



LSC: 20th March 2024

CABINET: 26th March 2024

Report of: Corporate Director of Transformation, Housing & Resources, Head of Legal & Democratic Services

Relevant Portfolio Holder: Councillor Pryce-Roberts

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SUBJECT: REVISED ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR POLICY

Wards affected: (All Wards);

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To consider and agree the revised Anti-Social Behaviour Policy

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS TO CABINET

- 2.1 That the Anti-Social Behaviour Policy attached at Appendix 1 of the report be approved.
- 2.2 That the Head of Housing, in consultation with the relevant Portfolio Holder, be given delegated authority to make minor updates and changes as required to this policy.

3.0 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) policy sets out how West Lancashire Borough Council investigates and responds to reports of ASB relating to residents in the Councils housing stock, what constitutes ASB; how we work with partners to seek an effective resolution; and how we aim to support reporters and deal with subjects.
- 3.2 In 2023 The Social Housing (Regulation) Act increased the regulatory requirements of the Council as a landlord, a primary focus of the regulation is ASB and one of the main requirements is for social landlords to be proactive when tackling ASB.

- 3.3 To ensure we meet our regulatory obligations; we are currently working with an external consultant called Resolve, they are a centre of excellence solely focused upon community safety and anti-social behaviour. They are reviewing the way we provide our ASB services, which includes our current policy.
- 3.4 The current ASB policy focuses on tenancy enforcement compared to the revised policy, which is more customer focused.
- 3.5 We recently held a focus group with tenants and leaseholders and an online consultation to gather feedback on the revised ASB policy. The feedback told us that.
- the draft policy is clear and easy to understand.
 - The policy outlines clearly how you can report ASB.
 - The consensus was customers would be willing to report incidents of ASB to us.

4.0 AIMS OF THE POLICY

- 4.1 The aim of the draft revised policy is to:
- Provide clear service standards that are outcome-oriented, including initial timescales.
 - The statement section is the core of the policy and is intended to be clear and concise with regards to the organisations responsibilities.
 - Clearly indicate how residents can report ASB.
 - Offer a range of preventive tools, for intervention and enforcement that can be used in conjunction and in combination with each other.
 - Promote partnership working to build stronger communities.
 - Be transparent and informative with regards to data sharing and when and how safeguarding information can be shared.
 - Make it clear for customers how they access the Community Trigger.
 - Support victims and witnesses.

5.0 IMPLEMENTATION

- 5.1 Subject to approval, the implementation of the new policy will be delayed. until wider changes to the service are made.

6.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 This Policy formalises our approach to supporting tenants who are affected by incidents of ASB, which allows the Council to help support tenants in sustaining their tenancy.

7.0 FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no significant financial or resource implications arising from this report.

8.0 RISK ASSESSMENT

8.1 The actions referred to in this report are covered by the scheme of delegation to officers and any necessary changes will be made in the relevant risk registers.

9.0 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS

9.1 The Policy aims to promote the wellbeing of our tenants by providing help and support to those affected by anti-social behaviour.

Background Documents

Either

*There are no background documents (as defined in Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) to this Report.

Equality Impact Assessment

* There is a direct impact on members of the public, employees, elected members and / or stakeholders, therefore an Equality Impact Assessment is required. A formal equality impact assessment is attached as an Appendix to this report, the results of which have been considered in the Recommendations contained within this report.

Appendices

1. Revised Anti-Social Behaviour Policy
2. Equality Impact Assessment