

AGENDA ITEM: 7b

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

23rd October 2007

COMMUNITY SAFETY and LEISURE SCRUTINY PANEL PROGRESS REPORT

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1 To inform Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Board of the progress made to date by the Community Safety and Leisure Scrutiny Panel.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2 It is recommended that the Overview and Scrutiny Board approves the actions of the Community Safety and Leisure Scrutiny Panel since the last update which was presented to this Board at the previous meeting.

PROGRESS OF THE PANEL

- 3 **Teenagers Hanging Around** - The Community Safety and Leisure Scrutiny Panel held a meeting on the 3rd October 2007. At this meeting the Panel received information from the Police.
- 4 The Police conveyed a range of interesting statistics to the Panel, which illustrated the low level of actual crime associated with Anti Social Behaviour. It was also interesting to the Panel to find that only 19% of Anti Social behaviour is associated with teenagers. However, there is an issue of perception to be addressed. And how this relates to the overall Fear of Crime.

The Police have visited every Community Council and identified 3 priority areas for each ward. These have been assessed and found that one common issue is indeed the fear of crime / ASB. The Panel recognised that this is a very complex issue and that it does need a range of agencies working in harmony to achieve any measure of success.

- 5 The Panels next scheduled meeting is the 24th October 2007 and it is programmed to receive information from Teesside University as the Panel considers the University is ideally placed to provide information on this subject and could make a noticeable contribution to this Scrutiny.
- 6 In addition to the above, it is understood, the University has a range of facilities, which could contribute towards diverting teenagers from simply hanging around and the potential of being drawn into Anti Social Behaviour.

COUNCILLOR SHAMAL BISWAS

CHAIR OF THE COMMUNITY SAFETY AND LEISURE SCRUTINY PANEL

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background paper was used in the preparation of this report: -

8th October 2007

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