

COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR POLICY

OCTOBER 2025

Policy: COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR POLICY

Date adopted: 29/10/2025

Next review date: 29/10/2027

Version control:

Version Number	Purpose / Change	Author	Date
1.0	First issued	David Miles	29/10/2025

Links to Council Corporate Plan 2025-28:

Council ambition	Linked?
Working for a prosperous future *The Council wants to ensure the best possible local economy, with opportunities for its residents to succeed and achieve*	Yes
Healthier, safer communities *Residents should feel safe in the Borough and supported to be more active in order to improve their health and wellbeing*	Yes
A greener and cleaner environment *It's important to everyone to look after the environment*	Yes
Restoring the Council to good health *The Council will be placed on a sound financial footing and the Council will ensure resilience – delivering the service its residents deserve and expect*	Yes
We ♥ Castle Point *The Council will help create and maintain the best possible place to live in, work in and visit*	Yes

Lead Officer responsible for owning the Policy and internal approval body (meeting / board where the Policy is approved for adoption or approved for referral to PFH or Committee for adoption)

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Lead Member and Committee responsible for approving Policy:

Name: COUNCILLOR RUSS SAVAGE, PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY
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Equality Impact Assessment undertaken?

Yes

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1. Introduction

1.1 As a responsible local authority, Castle Point Borough Council ("the Council") is committed to the community it serves. The purpose of this document is to describe the Council's approach to addressing anti-social behaviour (ASB) affecting the Borough wide community. The Policy shows how the Council follows current legislation.

1.2 The Council recognises that anti-social behaviour can have a profoundly negative impact on communities and adversely affect the quality of life for many individuals in affected areas. It is essential that all residents and businesses can enjoy a safe environment and the peaceful use of their homes, places of work and neighbourhoods. Similarly, every resident and business are responsible for not disrupting the quiet enjoyment of others.

1.3 Individuals experiencing ASB who choose to report it to the Council will receive support and their concerns will be thoroughly considered and addressed where there is sufficient evidence to do so.

2. Scope

2.1 This Policy applies to residents and businesses that operate in the Castle Point Borough Council area. The Council, as part of its role in the Castle Point and Rochford Community Safety Partnership (CSP) will only become involved in ASB cases that involve private residents and/or businesses where evidence is provided that shows that an ASB issue is of a persistent and significant or serious nature.

2.2 ASB arising within the context of the Council's housing stock is excluded from this Policy. See Council Housing Anti-Social Behaviour Policy, 2025.

3. Definitions

3.1 The Council has adopted the definition of ASB, as set out in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, as acting "*in a manner that caused or was likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to one or more persons not of the same household as himself*". This definition was further refined in section 2(1) of The Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, to include:

a) 'conduct that has caused, or is likely to cause, harassment, alarm or distress to any person; and
b) conduct capable of causing nuisance or annoyance to a person in relation to that person's occupation of residential premises; or
c) conduct capable of causing housing-related nuisance or annoyance to any person.'

3.2 The Protection from Harassment Act 1997 says that actions amount to harassment when the victim feels distressed, humiliated, threatened or fearful of further violence. These actions include, but are not limited to:

- phone calls
- letters/emails
- visits
- stalking

- verbal abuse, including on social media
- threats
- damage to property
- bodily harm

3.3 Under the Equality Act 2010, 'harassment' is defined as "*unwanted conduct related to a protected characteristic, which has the purpose or effect of violating a person's dignity or creating an intimidating, hostile, degrading, humiliating or offensive environment*." It essentially involves unwanted behaviour linked to a protected characteristic (like age, disability, race, etc.) that negatively impacts someone's sense of respect or safety.

3.4 Section 4A of the Public Order Act 1986, covers 'alarm and distress' which typically refers to behaviour that causes another person to experience fear, anxiety, or emotional discomfort. This is often linked to actions like using threatening words, displaying abusive signs, or engaging in disorderly behaviour.

