ITEM No ...2......

REPORT TO: CITY GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE – 2 SEPTEMBER 2024

REPORT ON: ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR – JANUARY-JUNE 2024

REPORT BY: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

REPORT NO: 130-2024

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an overview on the reporting figures to the Neighbourhood Services - Antisocial Behaviour (ASB) Team for the period 1st January to 30th June 2024. This will be reported in two separate quarters for Q4 of 2023-24 and Q1 of 2024-25.

2 **RECOMMENDATION**

2.1. It is recommended that Committee notes the report.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report.

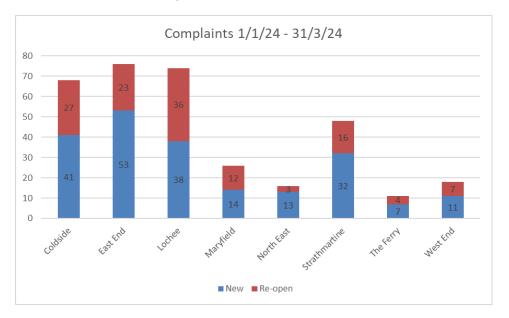
4 QUARTER 4 2023-24

DATA RELATING TO REPORTING PERIOD

A total of 337 cases of antisocial behaviour have been recorded during the reporting period. Of these 337 cases, 209 are new cases and 128 have been re-opened. The cases re-opened are not necessarily cases which had been raised initially during this quarter and most likely from previous reporting periods. This compares to 279 cases last quarter (186 new and 91 re-opens). This is an increase on last period of +58 and in comparison with Q4 of 2022-23 this is a reduction of -68.

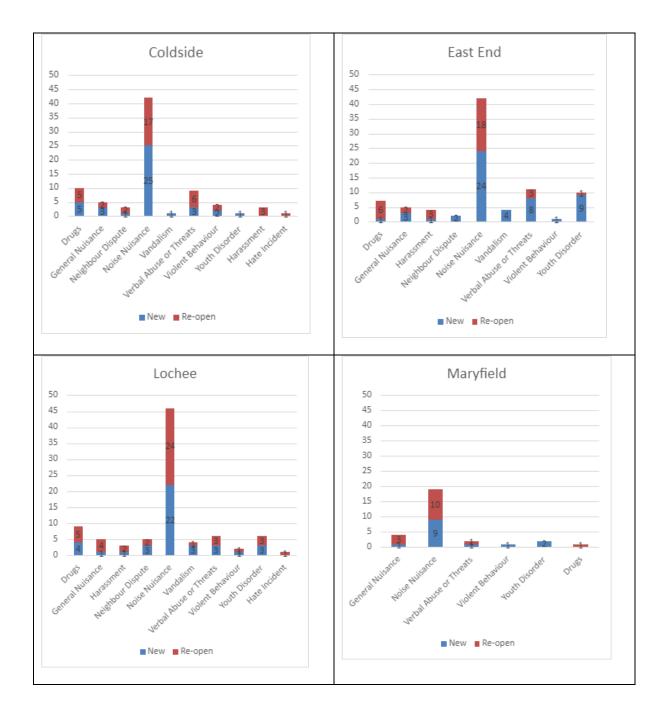
The end of year figures reports a total number of cases received for this year as 1302 which is a continuing downward trend in reports year on year since 2021-2022.

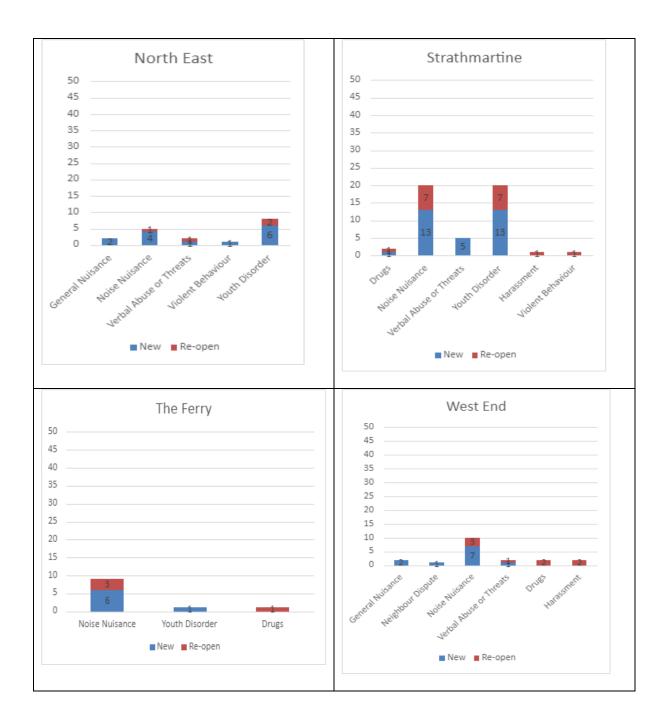
4.1 Number of cases recorded per multi member ward area between 1/1/24 - 31/3/24:

