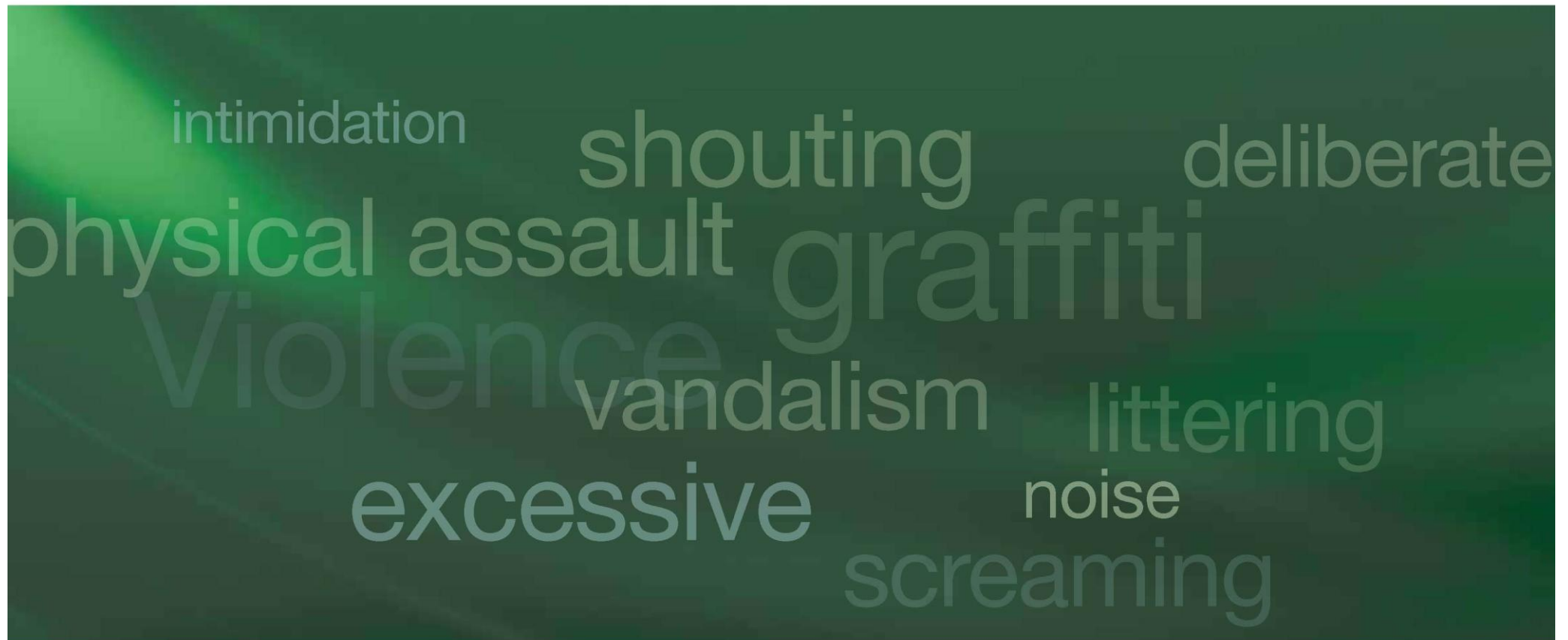


# Antisocial Behaviour Strategy for Edinburgh 2013-16



# Antisocial behaviour strategy for Edinburgh 2013-16

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## Foreword by the City of Edinburgh Council



The main aim of this strategy is preventing antisocial behaviour (ASB) before it happens and by resolving ASB effectively at an early stage when it does occur.

This strategy builds on our successes, which have lowered ASB and crime rates throughout the city. We are now moving into a new strategy phase, aiming to be more effective in tackling ASB by addressing the causes as well as the symptoms and by ensuring that communities are actively engaging in the process with us.

In line with these Capital Coalition Pledges, this administration sees active intervention to be at the forefront of the ASB policy. The creation of an ASB unit enables swift and appropriate action against persistent offenders of ASB within our communities.

*Pledge 13 Enforce tenancy agreements (council and private landlord) with a view to ensuring tenants and landlords fulfil their good conduct responsibilities.*

*Pledge 32 Develop and strengthen local community links with the Police.*

*Pledge 33 Strengthen neighbourhood partnerships and further involve local people in decisions on how Council resources are used.*

*Pledge 34 Work with Police on an antisocial behaviour unit to target persistent offenders.*

Preventative work is carried out by the neighbourhood tasking and coordinating groups through sharing information and deploying resources appropriately.

We are committed to making this happen through our multi-agency framework and will focus on embedding what works, enabling good practice to spread and demonstrating improved outcomes. Our work includes liaising with other housing providers such as housing associations to ensure a consistent approach across Edinburgh.

The majority of Edinburgh's citizens make a positive contribution to society and are valued members of their communities. Tackling ASB is a difficult challenge but one which can be addressed by intelligent partnership working and a holistic approach to long term sustainable solutions.