3.5 The Council recognises that sometimes another person's behaviour may be annoying or disturbing but will not reach the threshold of ASB as defined above but would be classed as "nuisance". Behaviour that can be considered as nuisance includes (but is not limited to):

a) Inconsiderate parking
b) Lifestyle differences
c) Noise (that does not meet the ASB definition)
d) Neighbour disputes
e) Garden or boundary disputes
f) Pet or animal nuisance

In such instances, the Council's Community Safety Partnership Team will not get involved.

3.6 The Noise Act 1996 defines night hours as 11 pm to 7 am. If noise exceeds permitted levels during these hours, it may be considered a statutory nuisance. "Noise Nuisance" - noise, particularly between 11pm – 7am, may be considered ASB. Noise under the statutory limit will only be considered ASB if it is persistent, occurs regularly and continues for a period that is unreasonable. It is not enough for the noise to be annoying or disturbing. Noise will normally be initially investigated as nuisance first.

3.7 Hate Crime - The Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) defines a hate crime as: "Any criminal offence which is perceived by the victim or any other person to be motivated by hostility or prejudice, based on a person's disability or perceived disability; race or perceived race; or religion or perceived religion; or sexual orientation or perceived sexual orientation; or transgender identity or perceived transgender identity." Please see the Council's Hate Crime Policy.

3.8 Cuckooing **–** is when the home of a vulnerable person is taken over by a criminal to use for criminal activity, such as dealing, storing or taking drugs, to facilitate sex work, as a place

for them to live, or work from. It is also known to occur as “mate crime”, which is the act of befriending a person to exploit them.

3.9 Domestic Abuse (DA) - DA victims will be signposted to support and advice available about domestic abuse, including referrals to domestic abuse support services.
Where the person is over 16, behaviour is “abusive” if it consists of any of the following:

a) physical or sexual abuse
b) violent or threatening behaviour
c) controlling or coercive behaviour
d) economic abuse - any behaviour that has a substantial adverse effect on a person’s ability to acquire, use or maintain money or other property, or obtain goods or services
e) psychological, emotional or other abuse; and it does not matter whether the behaviour consists of a single incident or a course of conduct.

3.10 Criminality - Acts of behaviour that are contrary to criminal law. Criminality should be reported to the police.

4. Aims and Objectives of the Policy

4.1 The aim of this Policy is to set out how the Council will deal with ASB in Castle Point Borough by:

- Ensuring adherence to all relevant legislation and industry best practices related to ASB.
- Minimising the occurrence of ASB within local communities.
- Addressing the root causes of ASB and taking all reasonable steps to prevent incidents from escalating.
- Taking necessary enforcement actions against perpetrators.
- Raising awareness among residents of the Borough, Council employees, and other stakeholders about the tools and powers available to tackle ASB.
- Collaborating with the police and other key agencies.
- Facilitating the development of sustainable communities where people want to live and feel safe.
- Increasing residents’ confidence by clearly communicating around ASB and providing a clear process for reporting, investigating and managing ASB.
- Setting realistic expectations in relation to how the Council will deal with ASB and what types of anti-social behaviour the Council will deal with.
- Ensuring a partnership approach is taken to tackle anti-social behaviour and support initiatives to prevent ASB from occurring.
- Providing a critical friend function for other Council departments handling Council tenant and leaseholder ASB matters.

5. Policy Statement

5.1 Anti-social behaviour can negatively impact communities and significantly affect quality of life; all reports of anti-social behaviour will be treated seriously. The Council will manage expectations, and clearly explain the limitations of its powers, and when enforcement action may or may not be possible.

5.2 The Council will work to manage the expectations of residents and businesses about behaviour that is not defined as anti-social behaviour and offer advice and guidance and where it will expect them to take steps to resolve the situation themselves.

5.3 The Council is committed to having a risk assessment in place for all anti-social behaviour cases. These will be reviewed regularly or when a resident or business notifies of a change in their circumstances or reports further incidents.

