

DUDLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

**SELECT COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY SAFETY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES –
14TH JUNE, 2007**

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON
COMMUNITY SAFETY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES**

Report of the Lead Officer to the Committee

1. **Purpose of Report**

To submit to Council, the Annual Report of the Select Committee on Community Safety and Community Services for 2006/2007 and to submit a work programme for 2007/2008.

2. **Background**

Article 6 of the Council's Constitution requires that Select Committees report annually to the full Council and make recommendations for future work programmes and amended working methods, if appropriate, for the forthcoming year.

The Council's attention is drawn to the attachments at appendices 1, 2 and 3, that indicate the items included in the work programme for review during 2006/2007.

There were no 'call-ins' of decisions relating to the remit of the Committee through the Decision Sheet Process during the year.

3. **Analysis of the Work Programme for 2006/2007**

The Committee continued to consider the wider issues and activities of the Council and its impact on Community Safety within the Borough, with reference to scrutiny and the terms of reference of reviewing aspects of Crime and Disorder and Anti Social Behaviour, and the Council's Corporate Strategy.

The Committee and its Working Groups recognised the importance of strategic partnership working across the Council's services and the partnerships within the area.

The Select Committee operated throughout the year with three Working Groups, the Regulatory Controls Working Group, the Partnership Developments Working Group and the Customer Services and Public Information Working Group. In addition, the Committee were also updated on the impact of the Liquor Licensing legislation and other Licensing initiatives appertaining to community safety, considered the recommendations of the Working Groups, and received feedback from Members and Officers on issues appertaining to community safety and community services and commented generally on statutory policy and financial reports submitted to the Committee by Officers of the Council.

4. **Key Issues Arising**

The major concerns of the Committee continued to reflect the expressions made by local people, namely

- Issues concerning anti social behaviour and the publicising of the names of perpetrators with an Anti Social Behaviour Order (ASBO), and
- Other issues as outlined in the appendix to this report.

5. **Recommendations made by the Working Groups and Outcomes**

The recommendations and outcomes following the consideration of items set out in the Work Programme for 2006/2007 are set out in appendices 1, 2 and 3 attached.

6. **Impact of the Select Committee's Recommendations**

During 2006/2007 the Committee considered the Director of Law and Property's Equality and Diversity Annual Report and the Equality and Diversity Action Plan for 2007/2008, relevant extracts from the Chief Executive's Quarterly Performance Management Report and updates from the Financial Director on the Council's Capital Strategy and the Proposed Revenue Budget

The Select Committee also supported the publication of Anti Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOS's) and monitored and guided the implementation of the initiative during the 2006/2007 municipal year. The outcome was that the process was implemented in March,2007 subject to an ASBO being issued.

The Committee also received an oral presentation from the two local Chief Superintendents on the delivery of neighbourhood policing within the Dudley area and the Annual Report of the Emergency Planning/Business Continuity Officer for 2005/2006 and a report on Fireworks in Town Centres and Parks, also by the Emergency Planning/Business Continuity Officer. Following consideration of the reports by the Emergency Planning Business Continuity

Officer, the Committee recommended that the multi agency independence of the Safety Advisory Group be recognised by the Committee and expressed their support of the expertise of the various bodies in dealing with public safety at events.

The Committee considered a report of the Chief Executive updating them on the crime figures for the Dudley Borough and a report of the Chief Executive updating them on the progress of the RESPECT Agenda. The Committee resolved that the two Police Superintendents for the Dudley area be invited to a meeting of the Committee in 2007/2008 to discuss the work of the Partners and Communities Together (PACT) meetings and that an item to this effect, be included in the 2007/2008 Work Programme.

The Committee also received reports from the Chairmen of the Working Groups outlining the progress made on the items scheduled for their consideration in 2006/2007 as noted in appendix o this report.

7. **Areas and Opportunities for Improvement**

Other areas of opportunity, including members' fact finding visits to other local authorities and further training opportunities for Members of the Committee, will continue to be explored.

The Select Committee continued to explore ways of improving the scrutiny function and the processes of the Committee and its Working Groups.