**Cllr Cammy Day**  
**Convener, Edinburgh Community Safety Partnership**

## Foreword by Police Scotland



I am delighted to introduce the latest Antisocial Behaviour (ASB) Strategy for Edinburgh and am particularly pleased that the division is central to the continued development of community engagement in delivery methods. Edinburgh is experiencing annually reduced rates of ASB, and this is in no small part due to the co-production of tactics with the communities that we serve.

The four Capital Coalition Pledges provide this strategy with a real emphasis and ability to join up with wider plans for making Edinburgh a safer and stronger city.

From a purely police perspective, the Edinburgh Division Policing Plan consultation exercises have shown us the continuing importance of ASB reduction in our communities. Every ward in the city highlighted ASB and violence as priorities, and the division remains committed to keeping people safe by making every effort to reduce both.

Minority communities voiced their opinions about very localised examples of ASB, and where examples such as repeat victimisation and hate crime occur our newly formed prevention, intervention and partnership team will use tactics enabled by the ASB strategy to support victims, deal with offenders and prevent recurrence.

Many people gave us examples as to where the previous ASB strategy had worked, and we have also picked up on some lessons learned that will allow this latest strategy to be even more responsive and realistic. As policing takes on a new national context with the creation of a single force across Scotland, plans like the ASB strategy will ensure *local* officers and partners are dealing with *local* challenges alongside *local* communities.

I look forward to this strategy being put to the test through local tasking and coordinating group processes as well as partnership and residents' groups, but I am particularly keen on monitoring its impact in communities. Conversations between local people, frontline practitioners and senior managers will continue to ensure that every aspect of the strategy to reduce ASB is fit-for-purpose and practical.

**Matt Richards**  
**Superintendent**

## 1. Introduction

The Antisocial Behaviour etc (Scotland) Act 2004 requires that each local authority and relevant chief constable shall, acting jointly, prepare and publish a strategy for dealing with antisocial behaviour in the authority's area.

This Antisocial Behaviour Strategy for Edinburgh covers the period 2013 to 2016. It builds on the successes of and lessons learnt from the previous antisocial behaviour strategies and the philosophy and approach of the national framework document, *Promoting Positive Outcomes: Working together to prevent antisocial behaviour in Scotland* has also been important in shaping the new strategy.

The strategy has four core elements used to address antisocial behaviour:

- *Prevention* - Through the use of an intelligence led approach, partners will use preventative measures to tackle the root causes of antisocial behaviour.
- *Intervention* - Working in partnership to address issues as they arise by allocating resources and services and working directly with communities.
- *Enforcement* - Protecting the wider community by using appropriate and effective action against the minority of people who are persistently involved in antisocial behaviour.
- *Community Engagement* - Encouraging people to live pro-social lifestyles and supporting those involved in antisocial behaviour and crime to engage with their communities.

It is recognised that effective engagement with young people, with regard to youth ASB issues, needs to take account of different life stages, different legal statuses and the different services that are available to them. It is also well understood that young people who offend are frequently victims of crime themselves, including crimes against them perpetrated by adults. In addition to being informed by the ideas in *Promoting Positive Outcomes*, the section on young people incorporates principles and activities from the national framework document addressing young people and crime, *Preventing Offending by Young People: A framework for action*.

The strategy has been prepared taking into account the Single Outcome Agreement, which sets out the Council's local outcomes aligned to national outcomes agreed in the 2007 concordat between the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA) and the Scottish Government.

## 2. Definition of Antisocial Behaviour



The definition of antisocial behaviour contained in the Antisocial Behaviour etc (Scotland) Act 2004 states a person engages in antisocial conduct if they:

“Act in a manner that causes or is likely to cause alarm or distress; or pursue a course of conduct that causes or is likely to cause alarm or distress, to at least one person who is not of the same household.”

Any complaints made regarding antisocial behaviour will be taken seriously and prioritised appropriately in accordance with the nature of the complaint. The Council and Police work jointly to investigate antisocial behaviour incidents and take the necessary action within our communities. Wider community safety issues are identified through information sharing and resources are allocated accordingly.

### 3. Strategic Aims

#### The Single Outcome Agreement (SOA)

The Council Single Outcome Agreement is a concordat signed by the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA) and the Scottish Government which forms the central proposal of the terms of a new relationship between the Scottish Government and local government based on mutual respect and partnership. It is based upon 16 national outcomes agreed in the Concordat and reflects established corporate and community plan commitments.



This strategy supports National Outcome 9;

*'We live our lives safe from crime, disorder and danger,'*

and is a key component of addressing the corresponding Local Outcome.  
Edinburgh's Local Outcome 4

*'Edinburgh's communities are safer and have improved physical and social fabric.'*

This includes priority partnership action to ensure people in Edinburgh are safe from crime, disorder and danger; are well-housed; and live in engaged, inclusive and supportive communities.