6. Legislation, Regulation and Guidance

6.1 The Council is committed to ensuring that residents and businesses feel safe in Castle Point and is committed to working with appropriate partners with the common aim of trying to reduce ASB. In achieving this, the Council follows relevant legislation and regulations. The following list sets out the key legislation, regulation and guidance:

- Anti-social Behaviour Act 2003
- Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014
- Anti-terrorism Crime and Security Act 2001
- Crime Disorder Act 1998
- Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994
- Data Protection Act 2018
- Equality Act 2010
- Health Act 2006
- Homelessness Act 2002 and Homelessness Reduction Act 2017
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Immigration Act 2016
- Local Government Act 2000
- Mental Health Act 1983, 2007
- Police and Justice Act 2004
- Protection from Harassment Act 1997
- Race Relations Act 1976 and Amendment Act 2000
- Racial and Religious Hatred Act 2006
- The Crime and Disorder Act 1998
- UK General Data Protection Regulation 2018

7. Reporting Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents

7.1 A report of anti-social behaviour suspected to be malicious or motivated by the complainant's prejudice towards the alleged perpetrators because of their age, gender, religion, race, colour, appearance, disability, sexual orientation, and cultural background will not be seen as genuine.

Incidents can be reported by:
Speaking directly to the Community Safety Officer by calling 01268 882200
Emailing cdrp@castlepoint.gov.uk
Completing an online form: https://www.castlepoint.gov.uk/form---reporting-anti-social-behaviour
More details on how to report ASB incidents can be found on this page: https://www.castlepoint.gov.uk/anti-social-behaviour-asb/.

7.2 When reporting an incident, the following information should be included:

- Date and time of the incident.
- Name of the individual(s) involved (if known).
- The impact of the anti-social behaviour on the person reporting it and on their household/business.

Some people may be reluctant to report incidents of ASB to the Council due to concerns that the situation could escalate if the alleged perpetrator becomes aware of it. All reports made to the Council are treated in the strictest confidence and it will not disclose the complainant's details to the alleged perpetrator without their permission, unless disclosure is necessary. In these situations, the Council will inform the complainant before taking further action.

7.3 Reports may be given anonymously; however, investigating such reports can be more challenging, and the Council's ability to help those affected by ASB might be limited. All reports of ASB are handled with utmost seriousness, and with the consent of the complainant; the Council will start the right action against identified individuals. In cases where perpetrators cannot be found, the Council will collaborate with the police and other relevant agencies to try to resolve the issue.

8. The purpose of the Castle Point and Rochford Community Safety Partnership (CSP)

8.1 Whilst the term ASB covers a broad range of issues, the overriding purpose of the CSP is to provide expert engagement, prevention and intervention in the most serious and persistent types of ASB that have a significant detrimental effect on the safety of an individual or the wider community.

8.2 In line with its role as part of the CSP, the Council will deal with cases that are significant, persistent and serious of the following nature:

a) Noise*
b) Threatening behaviour
c) Drug related issues
d) Hate crime
e) Serious violence
f) Domestic abuse
g) Vehicle nuisance
h) Offensive communication
i) Exploitation/cuckooing
j) Criminal damage
k) Alcohol related nuisance
l) Aggressive begging
m) Rural crime
n) Neighbour disputes**
o) Boundary complaints**

p) Parking disputes**

*Noise - *For this Policy, everyday household noise will not be defined as anti-social behaviour. Where complaints of everyday noise become a nuisance, including a statutory nuisance, mitigation measures, advice, noise monitoring equipment and target hardening (changing the physical environment) can be put into place to resolve any noise issues. This may be undertaken with advice from Environmental Health and Community Safety.*

*** Only in cases where verbal or written abuse or signage of an aggressive, persistent nature causing harassment, alarm or distress*

9. Approaches for addressing ASB

9.1 ASB cases will only be progressed by the Council if they involve private tenants or businesses and are of a persistent and significant safety issue to an individual or the wider community.

In low level situations, complainants will be encouraged to try and resolve the situation themselves in the first instance.

