

REVIEW OF NATIONAL ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR POLICY

7th PROGRESS REPORT – FEBRUARY 2009

Welcome to the 7th and final progress report on the review of national antisocial behaviour policy. The Review Project Team are pleased to announce that the final draft of the report is now complete and is in the process of being printed.

Here is a summary of activity since the last progress report.

CLEARANCE PROCESS

The COSLA Community Safety Executive group meeting

The COSLA Community Safety Executive Group chaired by Cllr Barbara Grant discussed the Antisocial Behaviour Framework for the final time on 21 January. The Executive Group were broadly supportive of the Framework and agreed to play a role in implementation, along with the COSLA Community Wellbeing and Safety Executive Group, chaired by Cllr McGuigan.

Expert Advisory Group

The Expert Advisory Group were consulted during the drafting of the final Framework and signed-off the final draft in early January.

Cabinet Approval

On 27 January, the Framework was presented to Cabinet by the Cabinet Secretary for Justice, Kenny MacAskill, and was given their formal approval.

The COSLA Leaders meeting

All 32 Council Leaders and Chief Executives met in Edinburgh on 30 January, where the Minister for Community Safety, Fergus Ewing MSP, and Councillor Harry McGuigan, COSLA Community Wellbeing and Safety Spokesperson, delivered a joint presentation on the new Antisocial Behaviour Framework.

The Framework was well received and was given unanimous approval by COSLA Leaders in principle, whilst noting that further work will be undertaken by the COSLA Community Wellbeing and Safety Executive Group regarding the implementation of the ASB Framework and any potential resource issues.

Also in attendance at the meeting was the Cabinet Secretary for Justice, Kenny MacAskill MSP, and the Minister for Public Health and Sport, Shona Robison MSP.

EVENTS

‘Social Landlords tackling antisocial behaviour effectively’ conference

Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing, Nicola Sturgeon MSP, spoke at the Social Landlords conference in Stirling on 17 November. Her plenary speech focused on what the Scottish Government is doing to tackle antisocial behaviour, making reference to the national review.

ASB Framework Launch - 19 March

The ASB Framework will be officially launched on 19 March at the ‘Promoting Positive Opportunities’ conference in Edinburgh. The Minister for Community Safety, Fergus Ewing, and COSLA’s Community Wellbeing and Safety Spokesperson, Councillor Harry McGuigan, will deliver the keynote addresses. In addition, chairs of the review’s Expert Advisory Sub-Groups will talk specifically about the four key themes of the review - prevention, integration, engagement and communication - from a local authority perspective, a police perspective, a fire service perspective and a voluntary sector perspective.

We are also planning a series of local briefing events around Scotland, similar to the Road to Recovery Ministerial Tour on drugs, in which the Minister for Community Safety has recently participated.

ASBOF and SCSN conference - 25 March

ASBOF (Antisocial Behaviour Officers Forum) and SCSN (Scottish Community Safety Network) will be jointly hosting a conference for members in Perth on 25 March, to explain the new Antisocial Behaviour Framework. The programme is currently being finalised but is likely to include a presentation by the Scottish Government and consultation with members on their views through workshops.

For further information please contact:
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RESEARCH UPDATE

The reports of the interviews with young people and the focus groups with adults and the reports of the interviews with the police and with Local Authority ASB co-ordinators are available on the internal review website at www.antisocialbehavioursotland.com/review/members. These reports have now been pulled together into a volume of evidence, analysis and consultation (Volume 2) that will be published alongside the recommendations of the review.

Volume 2 also highlights findings from the ASBO breach rate project and summarises the evidence relevant to each of the four pillars of the review. We also plan to publish the final report from the evaluation of intensive family support projects (including the 3 Breaking the Cycle projects and the Aberdeen and Dundee Families Projects) on the same day as the report of the national antisocial behaviour strategy review. Work on the evaluation of fixed penalty notices is ongoing and will be completed by the spring.

TIMELINE - 2009

21 January – COSLA Executive group meeting

27 January – Framework approved by Cabinet

30 January – Framework approved by COSLA Leaders

February 2009 – Final proofing and printing of Framework

19 March – Framework presented to Parliament and published

IMPLEMENTATION

Planning for the implementation phase is already underway, including the design of central practitioner support services to support implementation. There will be further consultation on this and full details will be provided in the implementation plan due for publication in summer 2009.

Any staff updates will be circulated as soon as they are available. Please note that after doing a sterling job during the course of the review Chrissie Finnigan has now left the Community Safety Unit to take up a new post at the Scottish Parliament.

The ASB Project Team are delighted to welcome Katie Miller and Rachel Smith, who both have recently joined the team to assist with finalisation and implementation of the Framework.

CONTACT DETAILS

If you have any queries about the review, please telephone the Community Safety Unit on **0131 244 2853** or email katie.miller@scotland.gsi.gov.uk.

Scottish Government
Community Safety Unit
ASB Review Project Team
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