#### Edinburgh's Strategic Outcome

Over the last four years Edinburgh has seen a 44 per cent reduction in antisocial behaviour across the city, leaving a minority of hard to resolve cases and persistent offenders who continue to affect our communities. The desired outcome of this strategy will be to reduce the amount of re-offending, through the use of prevention, intervention, enforcement and community engagement.

Strategic aims:

- Striving to improve partnership working
- Ensuring a consistent approach towards antisocial behaviour

- Increasing public awareness of services and support available
- Updating victims on progress made in tackling antisocial behaviour
- Increasing public feelings of safety and security
- Working with communities to co-produce outcomes.

The strategic aims will be achieved through joint working set out in the Edinburgh Community Safety Partnership action plan. Our strategic aims and actions are prepared in accordance with the objectives of the Single Outcome Agreement.

### **Governance Arrangements**

This Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) is the means by which the Edinburgh Partnership agrees its priorities for the city and expresses those as outcomes to be delivered by partners. The Partnership has clearly set out its commitment to developing a thriving, successful and sustainable capital city in which all forms of deprivation and inequality are reduced. This also highlights the very important contribution the city makes to the goals and objectives of the Scottish Government and the development of Scotland.

The Edinburgh Partnership is the city's community planning partnership, involving members from the public, private, voluntary and community sectors. Through community planning, partners work together to improve outcomes for the city and its people. Themed strategic partnerships and partnership groups are responsible for delivering the outcomes in this SOA.

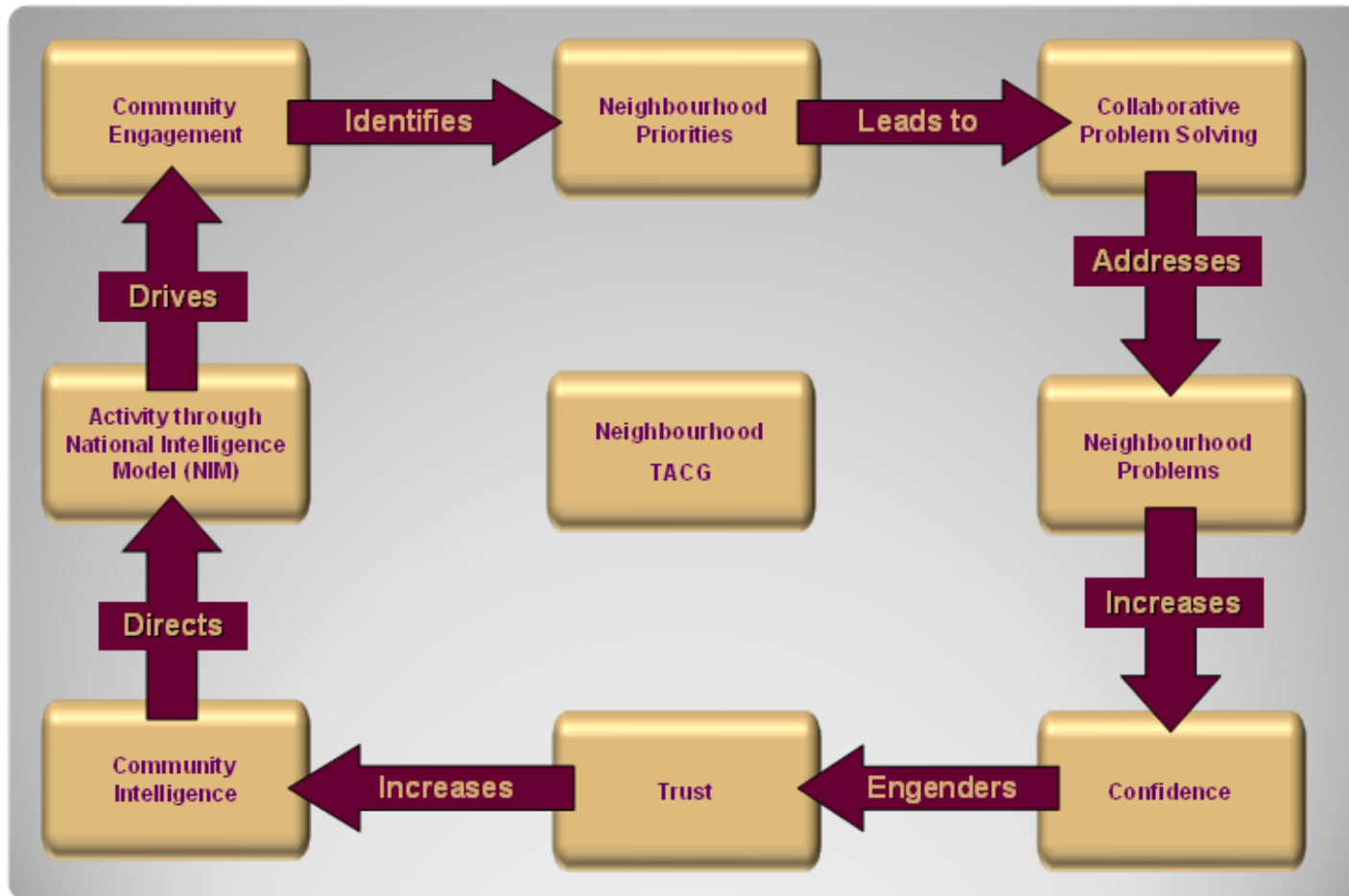
The Edinburgh Community Safety Partnership (ECSP) is responsible for coordinating a joint agency response to community safety outcomes across the city as part of community planning in Edinburgh. The National Intelligence Model (NIM) identifies through the strategic assessment and joint control strategy that antisocial behaviour is a priority and in the case of Edinburgh is accountable to the ECSP.