9.2 In most cases, perpetrators of ASB will be given the opportunity to improve their behaviour and/or be signposted to support services, before the decision is made to take enforcement action. However, it is necessary to balance the needs of the individual against the needs of the community. If it is essential to act to protect the needs of the community, the Council's CSP Team will make every effort to ensure that this is both swift and effective.

9.3 Enquiries and cases will be given to the Council's CSP Team to investigate. The officer carrying out the enquiry will lead on the case investigation and any later interventions and enforcement action to ensure an effective resolution to the case.

9.4 **Prevention and early intervention**

The Council will use a range of early intervention practices and non-legal remedies to mitigate ASB and avoid escalation problems, including mediation, early warnings, visits, letters, contracts and agreements. As part of the prevention strategy, the Council will use all available powers to reduce instances of anti-social behaviour within the local community. These may include:

a) Negotiating an Acceptable Behaviour Contract. This is a voluntary written agreement between an individual engaging in anti-social behaviour and various agencies, aiming to prevent further problematic actions. The contract outlines specific behaviours to be avoided and may include positive requirements to support the individual in changing their conduct.

b) Applying Parenting Contract Agreements (PCAs) in cases of ASB involving individuals under 18 years old, assigning responsibility to parent(s) to work on their child's behaviour with support from relevant agencies such as youth services.

9.5 **Enforcement**

When needed, the Council will implement legal measures as considered appropriate to address instances of ASB. Legal remedies may include:

a) Issuing a legal Warning Letter/Letter Before Legal Action, which outlines the behaviour that must stop, and makes the next steps of legal action very clear.
b) Pursuing a civil injunction, which may be issued against individuals aged 10 or older (and may include a power of arrest), to prohibit or prevent anti-social conduct. This enables the Council to de-escalate situations before they worsen and can be employed concurrently with applications for possession of property.
c) Accepting a legal undertaking, which is a formal promise to the court and holds the same weight as an injunction but does not hold a power of arrest. The Council may consider accepting undertakings from ASB perpetrators as an alternative to seeking an injunction, based on legal advice and where it is considered appropriate.
d) Issuing a Community Protection Notice (CPN) to halt behaviour by individuals aged 16 or over that negatively impacts community quality of life. This typically requires ceasing specific actions or taking reasonable steps to prevent further anti-social conduct. Violation of a CPN constitutes a criminal offence and may result in a fine.
e) Coordinating a Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) aimed to improve the quality of life for residents by restricting or prohibiting certain activities that negatively impact the community. PSPOs are enacted under the 'Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act, 2014'.
f) Coordinating a Premises Closure Order in collaboration with the police and community safety partners, where justified. If Council properties are being used, or are likely to be used, for nuisance or disorder, access may be restricted for durations ranging from 48 hours to six months.
g) Requesting a Criminal Behaviour Order via the Crown Prosecution Service, which may be imposed on individuals aged 10 or over upon conviction of a criminal offence, targeting those who repeatedly engage in criminal ASB.

9.6 **Rehabilitation**

The Council will act following all relevant legislation when addressing the actions of perpetrators or supporting victims of ASB. To achieve effective and lasting resolution of ASB incidents, the Council will work collaboratively with partner organisations to address problematic conduct and provide the right support to promote positive and long-lasting behavioural change.

9.7 **Support to victims and witnesses**

The Council provides comprehensive support and reassurance to all victims and witnesses of ASB by keeping ongoing communication with individuals to determine their preferred methods of contact and identify the right forms of support for effective case management. Contact frequency will be mutually agreed upon, and referrals to specialist agencies or partners will be made when necessary. Homes of victims will be assessed for additional support and safety measures.

Upon receiving an ASB report, a thorough risk assessment will be conducted to evaluate any vulnerability or safeguarding concerns. Where required, safeguarding referrals will be started following the Council's Safeguarding Policy

https://www.castlepoint.gov.uk/download/cpbc-safeguarding-policy-v1-aug-2025.pdf?ver=15112

Full support will be provided, as right and proportionate to an individual's needs, for example, support to attend a court hearing, liaising with an advocate or support worker.