8. **Areas of Focus and Work Programme for 2007/2008**

The following items have been included in the Work Programme of the Committee:

- Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership Reform
- Quarterly Performance Management Reports.
- Borough Wide Strategic Assessments for Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships.
- Neighbourhood Policing and Police and Communities Together Meetings
- Local Area Agreement Safer and Stronger
- Anti-Social Behaviour Unit Development.
- The RESPECT Agenda
- Dudley Council Plus - Overview
- Consideration of the Directorate of Law and Property's Equality and

Diversity Annual Report and the Equality and Diversity Action Plan.

- Domestic Abuse Strategy
- Race Hate Strategy
- Home Security Initiative
- Marketing Strategy for Community Safety
- Directorate Reporting on Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998
- Driver Watch

9. **Finance**

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report at this stage.

10. **Law**

- (i) The requirement for Select Committees to make an annual report to the Council is contained in Article 6 of the Constitution.
- (ii) The relevant statutory provisions regarding the Council's Constitution are contained in Part 11 of the Local Government Act 2000 together with regulations, orders and statutory guidance issued by the Secretary of State.
- (ii) Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act, 1998, requests Local Authorities to consider the impact of community safety on each of its decisions.

11. **Equality Impact**

Reports that have been and might be submitted to the Committee during 2007/2008 could have a direct bearing on children and young people who become involved in anti social behaviour whilst issues such as social cohesion and community development will also have an impact on them.

Children and young people will continue to be consulted on issues submitted for consideration by the Committee that might have a direct impact on children and young people.

This report complies with the Council's policies on equal opportunities and diversity.

12. **Recommendations**

That the Council notes the content of the report in relation to the work undertaken in the 2006/2007 Municipal Year by the Select Committee on Community Safety and Community Services and in relation to the work programme for 2007/2008.

13. **Background Papers**

The 2006/2007 agenda and papers of the Committee were used in the compilation of this report.



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Lead Officer to the Select Committee

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**SELECT COMMITTEE COMMUNITY SAFETY
AND COMMUNITY SERVICES**

Working Group on Regulatory Controls
and Working Practices

**(the scope of this working group is to consider the impact of Licensing and
Regulatory Controls concerning community safety)**

<u>Date of Meeting</u>	<u>Item for Discussion</u>	<u>Officer presenting report/ presentation to the Working Group</u>	<u>Outcome</u>
26th July 2006	(i) Progress of the Anti-Social Behaviour Unit	Dawn Hewitt to update Working Group	Report on the Recommendations of the Working Group to be submitted to the Select Committee on Community Safety on 15 th September 2006.
28th September 2006	Monitoring the impact of the mediation services Progress of the Anti Social Behaviour Unit	Sue Adams/Owen McMillan to update the Working Group Dawn Hewitt to update the Working Group	Noted by the Working Group. That the Working Group be kept updated as to developments.
4th January 2007	Review and Monitor the impact and effectiveness of anti social behaviour orders in particular neighbourhoods	Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinator assisted by Legal Officers	That a further meeting between the Working Group and a Local Magistrate to exchange views as to the current effectiveness of ASBO's, CRASBO's and anti social behaviour laws in general in the Dudley Borough, be arranged by the Lead Officer.

	<p>To report to the Working Group on the issue of Dispersal Notices</p> <p>Implementation and Development of the Cultural Strategy</p>	<p>Representative from Legal</p> <p>Duncan Lowndes Directorate of the Urban Environment (DUE)</p>	<p>The report was noted.</p> <p>The Working Group received and endorsed the work of DUE in the implementation of the Cultural Strategy.</p>
6th March 2007	<p>Progress on the delivery of the Treatment Plan</p> <p>Monitoring the impact and effectiveness of Anti Social Behaviour Orders in Particular Neighbourhoods</p> <p>Monitoring the Use of Dispersal Notices</p>	<p>Dawn Hewitt to inform the Working Group on progress.</p> <p>Anti Social Behaviour Co-ordinator</p> <p>Anti Social Behaviour Co-ordinator</p>	<p>The Working Group endorsed the work of the Directorate of the Urban Environment in the implementation of the cultural strategy</p> <p>The Working Group recommended that the Lead Officer arrange for a further meeting between the Working Group and a Local Magistrate to exchange views as to the current effectiveness of ASBO's and CRASBO's and to discuss anti-social behaviour laws generally with regard to Dudley Borough.</p> <p>The Anti-Social Behaviour Co-ordinator reported on the number of Dispersal Notices issued within the Borough and the Working Group duly noted his comments.</p>

