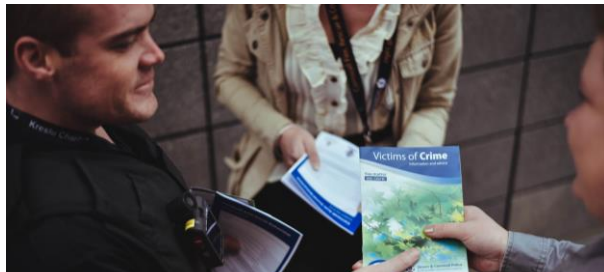


SAFER CORNWALL

Kernow Salwa



Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy 2020-2023

Priorities & Outcomes

Safer Cornwall is committed to tackling anti-social behaviour (ASB). As a partnership we want to introduce a strategic mechanism to identify and facilitate further development to address key priorities linked with anti-social behaviour. The Safer Cornwall Strategic Assessment for ASB provides the evidence base to support the strategy which is closely aligned to other relevant strategies as detailed in the Safer Cornwall Partnership Plan.

Our aim: -

Provide a multi-agency response to reduce impact of anti-social behaviour on communities by responding to emerging trends

Residents feel safe and confident that anti-social behaviour is being tackled effectively in their local area

Reoffending of persistent offenders with **multiple vulnerabilities** reduced following balanced enforcement and assistance

Consistent **co-ordinated multi-agency approach** in response to localised anti-social behaviour

Those engaged in anti-social behaviour have been offered **intervention & prevention** at the earliest stage possible

We will achieve this by: -

1. **Communications** – Providing a clear media and communications plan that promotes and raises awareness about our work
2. **Training** – Developing and provide training to frontline officers, key partners and the business community
3. **Resourcing** – Exploring alternative solutions to sustain existing resources
4. **Community Engagement** – Facilitating community-based awareness days, engaging with community groups and voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations
5. **Tasking & Hotspot Operations** – Providing a targeted response to hotspot areas as they occur
6. **Town & Parish Councils** - Proactively work with Town and Parish Councils with the aim of increasing their understanding of, and involvement in, local solutions
7. **Together for Families** – Providing a whole family approach when tackling anti-social behaviour
8. **Young people** – Facilitating diversionary programmes and activities for young people in local areas

Anti-Social Behaviour in Cornwall

Anti-social behaviour (ASB) in all its forms is a very visible sign of disorder in our communities and is closely linked to perceptions of safety, satisfaction with the local area as a place to live, and confidence in local services. Its impact can be devastating to residents, businesses and visitors. For victims and the wider community, it can become a destructive, cumulative issue and in its most persistent and serious forms can have a significant impact on health and wellbeing.

ASB reports are reducing

Anti-social behaviour is the highest volume incident that the police and partners respond to but the number of incidents reported has fallen year on year. The number of incidents reported in 2019 has reduced by 12% compared with 2018 and this continues a long-term reducing trend. We recognise that reporting can be influenced by public confidence. Engagement sessions have taken place with communities who highlight concerns about the lack of visible police presence in the community and poor experience of using the non-urgent 101 number. This has exacerbated local anxieties and reinforces the important role of good communications and connection with communities in helping residents feel safe.

Complex and persistent cases are increasing

Whilst the number of incidents of anti-social behaviour reported is reducing, we have seen a rise in more complex cases. In particular, communities are increasingly reporting concerns about individuals or groups living on the streets, and others associated with them. The presenting issues are highly visible anti-social behaviour – including street drinking, drug use, aggressive begging and intimidating behaviours – but the individuals concerned are themselves vulnerable and needing support for a complex range of issues. Tackling it effectively involves delivering a balance of enforcement and support that both reduces the impact on the affected community and provides help to individuals who often have multiple vulnerabilities.

Where does ASB take place?

Anti-social behaviour is consistently high on the agenda for local residents with reported levels of ASB highest in our larger town centres due to the concentration of people and activity there. Partners have highlighted new and existing problems around street-based vulnerability (ASB, rough sleeping & multiple vulnerabilities) in most of our major towns with recurring issues in some. It was noted that problems appear to be less prevalent in towns in the East of Cornwall and that smaller towns, villages and rural areas see much lower levels of anti-social behaviour than other towns.

Focus on young people

Community intelligence has highlighted particular concerns about young people in several of the towns and escalating levels of anti-social behaviour, combined with missing episodes and rough sleeping, drug use (in particular illicit use of prescribed medicines) and other safeguarding concerns. There is growing evidence linking ACEs to anti-social behaviour. Research into youth reoffending in Cornwall found that young people with 4 or more ACEs were more likely to reoffend. Multi-agency forums remain in place to prevent anti-social behaviour from escalating and to ensure those at risk are protected from harm.

Challenges that could impact on delivery in the next 3 years

Costs to respond to street-based vulnerabilities are high across the system (police, outreach services, drugs and alcohol, housing, social care, mental and physical health services). There is also concern that fast-changing transient communities require a dynamic mobilisation of response. With limited substantive resources to mobilise when issues occur, intensive multi-agency responses cannot be sustained over longer periods, nor deployed in multiple locations at once.

There is currently no outreach provision for young people or detached youth workers which can make positive engagement with young people challenging.

As for most areas of service delivery, there are potential risks related to budget cuts and restructuring across the public sector. In particular, there is a risk that statutory enforcement functions will be prioritised over prevention as pressure on budgets increases. Potential cuts could be made to posts therefore front-line officers will be dealing with matters which are normally outside of their remit. This could lead to more incidents of anti-social behaviour, low customer satisfaction rates and leave vulnerable people at risk.

How will we know that we've made a difference?

Three performance indicators currently are reported to Safer Cornwall to measure our effectiveness in tackling anti-social behaviour.

Performance indicator	Target 2020/21	Target 2019/20	Current performance	Direction of Travel
% of anti-social behaviour cases that do not commit further ASB within 3 months of intervention - adults	TBC	80%	69%	↓
% of anti-social behaviour cases that do not commit further ASB within 3 months of intervention - young people	TBC	75%	68%	↓
% of respondents who agree that the council and police are dealing with anti-social behaviour and crime issues that matter	TBC			

More detail on the planned implementation of the strategy, including identifying suitable performance measures for each of the key objectives, will follow in a separate delivery plan.