9.8 **Support to vulnerable perpetrators**

The Council acknowledges that the vulnerabilities of some residents contribute to behaviour which is classed as anti-social to those around them. These vulnerabilities include, but are not limited to, mental health issues, learning difficulties and substance misuse. In cases where vulnerable perpetrators are involved, the Council will work closely with various support agencies with the aim of improving the behaviour of the individual. Compliance with legislation such as the Equality Act 2010 will be factored into any action taken.

The Council recognises that some individuals who commit ASB may require support to resolve the issue and change their behaviour. The Council will offer support to perpetrators of ASB, helping them in resolving their problems and changing their behaviour.

In doing so, the Council will take mental health conditions and other vulnerabilities into consideration when assessing any support needed. Referrals to partner organisations and support agencies will be made as appropriate in an attempt to get individuals the help they need.

10. Methods for Dealing with ASB

10.1 Partnership working - The Council will adopt a multi-agency approach to tackling ASB by encouraging and receiving help from sharing mutual expertise, good practice, information and resources. This involves evaluating service effectiveness and addressing specific area issues.

10.2 The Council's CSP Team will often work in partnership with other agencies and partners, such as the police, Probation, Fire Service, Housing Service, Housing Associations, Youth Offending Services, Social Services, and other services to share information and tackle ASB in a coordinated and effective way. Some partners may have tools or powers that the Council does not.

11. Monitoring and Continual Improvement

11.1 The Council's performance on ASB cases will be monitored monthly, through:

- Monthly ASB cases referred to CSP
- Monthly cases accepted as ASB cases by CSP
- Monthly satisfaction surveys for closed cases
- % of cases with a current risk assessment in place
- % of cases with an action plan in place
- Number of overdue actions on ASB cases
- Monthly satisfaction surveys for closed cases
- % satisfaction with case handling
- Complaints and compliments analysis
- Case reviews and management monitoring

11.2 CSP and anti-social behaviour performance indicators will be reported monthly to the Senior Leadership Team, and quarterly to the Portfolio Holder for People and Community.

11.3 Performance information will be published quarterly on the Council's website and shared with the CSP.

12. Data and Records

12.1 The Council will keep accurate records of all ASB cases that are reported to them on its ASB database. These will be kept according to Data Protection law and the Council's policies on information governance. This allows the Council's CSP Team to consider any history of ASB and helps to build up a complete picture.

12.2 Audits and reviews provide data reflecting the effectiveness of this Policy and find opportunities to achieve continual improvement in the management of ASB cases at the Council. The Council will commission an independent audit of ASB cases at least once every five years, to specifically test for compliance with legal and regulatory obligations and to identify any non-compliance issues. An action plan will be developed for any issues found during the audit, with timescales agreed for corrective actions to be carried out. Other checks and reviews may be undertaken periodically as needed.

12.3 The Council will keep all records and data in line with its Document Retention Policy and will have robust processes and controls in place to keep proper levels of security for all anti-social behaviour case management related data.

13. Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

13.1 The Council values diversity and promotes equality, ensuring people are treated according to their individual needs. This ensures that no person or other organisation is discriminated against on the grounds of race, colour, nationality, ethnic origins, sex, disability, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, marital or civil partner status, pregnancy, unrelated criminal activities, illness or any other matter that may cause a person to be treated with prejudice.

13.2 The Council will endeavour to ensure that services are delivered fairly and equally to all and to the highest possible standard. It provides all residents and businesses with the information they require, in a format to meet their individual needs, using clear language which is easy to understand.

13.3 The Council's approach is underpinned by the Equality Act 2010 and specifically the Public Sector Equality Duty. This legal framework obliges public authorities to actively eliminate discrimination, harassment, and victimisation, while advancing equality of opportunity and fostering positive relations among people with different protected characteristics.

13.4 The Council has completed an Equality Impact Assessment to ensure that any action it takes does not discriminate, is the least restrictive and enables the person to have as much choice and control over decisions as is possible.