Analysts collate relevant information to bring to monthly tasking and coordination group (TACG) meetings which are attended by chief inspectors, the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, neighbourhood managers and service managers from Services for Communities and from Children and Families representing each of the six neighbourhood areas. TACG attendees will be responsible for the tasking, coordination and service delivery of resources in line with emerging trends, local priorities and this strategy.

The TACG process is illustrated in Figure 1 on the next page.



Figure 1 TACG Process



## 4. Partners and Residents

The Council and partners have a well established approach towards consultation with residents and communities, using a wide range of methods and forums.

### Edinburgh Community Safety Partnership (ECSP)

Edinburgh Community Safety Partnership includes the elected members, Police divisional commander, senior council representatives and relevant partner agencies who meet quarterly to discuss, implement and consult on relevant strategies, initiatives and funding arrangements on a citywide basis.



### Neighbourhood Partnerships

There are 12 neighbourhood partnerships in Edinburgh. Each brings together local councillors and representatives from Police, health, voluntary sector organisations and all community groups to find solutions to local issues. Some neighbourhood partnerships have incorporated additional members from local organisations, such as universities or colleges who can play a key role in the area. The aim of the neighbourhood partnerships is to:

- work together
- improve quality of life in local neighbourhoods
- make sure local views help shape services through the development of community plans.

The community safety teams as part of the neighbourhood partnerships meet on a regular basis within each ward with local resident groups, elected members and hold community safety sub-groups to discuss issues relating to antisocial behaviour and the environment. Each ward has a community plan which relates to the needs of that community.

### Police – City of Edinburgh Division

The City of Edinburgh Division consults widely with all partner agencies and community bodies to effectively combat antisocial behaviour.

The Divisional Antisocial Behaviour Forum meets and provides a strategic focus for all aspects of antisocial behaviour. It is jointly chaired by the Police superintendent with responsibility for antisocial behaviour and the Council's community protection manager.

Police also participate in the citywide tasking and coordination group (community safety coordination group) which meets monthly to discuss all aspects of the divisional control strategy, including antisocial behaviour, and the six neighbourhood tasking and coordinating groups. Within each of the neighbourhood areas the local chief inspector or inspector attends a monthly neighbourhood partnership meeting.

The Police crime prevention officer within each neighbourhood sits on the panel of the local community safety panel. Community Police team officers regularly consult and listen to concerns within their respective wards and attend local representative meetings where invited to do so.

School link officers provide a high visibility presence within high school environments. They adopt an early intervention approach in partnership with education welfare officers, guidance staff and other agencies. Through partnership working they develop proactive strategies to reduce truancy, exclusion and foster positive outcomes in the wider community.

### **Edinburgh Children's Partnership**

The Children's Partnership chief officer group functions are;

- To remove financial or structural barriers to achieving the Children's Partnership's agreed objectives and drive associated organisational change processes
- To consider the strategic implications of inter-agency planning and work collectively to ensure that strategic decisions in relation to services for children, young people and families are congruent with - and reflect - partners' local and national priorities
- To ensure that elected members and members of partners' governance structures are fully conversant with, and able to inform and influence, the planning and delivery of services for children, young people and families.

Edinburgh Children's Partnership members include;

- Chair of the Children's Partnership
- Director of Children and Families
- Child health commissioner
- Police divisional commander of Edinburgh
- Convenor, Education, Children and Families
- Chair of the EVOC Network of Voluntary Organisations for Children, Young People and Families.

## The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) is working to protect the communities of Edinburgh not only by responding to emergency incidents, but also by focusing on prevention priorities and activities. By examining local Edinburgh neighbourhood issues with our partners, SFRS resources will be targeted to improve outcomes for these communities.

SFRS prevention and protection resources have been located in three management areas across the city, based in local fire stations. In these hubs, the staff coordinate and deliver community safety activities, which have reduced deliberate fire setting and other fire related antisocial behaviour.

Many of the prevention activities are aimed towards children and young people to educate and engage with them and include;

- Primary school fire safety education
- Youth intervention/diversion programmes (Cooldown and Phoenix)
- One to one fire setters intervention programme
- Fire safety information, campaigns, talks and events.