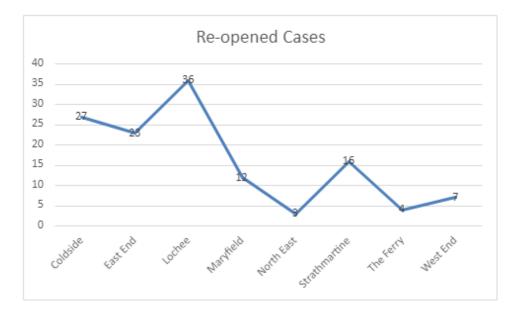


The above graph shows the number of new cases together with the number of re-opened cases reported.

4.2 Types of complaints (new and re-opened) per multi member ward area between 1/1/24 - 31/3/24. Please note some cases have multiple categories applied, therefore the total numbers of categories may be slightly higher than the number of cases.



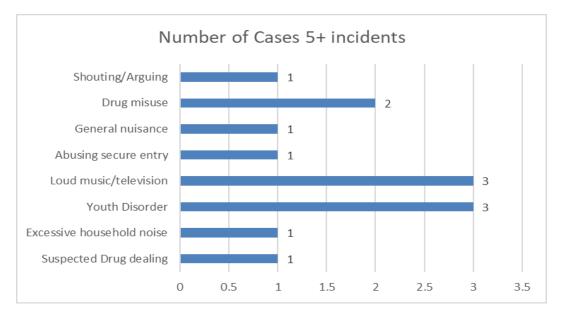




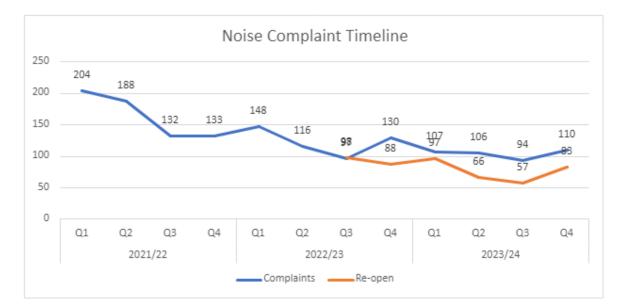
4.3 The graph below shows the categories for which cases were re-opened in each ward area:

As with the ward specific graphs above, this shows most re-opened cases remain in the areas with the highest number of overall complaints. Noise complaints account for 62% of re-opened cases. As these figures report on the categories recorded this may be higher than the number of cases opened cases opened due to multiple categories being applied.

Below are the number of cases received during the reporting period, where 5 or more incidents have been reported. This shows where there are repeated issues, although there is no specific pattern in terms of case category.



4.4 Consistent with previous reports, noise nuisance has been the highest reported complaint overall. The noise timeline below shows the current pattern for noise complaints. It should be noted that data up to Q2 of 2022/23 did not illustrate how many complaints were new and this was applied from Q3 of that year onwards. Noise complaints have increased this quarter, which is in line with trends last year, however there are a total of 193 noise complaints reported between 1/1/24 and 31/3/24, which is slightly less than the same period last year (-11).



NB at Q3 of 2022/23 the figures are 98 new complaints and 97 re-opens.

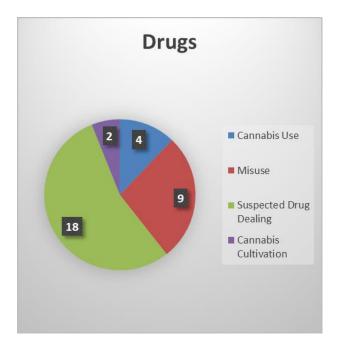


4.5 The graphs below show further breakdowns of complaint and sub-categories:

Of the 193 cases for noise, there are a total of 211 reports of various types of noise, meaning some cases have multiple types of noise complaints applied.