14. Communication

14.1 Once the Policy is approved, a summary document ("a policy on a page") will be placed on the Council's website with a link to the full Policy. An approved version of this Policy will be published internally and will be accessible to Council employees.

14.2 The Council will share information clearly and transparently and will ensure that information is available to residents and businesses with information on its website.

14.3 The Council may sometimes engage with other agencies who may be supporting the complainant or perpetrator. When it shares information, the Council will have regard to Data Protection law, and its Safeguarding Policy.

15. Review of Policy

15.1 This Policy will be reviewed every 2 years, following the date of its implementation, unless new legislation or good practice, or a relevant major incident means it needs to be reviewed sooner.

15.2 The implementation of this Policy will be continuously checked by the Community Safety Manager. The results will be used to enhance future policy reviews and continually improve the Council's service standards.

15.3 The Council reserves the right to change this Policy to meet changes in regulation, legislation and good management practice. All changes will be subject to an Equality Impact Assessment. Where the change is minor, it will be approved by the Director - Place and Communities. If the change is major, approval will be required by the Portfolio Holder for People and Community, following consultation with all known stakeholders.

16. Consultation

16.1 The Council is committed to meaningful consultation. The Council has held a focus group with residents and businesses who have previously used the Council's community safety and anti-social behaviour services, and with all stakeholders in a separate focus group.

17. Training

17.1 The HR team at the Council will keep a skills/training matrix to ensure that all Council employees undertaking key roles within the scope of this Policy have appropriate training.

17.2 The Council will use a detailed competency framework including regular appraisals as part of the Anti-Social Behaviour Procedure.

17.3 The Council will deliver training on this Policy and the procedures that support it, including team briefings; ASB awareness training; and more detailed training for those delivering the ASB service to residents and businesses, to ensure all Council employees understand their responsibilities.

17.4 Training records will be kept for all courses attended.

18. Significant non-compliance and escalation

18.1 The Council's definition of significant non-compliance is any incident which has the potential to result in a breach of legislation, or which causes a risk to health and safety. All non-compliance issues will be reported and escalated as soon as possible, and no later than 24 hours after the incident occurred or of a Council employee being made aware.

18.2 Any non-compliance issue found at an operational level will be formally reported to the relevant Assistant Director, and Safeguarding Lead. The Assistant Director will report details of the same to a member of the Senior Leadership Team which includes the Chief Executive, Director - Corporate and Customer, Director - Commercial and Assets and Director - Place and Communities and Assistant Director - Legal and Democratic Services and Monitoring Officer and Assistant Director - Finance and Procurement and Section 151 Officer.

18.3 In cases of a serious non-compliance the Chief Executive will notify the Leader, Deputy Leader and the Portfolio Holder for People and Community.

19. Governance

19.1 The Council has overall responsibility for ensuring that this Policy is implemented to ensure compliance with the law.

19.2 The Chief Executive reports to Cabinet to show accountability that the requirements in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 are properly controlled and managed. Under Section 26 of the Constitution (the Officer Scheme of Delegation) the Chief Executive is authorised to delegate duties to the Directors who are then responsible to take the decisions for the effective sub delegation of duties within their service areas of responsibility; this is to ensure the Council's statutory duties and functions are effectively discharged.

19.3 The day-to-day responsibility for managing the delivery of this Policy for the CSP has been delegated, via the Chief Executive, to the Director - Place and Communities. In addition, the Assistant Director - Housing, Health and Partnerships is responsible for providing strategic leadership across the CSP. The CSP Anti-Social Behaviour Procedure also shows the roles and responsibilities of those who will undertake the day-to-day tasks on behalf of the Director - Place and Communities.

19.4 The Director - Place and Communities has delegated their duty holder responsibility to the Community Safety Manager who has professional responsibility for the Council's CSP team.