The intervention/education programmes focus on the consequences of young people's actions and the effects these can have on themselves, friends and family, the wider community and frontline firefighters.



## Housing Associations and Housing Cooperatives

Housing Associations and Cooperatives are Registered Social Landlords (RSLs). There are 23 RSLs that provide approximately 20,000 affordable rented properties in Edinburgh.

RSLs currently work in partnership with Police, the Council and other relevant agencies to tackle antisocial behaviour within their communities.

RSL representatives and the community protection support unit meet bi-annually to discuss issues relating to antisocial behaviour citywide, organise training events and share best practice. The group also produces an annual antisocial behaviour directory of services available across Edinburgh, which is distributed to all staff in RSLs and community safety.

The group is committed to the continuing development of pro-active approaches to partnership working across the city. This includes enabling frontline staff from the Council, Police and RSLs to meet regularly at a local level to address issues of antisocial behaviour. These local partnerships will be able to link into the TACG process (see Section 3)

### **Edinburgh Tenants Federation**

Edinburgh Tenants Federation (ETF) is a community group which works in close partnership with the Council and Police to discuss citywide issues. Consultation takes place on a regular basis with regard to antisocial behaviour policies and procedures as well as customer satisfaction.

ETF works to ensure maximum participation in the development and implementation of coherent strategies across Edinburgh by promoting all tenants' and owners rights towards their homes and local environment. For example; raising awareness of the needs of vulnerable residents and ensuring appropriate support is available.

As a voluntary organisation it works to ensure that tenants and residents are able to participate fully in the development and implementation of proposals. These relate to the social, economic, physical and environmental regeneration of the communities in Edinburgh. Members include residents and partners who strive to improve local issues through initiatives such as community safety sub-groups and Neighbourhood Watch schemes.

Working to unify and strengthen tenants' and residents' associations in Edinburgh is achieved by providing support to existing members and encouraging the setting up of new associations.

ETF coordinates support and represent its members on strategic citywide initiatives. They encourage residents and communities to achieve objectives and common goals at a local level.

### **Public Feedback**

The Edinburgh People's Survey (EPS) was introduced in 2010 to provide one large comprehensive survey of Edinburgh's residents, workers and visitors.

Each year the Council asks the public for their opinions, needs and satisfaction with the city and their neighbourhoods; what is the Council doing right, what needs to be improved and what they think about the services provided. This information is used widely across the Council to monitor performance and shape services in order to address local needs and priorities.

A total of 5,000 surveys are carried out and the findings are communicated and discussed with managers and partners. Improvement actions are developed based on the evidence and there is customer feedback on how services are being improved to address residents' needs, concerns and priorities.

### **Edinburgh Division Policing Plan Consultation**

In order to ensure that the 2013/14 Policing Plan for Edinburgh is efficient and responsive to public need, a dedicated team conducted a series of surveys, 'street surgeries' and meetings with key stakeholders in November and December 2012. The 3,000 responses have generated 17 ward level policing plans for the city, which as a combination will ensure that police staff are deployed effectively where the public most need them, addressing the issues the public see as key in their areas.

ASB featured strongly in the feedback from residents in the city, and that will be reflected in every ward plan. For some areas, ASB is the top priority. Local inspectors and their teams will continue to set ASB reducing objectives, working with partners to intervene early where possible, and to enforce where necessary. Local people will receive feedback where requested and young people will continue to feature as key partners in the policing of their environments.

## 5. Edinburgh Approach



Edinburgh has developed a comprehensive range of services to tackle antisocial behaviour. This strategy will tackle ASB from four approaches and sets out how we will work.

Prevention – the partners will pursue initiatives designed to avert potential problems and to make it harder to commit antisocial behaviour. Examples of measures used in the prevention of antisocial behaviour:

- Tasking and coordinating groups
- CCTV
- Education Initiatives, eg The Risk Factory.

Intervention – the partners will take prompt action where antisocial behaviour has developed and use the relevant resources to help bring matters to an early resolution and persuade offenders to change their behaviour. Examples of measures used in the intervention of antisocial behaviour:

- Neighbourhood support service
- Case management
- Mediation service.

Enforcement – the partners will ensure that all available powers are considered and used effectively and quickly where firm action and enforcement is required, especially if there is a need to protect the wider community. Examples of measures used in the enforcement of antisocial behaviour:

- Fixed penalty notices
- Legal action, eg ASBOs or evictions
- Antisocial behaviour notices.

Communication/Community Engagement – the partners will assist each other through information sharing and updating the public of measures taken. Examples of methods used in communication of antisocial behaviour:

- Information sharing
- Local priority setting
- Updating communities on our performance.