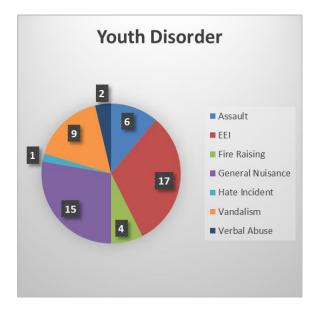
This is an increase on last quarter, as has already been identified as a pattern, however, this has reduced in comparison to 2022-23 (-26).

What remains consistent is most complaints relate to lower-level noise issues such as excessive household noise and loud television or music (74%).



Drugs cases have also increased slightly this quarter (+3), sitting at 33 reported complaints. Suspected drug dealing accounts for over half of the reports made.

In comparison with the same period last year, complaints have reduced by 13.



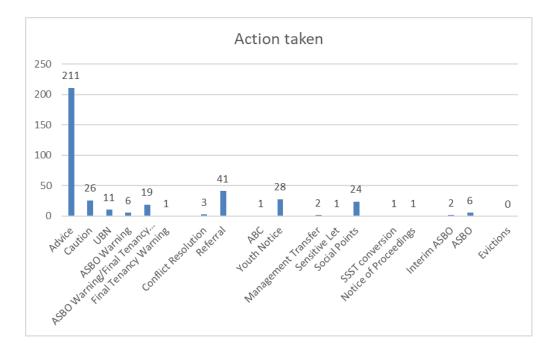
54 reports were made during the period regarding youth disorder.

This is an increase in 38 on last quarter, and a slight reduction (-4) compared to the same period last year.

The team continue to engage with young people wherever possible to prevent involvement with antisocial behaviour and divert those who have been.

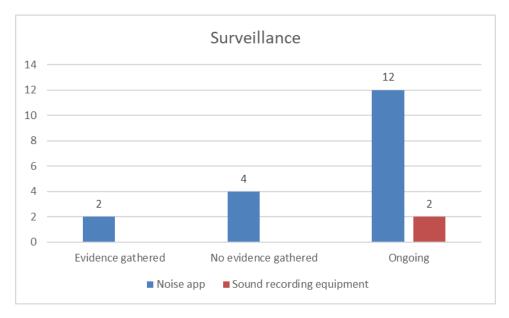
4.6 Actions taken:

Given the small number of legal actions required, this report will provide figures on a citywide basis to ensure anonymity.



4.7. Surveillance:

To assist with investigating complaints of antisocial behaviour, the team has access to various surveillance options. The graph below shows the use of surveillance over the reporting period and outcomes:



All outcomes provide a resolution to the case. Use of surveillance will either allow the team to progress appropriate action or to feedback that the complaint does not constitute antisocial behaviour. There has been an increase in the use of the noise app this quarter compared with other methods (90% of surveillance cases have used the noise app as opposed to sound recording equipment) which is encouraging as this is a more efficient way for the team to conduct surveillance. Previous periods indicate reasonable use of the noise app compared with other surveillance methods (73%, 68% and 63%). Overall, surveillance is used in a small percentage of total noise complaints (approximately 10%). This is due to other methods of evidence gathering being used such as neighbour corroboration and police reports.

4.8 335 cases have been closed within the reporting period. The graph below shows the case closure reasons, the majority of these being closed off as resolved.



4.9 Quarterly update

It is encouraging to see an overall downward trend in the number of complaints received. Where pockets of antisocial behaviour are occurring, the team continue to work with multiple partners to address and minimise this behaviour.

Last quarter there was an increase in the levels of antisocial behaviour occurring within the multi-storey car parks in the City Centre, including repeated vandalism. To prevent continuation of this the Antisocial Behaviour Team have worked with colleagues in the Safety and Alarm Response Centre (SARC), Community Safety Wardens and City Development. Co-ordinated patrols of the premises, were undertaken by SARC and Wardens who engaged with those found within the buildings, signposting to more suitable options. This work continued daily with teams sharing information on what action had been taken, individuals who have been identified and any new areas of damage so this can be actioned swiftly.

