. This policy and statement sets out how the Council will approach complaints and what tools and legislation can be used to take enforcement action. It also highlights what partnerships we have with other services and agencies that support and compliment our work in this area.
- 10. As well as enforcement the policy sets out how the Council support victims, witnesses and perpetrators of nuisance behaviour and again describes the tools and services that are available to be utilised.
- 11. Successful outcomes in dealing with anti social behaviour rely on partnership working and the Council has information sharing arrangements in place, where these are permitted, with key partners to tackle nuisance behaviour.

Options

- 12. It is recommended that the Portfolio Holder approves the policy and procedure attached as **Appendix A**.
- 13. The Portfolio Holder may prefer to recommend that further work is undertaken on the policy and procedure documents and brought back to a future Portfolio Holder meeting for decision.

Implications

Financial

14. The provision of this service is fully costed within the HRA Business Plan and the current Affordable Homes budget approved by Council.

Legal

15. The adoption of the policy and procedure document will ensure that the Council is meeting its statutory obligations.

Staffing

16. There are no extra staffing requirements to deliver this policy.

Risk Management

17. There are no significant risks associated with this policy.

Equality and Diversity

18. An Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out and there are no adverse impacts associated with this policy.

Consultation responses (including from the Youth Council)

19. There has been consultation with the Tenant Participation Group which has endorsed the new policy and procedures.

Corporate aim

20. Work with tenants, parish councils and community groups to sustain successful, vibrant villages.

Background Papers

The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 and statutory guidance for frontline professionals published in July 2014 can be found at, <u>http://www.legislation.gov.uk/all?title=anti%20social%20behaviour</u>

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