## 6. Children and Young People

The *Children and Families Service Plan 2012 – 15* sets the direction of the service. The vision is for all children and young people in Edinburgh to enjoy their childhood and fulfil their potential. The main strategic objective from this plan, which is relevant to this antisocial behaviour strategy, is to ensure children and young people are safe from harm and fear of harm, and do not harm others within their communities (strategic objective 5). The overall required outcome of this is reduction in the number of children and young people who offend.

### Youth Offending Service

The Youth Offending Service is a multi-disciplinary Children and Families practice team working with children and young people aged eight to 17 on a voluntary and statutory basis to address their offending behaviour. The key aims of the service are:

- To provide services to children and young people who offend
- To provide early and effective intervention via the Pre Referral Screening (PRS) process to address offending at the earliest opportunity
- To provide a transitions service for 16 and 17 year olds involved in the children's hearing system and criminal justice system
- To take lead responsibility for the development of work regarding children and young people who present a significant risk of harm to others
- To provide reports to courts and appropriate supervision of probation orders.

Edinburgh's early and effective intervention is known as Pre Referral Screening (PRS) and is the weekly operational meeting set up to screen all juvenile offence notification forms submitted to the police juvenile liaison officers by officers across Edinburgh.

Edinburgh's PRS has been operational since 2008 bringing together senior colleagues from social work, Police, education, NHS child and adolescent mental health service and community safety to screen police offence reports for young people aged eight to 17. The process is underpinned by *Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC)* and aims to ensure young people receive the help they need, when they need it and are only referred to the Children's Reporter when compulsory measures are necessary.

Since the introduction of PRS there has been a significant drop in the number of young people referred to the Children's Reporter on offence grounds with a 31 per cent decrease over the past four years. In August 2012 the criteria for young people discussed at PRS was widened to include those on supervision, where appropriate.

## 7. Forward Thinking

### Total Neighbourhood Project

Total Neighbourhood aspires to ensure a holistic approach to more efficient service delivery in the East Neighbourhood Area, utilising community engagement and practitioner feedback to ensure realistic service provision. Based on the auspices of the Christie Commission and using the experience of 'Total Place' pilots in England, Total Neighbourhood aims to develop the means to:

- Work even more closely with communities and residents to further involve the public in the design and delivery of the services they use
- Build on our existing partnership working to enhance integrated services and improved outcomes
- Make better use of all the public service resources in the East Neighbourhood
- Look for opportunities to reduce duplication and share services (public, third and private sectors)
- Provide innovative and integrated services in partnership with the local communities.

No additional money is being spent on this approach, but dividends are already been seen in communication, efficiency and reduced duplication. The Total Neighbourhood concept seeks to derive maximum value from the money and resources already invested in public services. Future evaluation of the project will help further develop this new and exciting approach across Edinburgh's neighbourhoods.

### Whole System Approach

The Whole System Approach (WSA) was developed through the Scottish Government's Reducing Re-offending Programme which supports an appropriate, proportionate and timely approach.

In January 2012 the Council and key partners signed up to the development of WSA in Edinburgh. In order to support this development the Scottish Government provided a short term grant, the main objectives of this being to develop the five key areas of WSA which include:

- Early and effective intervention
- Assisting young people aged 16 and 17 in court
- Diversion from prosecution

- Reintegration and transitions
- Alternatives to secure care, custody and remand.

The aim of WSA is to treat all young people under the age of 18 who offend as children, where appropriate keep them out of formal systems and where they do require formal measures, such as custody/remand/secure, support them through this and ensure they have a young person's plan in place. The overall aim is to improve outcomes for young people and reduce re-offending – Getting it right for young people who offend.



### Total Craigroyston

Total Craigroyston has been established by the Edinburgh Partnership to improve outcomes for children and families in the neighbourhood around Craigroyston Community High School with a particular focus on those children currently looked after by the public authorities. In the longer term the aim is to reduce the need for children to become looked after.

Total Craigroyston has held a number of events where around 215 members of the local community and local staff including members of the BME community, young people and older people have taken part. At these events questions such as “what is good/bad about the area, “what is or is not working”, “how could this change” were asked.

Information from people involved in the consultation is that there are already a lot of things that are working well and benefiting people within the community. This is good and we want to build on these things. However people have also identified a number of areas where they want to see change.

One of the most important parts of Total Craigroyston is involving the local community in the design and delivery of services and creating a better partnership between local people and service providers. People have asked for more opportunities to work together and participate in the development and delivery of services in the area. A number of actions have been designed to try and identify new ways of working.

### Antisocial Behaviour Unit

In accordance with Council Coalition Pledge (P34) – *Work with Police on an Antisocial Behaviour Unit*, a virtual unit is being assembled. This unit will target persistent offenders, review complex cases and support neighbourhood community safety teams in dealing with these cases.

A team, consisting of management, strategic personnel and operational officers from the Council and Police will work with legal and support services to deliver positive outcomes. The unit will meet on a weekly basis and will have access to a range of services as needed, including: solicitors, victim support, criminal justice, noise team, housing, mediation, health and the senior community protection manager.

