

**Meeting of the Select Committee on Community Safety - 17th January 2006**

**Report of the Lead Officer**

**Feedback from the Local Government Association Conference 'Preventing Anti-Social Behaviour' – 21<sup>st</sup> November 2005**

**Purpose of Report**

1. To feedback to Committee on the attendance of the Chairman, Councillor David Blood, together with Keith Mayou and Mohammed Farooq to the Local Government Association Conference 'Preventing Anti Social Behaviour' on the 21<sup>st</sup> November 2005.

**Background**

2. Anti social behaviour has been identified as a key issue for local communities, councils and the variety of agencies involved in responding to crime and disorder in their area.
3. A joint Local Government Association and National Community Safety Network Conference was arranged with the following key themes being covered by the Conference:-
  - Finding a balance between enforcement and prevention in developing anti social behaviour strategies
  - Hearing petitioners' views as to what needs to be done
  - Hearing views on the contribution of community involvement in addressing anti social behaviour and considering the implications for local leadership.
4. Speakers included Helen Murray, Head of Anti Social Behaviour Unit in the Home Office, Professor Mike Hough of the Institute for Criminal Policy Research, Henrietta Curzon Westminster City Council, Crime and Reduction Team, John Hedge, Thames Valley Partnership, Community Safety Director, Sarah Isal, The Runnymede Trust, Senior Research &

Policy Analyst, Dr Rosie Chadwick, Prevention Services Division of Crime Concern, Andy Mills, Director of the National Community Safety Network and Jean Chinery, Consultant National Community Safety Network.

5. Specific comments on the learning from the Conference can be reported verbally at the meeting and brief details are as follows:
- Local solutions to local problems is a general theme to be supported,
  - There is a balance to be achieved between prevention and enforcement,
  - Further evidence is needed for analysis to determine the preventative impact of 'naming and shaming' in connection with Anti-social behaviour.
  - Case Studies research and analysis will assist in developing policies that impact on the causes of crime,
  - There is an emphasis to be prioritised for implementing 'preventative strategies'.
  - There was support for action to encourage local partnership and 'joined up' working across all agencies in delivering prompt responses when referrals are made.
  - The National Community Safety Network launched its Report and Action Plan detailing Key Issues and Recommendations concerning Anti-Social Behaviour (see attached document),
  - The approaches being implemented by Dudley M B C are consistent with the recommendations discussed at the Conference. The initiatives being taken and developed are considered to be leading and forward thinking.

### **Finance**

6. There are no financial implications arising from this report.

### **Law**

7. Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 enables the Council to do anything which is calculated to facilitate or which is conducive or incidental to the discharge of any of its statutory functions.

### **Equality Impact**

8. The report complies fully with the Council's policy. Through the process of considering any recommendations that the Committee make the Council will be seeking to comply with its responsibilities concerning the implementation of Community Safety Strategies and Plans for preventing Anti-Social Behaviour.

### **Recommendations**

9. Members note the report



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### **Background Papers**

Conference Papers National Community Safety Network – Preventing Anti-Social Behaviour 21<sup>st</sup> November 2005  
National Community Safety Network – Anti Social Behaviour Key Issues and Recommendations – A Practitioners' Perspective  
Final Report and Action Plan November 2005