**SELECT COMMITTEE COMMUNITY SAFETY
AND COMMUNITY SERVICES**

Working Group on Partnership Developments

(the scope of this working group is to consider the Council's contribution to the community strategy)

<u>Date of Meeting</u>	<u>Item for Discussion</u>	<u>Officer presenting report/presentation to the Working Group</u>	<u>Outcome</u>
<p>7th July 2006</p>	<p>To consider the issues with regard to the Respect agenda.</p> <p>Police Representatives to attended to discuss Neighbourhood Policing</p>	<p>Dawn Hewitt to submit a report to the Working Group</p> <p>Keith Mayou to issue invitations</p>	<p>That further updates in respect of the RESPECT Agenda be added to the Work Programme for 2007/2008.</p> <p>That the concerns expressed by the Working Group re the Council's response times to public questions be relayed to the Chief Executive, Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Leader of the Council.</p> <p>That the Cabinet Member for Community Safety be invited to attend the full Committee on 14th September 2006.</p>

4th October 2006	Local Area Agreements (Safer and Stronger Block)	Community Manager Crime Reduction to submit a report	The Head of Community Safety was requested to submit the outcomes of the Joint Police and Local Authority working group in respect of “activities” to the next meeting of the Working Group and, after that, to the full Select Committee.
	Update on Respect Agenda	Verbal Report from Dawn Hewitt	The Working Group received feedback from the Anti Social Behaviour Coordinator
	Briefing on Implications of the Crime and Disorder Act on Dudley’s Partnership Working	Dawn Hewitt	It was recommended that further updates to be submitted to the Working Group on an “as and when” basis.

**SELECT COMMITTEE COMMUNITY SAFETY
AND COMMUNITY SERVICES**

Working Group on Customer Services and Public Information

(the scope of this working group is to consider the impact of the Council initiatives relating to community engagement and inclusion)

<u>Date of Meeting</u>	<u>Item for Discussion</u>	<u>Officer presenting report/presentation to the Working Group</u>	<u>Outcome</u>
9th October 2006	<p>Representative of Sure Start to be invited to attend and inform the meeting of the work undertaken by Sure Start and their impact in the community</p> <p>To receive an update from young people on their attitude to community engagement and inclusion.</p>	<p>Representative from the Directorate of Children's Services to arrange for a representative to attend (future visit to Sure Start by the Working Group also to be arranged)</p> <p>A representative from Children's Services to invite young people to attend the meeting.</p>	<p>That the Head of Early Years and Childcare to arrange a visit for members to visit childcare establishments.</p> <p>The Assistant Director for Partnership and Children's Trust to be asked that an invitation be sent to young people to attend the next working group for discussions on Community Engagement Strategy.</p> <p>That Working Group Members be invited to attend Select Committee</p>

			<p>Children's Services Working Group (Listening to Children and Young People) on 17.1006.</p> <p>That consideration to be given to inviting reps from DOSTI to make a presentation to the Working Group.</p>
2nd November 2006	Progress, Procedures and Practice to Implement Council Policy on the Publicising of Anti Social Behaviour Orders (ASBO's)	General discussion on a method of publicising ASBO's.	Recommended for discussion at the full Select Committee on 9 th November 2006.
30th January 2007	To receive an update on the Community Safety Marketing Strategy	Dawn Hewitt to update the Working Group	The Working Group noted the report.
	Progress Against Local Initiatives which are Funded via SSCF	Dawn Hewitt to inform the Working Group of progress.	The Working Group noted the report
	Update on the publicising of ASBO's	Andy Winning/Clare Beech	The Working Group endorsed the progress made and noted that distribution arrangements for leaflets had been agreed.