Through the coordination of the services available, the unit will aim to reduce the time taken for serious cases to be satisfactorily resolved and for legal cases to be completed successfully. It will focus resources towards reducing levels of repeat offending and successfully diverting cases into non-legal avenues of resolution.

### Short-term Holiday Lets

Edinburgh has a high density of properties used for short-term private lets. Unfortunately a minority of these properties significantly impact on local residents, their communities and their quality of life. Some neighbours of flats being used as short-term lets report ongoing issues with antisocial behaviour.

In 2011 new provisions were specifically introduced to the Antisocial Behaviour etc (Scotland) Act 2004 to address problems of antisocial behaviour in short-term holiday lets. Under Section 7 of the Act, Antisocial Behaviour Notices (ASBNs) can put restrictions on landlords to restrict the number of tenants and/or insist on the introduction of supervisors/caretakers along with other reasonable requests to reduce nuisance/annoyance.

The Council intends to establish a task force which will provide a vehicle through which all complaints and issues relating to short-term lets can be dealt with and will create a robust mechanism for reporting.

### Operation Cipher

The South West Community Safety Team working in partnership with Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Dunedin Canmore Housing, Castlerock Edinvar and NHS Lothian, has carried out high profile activities in local communities targeting antisocial behaviour. These activities include:

- Joint patrols including the Council's mobile CCTV
- Road shows/drop-in surgeries across the area
- Diversionary activities for young people delivered through local youth groups and Fountainbridge Library
- Environmental walkabouts with community representatives

- Visits to businesses by trading standards, environmental wardens and licensing services.

The operations can last up to two months and are designed to combat a wide range of antisocial behaviour issues in the area such as dog fouling, fly tipping, smoking related litter, graffiti and noisy neighbours. The Police also target criminal behaviour in the area such as drug dealing. As a by product of combating these issues the operation will also raise local residents feelings of safety in the area. Evaluation of Operation Cipher is currently being undertaken with a view to adopting similar operations across the city.



### Youth Tracking System

The Youth Tracking System (YTS) was created in response to the neighbourhood partnerships in the south west who were looking for a way of measuring the impact of young people's antisocial behaviour and criminality on their communities.

The YTS identifies young people (under 16) who have been involved in antisocial or criminal behaviour and allows for the gathering and sharing of information between the partner agencies on the incident and assesses this against a set of criteria, agreed by the Police and the Council.

The system grades the impact of that behaviour on the community and this determines the response and interventions required to stop the antisocial behaviour. The interventions usually include joint visits by the Council and the Police to the young person in the presence of their parent or guardian.

The aim of this is to ensure the parent or guardian is aware that their child is involved in antisocial behaviour and to encourage positive engagement in order to support them towards stopping their current activities and criminality.

The partners include the Council's community safety team, Police, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and various services from Children and Families including youth offending service, early intervention team, welfare officers and school teachers (when appropriate).

## 8. Links with other strategies



### Hate Crime Outcomes, Indicators and Action Plan 2012-17

This five year joint strategy brings together; Police, NHS, the City of Edinburgh Council and other agencies to tackle hate crime which is defined as; “incidents perceived to be motivated on the grounds of age, disability, faith, gender, race or sexual orientation”.

Black and minority ethnic members of our communities as well as those affected by disability or faced with discrimination on the grounds mentioned above, may be reluctant to report their experience. This action plan aims to bring about enhanced confidence and trust in reporting of hate crimes and challenging hate crime behaviour, which often falls into the category of ASB.

Hate crime has a high priority status in the ASB strategy; our partners aim to respond quickly and effectively to intimidating and/or abusive behaviour.



### The City Housing Strategy 2012-17

The City Housing Strategy covers all housing, rented and owned, and aims to provide people with a warm, safe home in a well managed neighbourhood.

During consultation on the strategy, people ranked safety as the most important element of a sustainable and successful neighbourhood

This links to both the Capital Coalition Pledge 13 and the antisocial behaviour strategy; successful neighbourhoods are not just about the homes that are in them. They are about the people who live there and the quality of the local environment which needs to be clean, green and safe. Neighbourhoods work closely with partners to tackle persistent antisocial behaviour issues, improve and protect the environment and to increase community safety.

### **Police Drug and Alcohol Strategy**

*Police Tackling Drug and Alcohol Misuse Strategy 2011-14*. The strategy sets out a clear ambition to tackle drug dependence and alcohol misuse, and will contribute to a safer and better society for all creating community wellbeing. The strategy has two key objectives namely;

- to reduce alcohol related harms and encourage responsible attitudes to drinking; and
- to reduce the demand and misuse of harmful substances, including controlled drugs.

The strategy promotes a multi-agency approach to tackling antisocial behaviour related issues.