20. Associated Policies and Procedures

Castle Point Borough Council Data Protection Policy
Castle Point Borough Council Health and Safety Policy
Castle Point Borough Council Lone Working Policy
Castle Point Borough Council Safeguarding Policy
Council Housing Allocation Policy
Castle Point Borough Council Lone Working Policy

21. Appendix

Equality Impact Assessment for CSP Anti-Social Behaviour Policy

Appendix A

Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA)
– Community Safety Partnership Anti-Social Behaviour Policy

Stage	Title	Purpose
1	Preliminary Assessment	Initial assessment of possible impact.
2	Equality Risk Assessment	Scoring to assess the level of risk.
3	Equality Impact Assessment – Addressing Impact	Level of detail depends on risk assessment scoring but any removal or reduction in service must go through Stage 3.
4	Sign Off	Approval and decision-making details.
5	Implementation	Action Plan to implement and minimise impact.

Stage 1 – Preliminary Assessment

Question	Response/Consideration
1.1 Decision being assessed	Community Safety Partnership Anti-Social Behaviour Policy
1.2 Lead Officer	Damien Ghela, Assistant Director - Housing, Health and Partnerships
1.3 What are the aims or function of the service or policy?	A Community Safety Partnership Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Policy has been designed for the safety of the residents that live in and the businesses that operate in the Borough. The Council recognises that ASB can have a profoundly negative impact on communities and adversely affect the quality of life for many individuals in affected areas. It is essential that all residents and businesses can enjoy a safe environment and the quiet enjoyment of their homes, businesses and neighbourhoods. Similarly, every resident bears the responsibility not to disrupt the quiet enjoyment of others. Individuals experiencing ASB who choose to report it to the Council will receive support and their concerns will be thoroughly considered and addressed where there is sufficient evidence to do so. The aim of this Policy is to set out how the Community Safety Partnership will deal with ASB in Castle Point by: • Taking effective and prompt action to deal with severe and persistent anti-social behaviour • Encouraging residents to report anti-social behaviour by promoting a tailored victim focused service. • Set realistic expectations in relation to how the CSP will deal with ASB and what types of anti-social behaviour the CSP will deal with. • Provide support and advice to victims of severe and persistent anti-social behaviour. • Ensure a partnership approach is taken to tackle anti-social behaviour and support initiatives to prevent ASB from occurring • Provide a critical friend function for other CPBC departments handling Council tenant and leaseholder ASB matters

Question	Response/Consideration
1.4 Which policies relate to the delivery of this service?	Castle Point Borough Council Data Protection Policy Castle Point Borough Council Domestic Abuse Policy Castle Point Borough Council Hate Crime Policy Castle Point Borough Council Health and Safety Policy Castle Point Borough Council Lone Working Policy Castle Point Borough Council Safeguarding Policy
1.5 Who are the main audience, users or customers who will be affected?	All residents of Castle Point Borough Council, and people who have or work in businesses in the Borough.
1.6 Will removing, reducing or changing this service/policy lead to members of the community being treated less favourably and so contribute to inequality?	No, the Policy has been written in such a way as to address any inequality.

Equality Aims – consider how the decision meets the three Equality Aims listed in the Equality Act.

Aim	How does the proposal / policy / service meet the equality aim?
To eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation	The Policy aims to eliminate discrimination by having a policy that addresses anti-social behaviour where there is often harassment and victimisation.
To advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not	The Policy aims to provide equality of opportunity as having the quiet enjoyment of your home or workplace is something that everyone is entitled to regardless of any protected characteristics.

To foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not	The Policy has been written to foster good relations, to help people understand the impact anti-social behaviour may have on a community. The Policy has been written to keep people safe from the risk of exposure to prolonged anti-social behaviour.