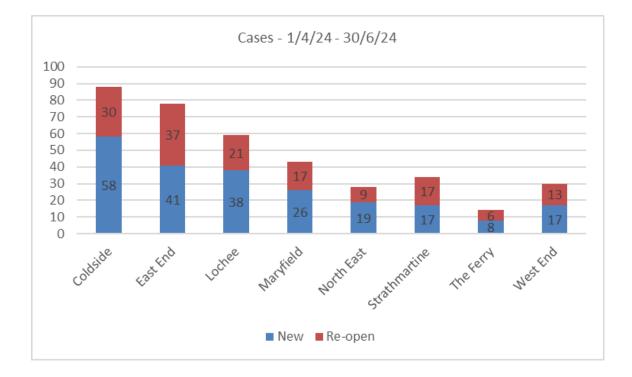
Targeted work was also undertaken at the Dallfield Multi-Storey Development this period. The team and partners noted concerns regarding the level of antisocial behaviour occuring at the location. This prompted a day of interaction at the location from Police, Community Safety Wardens and the SARC team, following on with a drop-in session held at Wellgate Centre. Representatives from the Antisocial Behaviour Team, Communities, Housing and Support agencies were in attendance to offer advice and assistance. The area will continue to be reviewed through the multi-agency tasking and co-ordinating meetings and plans are going ahead to arrange regular drop-in opportunities for residents.

5 QUARTER 1 2024-25

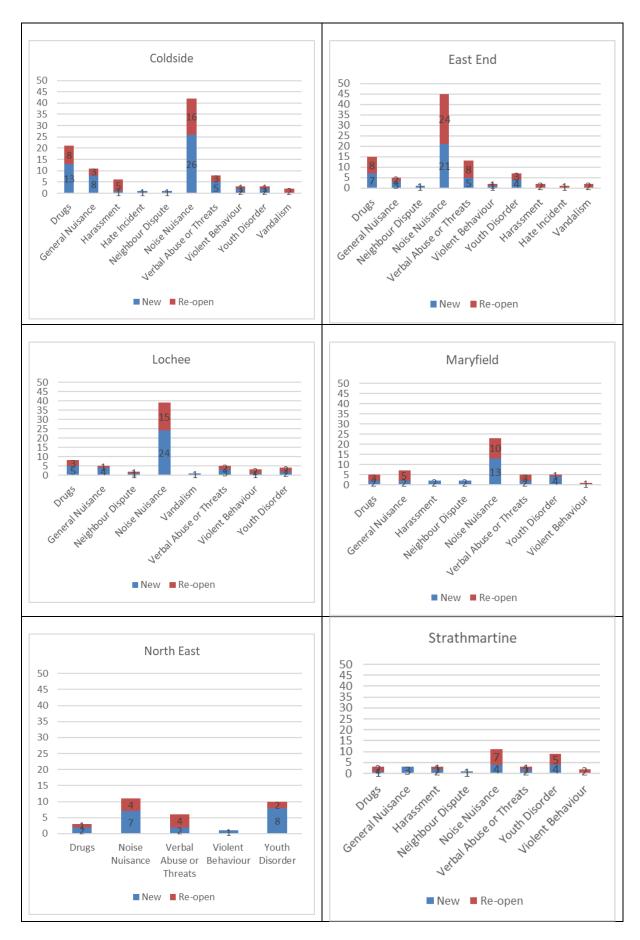
DATA RELATING TO REPORTING PERIOD

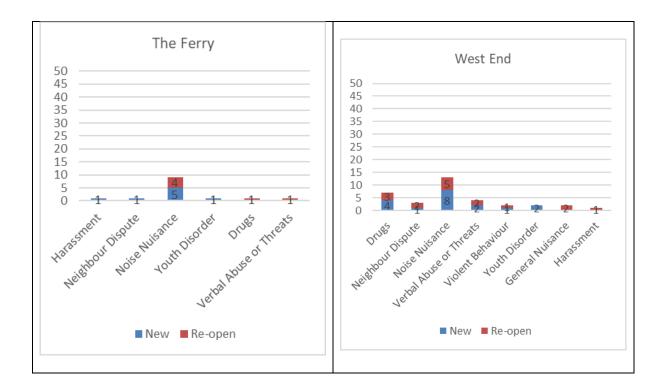
A total of 374 cases of antisocial behaviour have been recorded during the reporting period. Of these cases, 224 are new cases and 150 have been re-opened. The cases re-opened are not necessarily cases which had been raised initially during this quarter and most likely from previous reporting periods. This compares to 337 cases last quarter (209 new and 128 re-opens). This is an increase on last period of 37 and in comparison with Q1 of 2023-24 this is a slight increase of +5. Trends show April – June having a higher number of cases reported year on year.