### **Children and Families Service Plan 2012-15**

The *Children and Families Service Plan* sets out the direction for the service from 2012-15. Our vision is for all children and young people in Edinburgh to enjoy their childhood and fulfil their potential. The service plan strives to strengthen support for families, schools and communities to meet their children's needs.

The services that form Children and Families are seen as key partners to neighbourhood community safety teams and Police when working with young people involved in antisocial behaviour. Further information on Children and Families is described in Section 6.

### **Edinburgh Alcohol and Drug Partnership**

Edinburgh Alcohol and Drug Partnership replaced the Edinburgh Alcohol and Drug Team and brings together multiple agencies to tackle the increasing challenges of alcohol and drug misuse.

The partnership commissions and coordinates the delivery of education, prevention and treatment services for adults, their children, young people and their families. This approach supports individuals who have chaotic lifestyles which can lead to antisocial behaviour.

## Edinburgh Violence Reduction Programme

The Edinburgh Violence Reduction Partnership (EVRP) is committed to reducing violence which can cause much distress to victims, their families and to the wider communities. The new long term strategy will help the partnership focus on working towards ensuring that violence is not only reduced but not tolerated within Edinburgh's communities.

Operational initiatives carried out during Edinburgh's various festivals and busy weekend night-time economy actively look at reducing antisocial behaviour within the city's centre. This requires working closely with local businesses and residents to ensure respect for property and the safety of the community.

Amongst other EVRP projects, the 'No Knives, Better Lives' (NKBL) initiative involves communities in raising their awareness to the dangers of knife crime. The NKBL campaign targets young people and encourages them to engage more with local youth projects, diversionary activities and educational anti- knife crime projects.



## 9. Closing Statement

Over the next three years this strategy will enable separate services across the city to work in partnership with one another to increase public *feelings of safety and make Edinburgh's citizens aware of the services and support available to them. This strategy aims to promote communities working together with existing services to co-produce outcomes; giving feedback to victims of antisocial behaviour will create more informed and empowered members of the community. By further developing good partnership working habits a consistent approach towards tackling antisocial behaviour across the city can be achieved.*

The strategy partners acknowledge the valuable contributions from those who took part in the strategy consultations. Consultation was carried out using a variety of methods such as a public online survey which was also made available in paper form, consultation meetings with various partners and through presentations delivered to community safety forums across Edinburgh. Much of the feedback received has been incorporated into the new strategy which reinforces the Council's commitment to continued successful community engagement.

This strategy will be reviewed annually and updated in accordance with any amendments to policy and legislation such as changes made as a result of the review of the Antisocial Behaviour etc (Scotland) Act 2004. The Scottish Housing Regulator may also carry out an inspection of Council services and procedures to tackle antisocial behaviour and recommendations made may be incorporated into future versions of this strategy.

The strategy aims to encourage greater public confidence in reporting incidents of antisocial behaviour. There are six neighbourhood based community safety teams which investigate incidents of antisocial behaviour reported in their communities. To report antisocial behaviour please contact the relevant local office below or email the Council's generic antisocial behaviour email account at:

[antisocialbehaviour@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:antisocialbehaviour@edinburgh.gov.uk)

City Centre Neighbourhood Office: 0131 529 7061  
East Neighbourhood Centre: 0131 529 3111  
North Neighbourhood Office: 0131 529 5050  
West Neighbourhood Office: 0131 529 7440  
South Neighbourhood Office: 0131 529 5151  
South West Neighbourhood Office: 0131 527 3800

Antisocial behaviour may also be reported by completing an online form accessed by visiting the Council's website and typing 'antisocial behaviour' in the search facility at: [www.edinburgh.gov.uk](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk)

## Appendix 1 Useful Information

### Edinburgh Community Safety Partnership

Contact: 0131 469 5152

More information on;

- Hate crime strategy
- Edinburgh Violence Reduction Programme

### Police Scotland

Non emergency contact: 101

More information on;

- Police performance
- Safer neighbourhood teams
- Police Drug and Alcohol Strategy

### Neighbourhood Partnerships

Contact individual neighbourhood partnerships: 0131 200 2000

More information on;

- Your local neighbourhood partnership
- Community councils

### The City of Edinburgh Council

Contact: 0131 200 2000

More information on;

- Capital Coalition Council Pledges
- Single outcome agreement
- Services for Communities neighbourhood teams
- The City Housing Strategy 2012-17
- Children and Families Service Plan 2012-15
- Edinburgh Alcohol and Drug Partnership

- Total Neighbourhood Approach
- Total Craigroyston
- EdIndex (Housing Associations)
- Edinburgh People's Survey
- Council Performance Scorecards

### **Scottish Fire and Rescue Service**

Contact: 01738 475 260

More information on;

- Performance
- Community activities

### **Edinburgh Tenants Federation**

Contact: 0131 475 2509

More information on;

- Membership
- Groups

### **Scottish Government**

Contact: 08457 741 741

More information on;

- Antisocial Behaviour (Scotland) Act etc 2004
- Whole System Approach