Stage 2 – Equality Risk Assessment - Protected Characteristic Groups

Place an 'X' in against either 'positive impact', 'negative impact', 'no impact' for each protected characteristic group

2.1 Assess the Equality Risk

	Age	Disability	Gender	Race	Sexual Orientation	Religion	Gender Reassignment	Marriage/Civil Partnerships	Pregnancy/ Maternity
Positive impact									
Negative impact	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
No impact								X	X

2.2 Conclusion – if there is 'No Impact' for all of the protected characteristics then stages 3 – 5 do not have to be completed

To conclude, ASB is more likely to adversely impact the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender, race, sexual orientation, religion and gender reassignment, than the general population. In addition, people with a history of substance misuse may also be adversely affected by ASB or be more likely to be the cause of ASB.

Stage 3 – Equality Impact Assessment – Addressing Impact

Question	Response/Consideration
3.1 What is the reason for the proposed decision/change?	n/a
3.2 What consultation activity has been undertaken or is planned?	The Council has carried out a focus group with people who have recently used the anti-social behaviour service.
3.3 Service Users – What methods are used to monitor the characteristics of service-users with protected characteristics?	Once the Council has procured a new anti-social behaviour IT system, when a new case is entered, and a risk assessment is made the Council will collect and monitor the characteristics of its tenants and leaseholders, for the person reporting the ASB and the alleged perpetrator of the ASB.
3.4 Referring to Stage 2, which 'protected characteristic' group(s) are most likely to be affected by this change? Describe any negative impacts identified in more detail.	Age – Elderly tenants and leaseholders may face more severe consequences from specific types of ASB. Younger people are more likely to encounter ASB. Disability – Disabled individuals may be more vulnerable to ASB due to factors like increased susceptibility, communication barriers, and existing social exclusion. Gender – Women are more likely to experience sexual ASB, which can significantly affect their wellbeing, and sense of safety. Race – ASB may have different impacts on various racial and ethnic groups. For example, does the Policy disproportionately affect certain communities, or is there a risk of biased enforcement? They may be subject to offensive graffiti, or the harassment may be so severe that the ASB would be classified as Hate Crime. Sexual orientation – LGBTQ+ individuals might face specific challenges related to anti-social behaviour, including potential targeting or discrimination; this may be better classified as Hate Crime.

	Religion – victims of ASB may sometimes be more vulnerable due to a protected characteristic such as religion; they may be subject to offensive graffiti or the harassment may be so severe that the ASB would be classified as Hate Crime. Gender reassignment – ASB might pose specific challenges to people who have or are undergoing gender reassignment, including potential targeting or discrimination; this may turn from ASB into Hate Crime.
Outline ways in which negative or positive impacts will be addressed?	Addressing ASB early, with a focus on individual needs and vulnerabilities, is crucial for mitigating negative impacts.
3.5 If the decision involves a service/policy being reduced/removed will this lead to missed opportunities to promote equality of opportunity?	The Policy documents how the Council will provide an ASB service that makes a positive contribution to equality.

3.6 What outcome does this assessment suggest we take? Select one option and action to be taken

Option	Outcome	Tick Selected Option	Explanation
1	**Continue with proposed changes** **No discrimination or adverse impact identified**	☐	
2	**Continue with proposed changes** **Suitable adjustments to lessen the impact identified**	☒	
3	**Continue despite adverse impact or missed opportunities to promote equality**	☐	
4	**Stop and rethink** **Actual or potential discrimination identified**	☐	

What plans are in place to monitor the actual impact of the proposal?	The Council intends to review the policy and impact upon any of the protected characteristic groups identified in this EQIA in the first 12 months of the Community Safety Partnership Anti-Social Behaviour Policy going live.

Stage 4 – Sign-off

	Details
Director/Assistant Director approved by:	Director - Place and Communities Assistant Director - Housing, Health & Partnerships
Date:	29/10/2025
Member Approval (Date and Title of Committee):	Portfolio Holder for People and Community Portfolio Holder for Health, Wellbeing and Housing
Committee Decision:	n/a

Stage 5 – Implementation

5.1 Referring to **Stages 1 (preliminary assessment)**, **Stage 2 (equality risk assessment)** and **Stage 3 (equality impact assessment)** please list what tasks/actions you will take to minimise the impact of this change.

Task	Outcome	Lead	Resources	Deadline