5.1 Number of cases recorded per multi member ward area between 1/4/24 - 30/6/24:

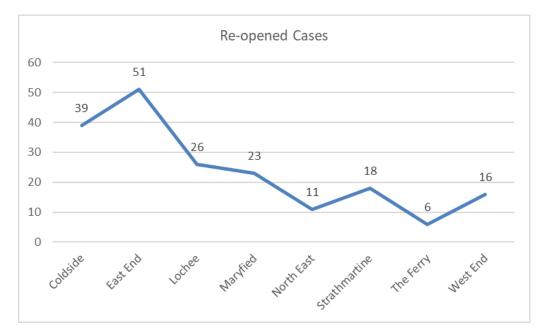


5.2 Types of complaints (new and re-opened) per multi member ward area between 1/4/24 - 30/6/24. Please note some cases have multiple categories applied, therefore the total numbers of categories may be slightly higher than the number of cases.



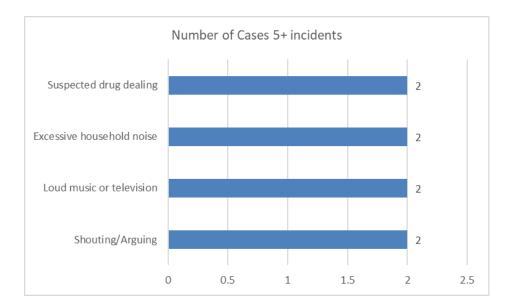


5.3 The graph below shows the categories for which cases were re-opened in each ward area:

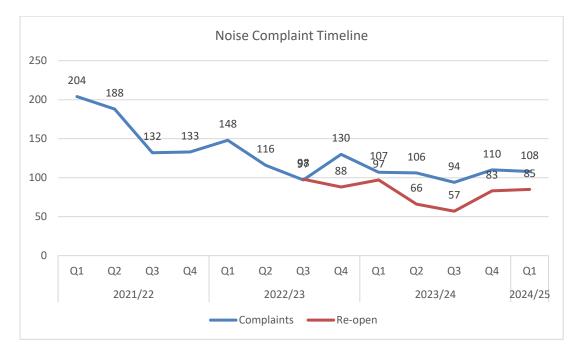


As with the ward specific graphs above, this shows most re-opened cases remain in the areas with the highest number of overall complaints, although East End has seen a higher level of re-opened cases compared to other areas this quarter. Overall, noise complaints account for 44% of re-opened cases. As these figures report on the categories recorded this may be higher than the number of cases opened cases opened due to multiple categories being applied.

Below is the number of cases received during the reporting period, where 5 or more incidents have been reported. This shows where there are repeated issues, although there is no specific pattern in terms of case category.

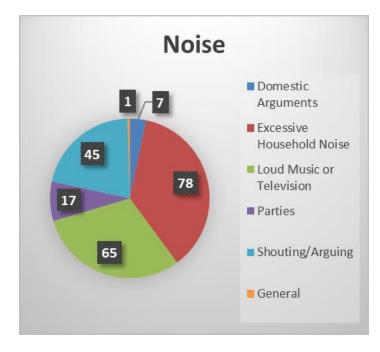


5.4 Consistent with previous reports, noise nuisance has been the highest reported complaint overall. The noise timeline below shows the current pattern for noise complaints. It should be noted that data up to Q2 of 2022/23 did not illustrate how many complaints were new and this was applied from Q3 of that year onwards. Noise complaints have not changed this quarter from last, with a total of 193 complaints received. Noise complaints are lower than the same period last year (218), which continues the downward trend for this time of year.



NB at Q3 of 2022/23 the figures are 98 new complaints and 97 re-opens.

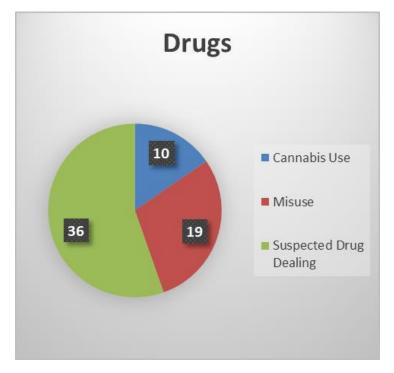
5.5 The graphs below show further breakdowns of complaint and sub-categories:



Of the 193 cases for noise, there are a total of 213 reports of various types of noise, meaning some cases have multiple types of noise complaints applied.

