

## **LEICESTERSHIRE SAFER COMMUNITIES STRATEGY BOARD**

**12 JUNE 2014**

### **ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR, CRIME AND POLICING ACT 2014** **COMMUNITY TRIGGER**

#### **Introduction**

1. The purpose of this report is to update the Board on developments in preparation for the implementation of the Anti Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014; specifically the Community Trigger.

#### **Background**

2. The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Bill 2013/14 has streamlined the current Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) toolkit so that the remedies are more flexible and faster at stopping ASB. The Bill also focuses on giving better witness satisfaction and making agencies more accountable to witnesses and communities when agencies fail to act. The Bill is due to come into force in October 2014.
3. The Bill introduces a new “Community Trigger” which will impose a duty on the statutory partners in a Community Safety Partnership (CSP) to take action in cases where victims or communities have complained about ASB on a number of occasions, or when a number of people report the same ASB and it is perceived that local agencies have failed to respond.
4. There have been a number of pilot areas across the Country where officers have described this process as becoming an “escalated complaints procedure”. Furthermore, these areas state that most ‘Triggers’ have been activated by professionals, as opposed to members of the community.

#### **Update**

5. The Community Trigger for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland has been drafted and is attached at Appendix 1. This draft Community Trigger document which has been agreed by the Senior Officer Group, the ASB Strategic Group and the Leicestershire Housing Services Partnership is currently out for consultation.
6. The threshold for the Trigger is the minimum set by the Government as detailed below:

- An individual has complained to the Council, Police or a Registered Housing Provider (social landlord) about three separate incidents in the last six months and consider there has been no action taken;
  - If five individuals in the local community have complained separately to the Council, Police or Registered Housing Provider (social landlord) in the last six months about similar incidents of anti-social behaviour and consider no action has been taken.
7. In order to activate the Community Trigger the victim will be required to complete a form addressed to the CSP Chair; a copy of the form will also go to the Community Safety Manager or other identified local authority officer for information. A draft copy of the form is attached at Appendix 2.
  8. A letter will then be dispatched to the victim informing them of what they can expect next. A draft copy of the letter is attached at Appendix 3.
  9. A multi-agency review will be undertaken if the complaint is deemed to meet the threshold of a Trigger and the CSP Chair will inform the victim of the outcome of that review.

### **Forward Plan**

10. Guidance notes and a training package are being prepared in order that they can be delivered from September through to November 2014 for the required October 2014 implementation date. Members will be trained in their localities and at the County Council.

### **Recommendation**

11. That the Board:
  - (a) Notes the progress made to date on preparation for the implementation of the Community Trigger;
  - (b) Agree to consider further the final version of the Community Trigger document at its meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2014.

### **Officers to contact**

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### **Appendices**

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| Appendix 1 | - | Draft Community Trigger for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland |
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- Appendix 2 - Draft Community Trigger Report Form
- Appendix 3 - Draft Community Trigger Letter to Victim

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