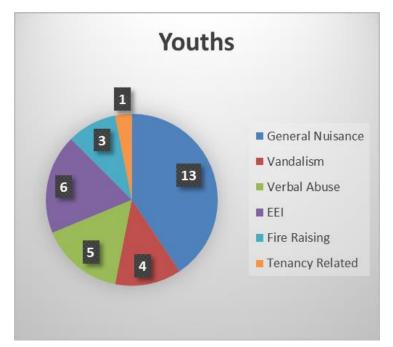
The total noise cases are the same as last quarter, although categories have increased by +2. In comparison to 2023-24, this figure has reduced.

What remains consistent is most complaints relate to lower-level noise issues such as excessive household noise and loud television or music (67%).



We have seen a sizeable increase in the number of drugs cases this quarter (65), compared to last quarter (33).

This is also an increase on last year (+12).

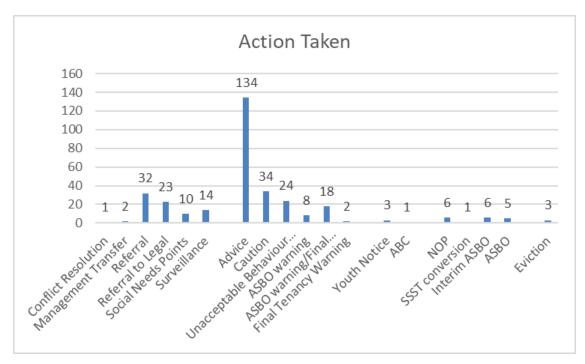


32 reports were received during the period regarding youth disorder.

This is a reduction of 22 on last quarter, and a significant reduction (-39) compared to the same period last year.

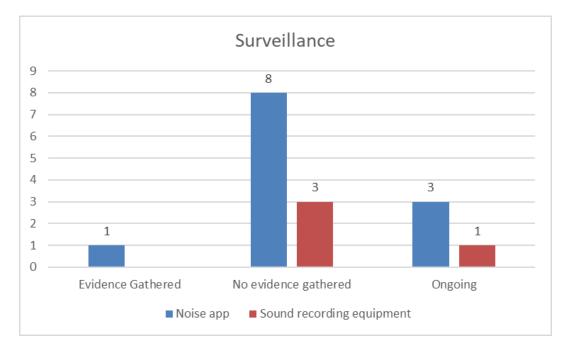
5.6 Actions taken:

Given the small number of legal actions required, this report will provide figures on a citywide basis to ensure anonymity.



5.7. Surveillance:

To assist with investigating complaints of antisocial behaviour, the team has access to various surveillance options. The graph below shows the use of surveillance over the reporting period and outcomes:



5.8 313 cases have been closed within the reporting period. The graph below shows the case closure reasons, the majority of these being closed off as resolved.



5.9 Quarterly update

A targeted and co-ordinated approach to ongoing youth issues around Ardler Community Centre was delivered between May and June. On a positive note, large volumes of young people have been attending at the centre to attend the youth provision in the area, however, a small percentage of these young people were acting in an antisocial manner whilst in attendance. This was having an impact on other young people, staff and the wider community.

As a response, Community Safety Wardens were tasked to patrol the area each evening which did result in good engagement from the young people. The Community Police Team also patrolled the area regularly and those who continued to engage in antisocial behaviour were identified and appropriate action taken. Youth workers at the centre also worked hard with the young people to discourage any unacceptable behaviour.

Given some of the behaviours was on and targeted at the buses, Xplore Dundee, in partnership with ASBT and Police Scotland visited 5 primary schools in the Strathmartine Ward during June to raise awareness of the impact of antisocial behaviour on and around public transport.

Police reported an 80% reduction in asb reports after intervention by all partners involved.

Again, this is an excellent example of working together to quickly and effectively stop antisocial behaviour from occurring in our communities.

6 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 This report has been subject to the Pre-IIA Screening Tool and does not make any recommendations for change to strategy, policy, procedures, services or funding and so has not been subject to an Integrated Impact Assessment. An appropriate senior manager has reviewed and agreed with this assessment.

7 CONSULTATIONS

7.1 The Council Leadership Team were consulted on the preparation of this report and agree with its contents.

8 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 None.

Tony Boyle **Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services**

Tom Stirling Head of Communities, Safety & Protection

29 July 2024