

# Anti-Social Behaviour Scrutiny Inquiry Panel

## Terms of Reference

### Inquiry Key Question

The primary focus for the inquiry is to look at how the Council and its partners are tackling anti-social behaviour in Swansea. The key question, therefore, is:

- *How can the Council ensure that it is working with its partners to appropriately and effectively tackle Anti-Social Behaviour in Swansea.?*

What is not part of this inquiry? Individual cases of Anti-Social Behaviour. Only as examples of practice. The inquiry will have a strategic focus, with overview of roles and responsibilities, priorities, powers, current experience and trends, partnership activity and achievement, and how things can be improved.

### Reasons for carrying out this piece of work

Councillors chose to carry out this piece of work because they want to

- Ensure that the Council is meeting its duties under any legal requirements
- Ensure Swansea Council along with its partners are tackling Anti-Social Behaviour in Swansea both appropriately and effectively.
- Reduce the incidences of Anti-Social Behaviour and its impact on communities in Swansea

### The inquiry will ask about (the lines of inquiry) will focus on

The inquiry will look at Anti-social behaviour in relation to the provision of council functions and how it works with its partners and others to address it in communities across Swansea. It will also consider what the Council does well and what can be improved in this area. This will include the following key lines of inquiry:

1. **How effective are strategies, policies and procedures in tackling anti-social behaviour and is the council meeting its regulatory obligations in this area?** What legislative and policy framework is used. Are there effective and efficient systems/practices/processes in place across the Council to enable us to play our part in addressing ASB. Are Council Officers consistently applying these practices.
2. **What is the Council's role in tackling and reducing anti-social behaviour?** Are we carrying it out appropriately and effectively. What are the main challenges.
3. **What are partner roles in tackling and reducing anti-social behaviour?**
4. **How well are the Council and its partners working together to tackle and reduce anti-social behaviour in Swansea?** Who do we work with, what are the partnerships in place. How do we ensure that effective communication is kept between us and our partners to ensure issues are dealt with in an appropriate and timely manner. To include examples of where anti-social behaviour has been dealt with and how, both by the council and in conjunction with its partners. Look at examples where partnership working has gone well and not so well and have lessons been learned and changes made as a result.
5. **What are the tools available to use to help the Council and its partners tackle ASB?** For example: anti-social behaviour orders, noise abatement etc. Are we using them appropriately and effectively

6. **How good is the information provided to, and communication with, the public?** How good is the relationship with the public including communication and feedback. What do communities understand ASB to mean. Do we encourage and use resident involvement and feedback to improve people's experiences of the services dealing with ASB.
7. **How is performance monitored and managed?** What data is available that measures success or gives indications of extent of the issue and how we and our partners are dealing with it.
8. **How are we and our partners addressing the causes of anti-social behaviour. For example:** community policing, community working, youth services, schools etc. What community cohesion and improvement activity takes place. What is our strategy, vision, aims and objectives in this area? How are we doing against those objectives? Example/s of successfully reducing ASB in community.
9. **Look at examples of initiatives and good practice in tackling ASB elsewhere.**
10. **Wellbeing and Future Generations:** What is our strategy, vision, aims and objectives in this area? How are we performing against those? For example, how are we considering future generations and the impact of ASB on our communities.

**The Inquiry Panel will gather evidence from:**

Cabinet Members  
 Council Officers  
 Partner Organisation  
 Other interested groups/people including voices of children and young people  
 Welsh Government  
 Other Local Authorities and/or partnerships  
 Any other relevant information identified

This inquiry will be carried out via Panel meetings, roundtable meetings, desk-based research and a public call for evidence. The work of the inquiry will be displayed and publicised via the Councils website. Recordings of meetings will be available and a section for public questions will form a part of the agendas for all public panel meetings.

**Intended Impact and Contribution**

This inquiry intends to support the work of the Council by:

- Providing a councillor perspective on the issue
- Providing evidenced proposals to Cabinet that will lead to more effective services
- Gaining the views of the public and stakeholders
- Considering and concluding on recommendations from national reports, legislation /directives and their implications for Swansea
- Identification of good practice/research elsewhere and whether there is any learning for Swansea's approach
- Increased councillor understanding about anti-social behaviour
- Greater public awareness of work in relation to anti-social behaviour

**Membership of the Scrutiny Panel**

Adam Davis	Yvonne Jardine
<b>Terry Hennegan (CONVENER)</b>	Matthew Jones
Rebecca Fogarty	Hazel Morris
Victoria Holland	

**Liberal Democrat/Independent Councillors: 5**

Sam Bennett	Cheryl Philpott
Mike Day	Mark Tribe (if needed)
Mary Jones	

**Conservative Councillor: 1**

Brigitte Rowlands	
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**Uplands Councillor: 1**

Allan Jeffery	
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**Lead Cabinet Member for Anti-Social Behaviour**

Cllr Alyson Pugh

**Key Officer Contact for the Inquiry**

Jane Whitmore  
Dave Howes

**Scrutiny Officer supporting the Inquiry**

Michelle Roberts  
01792 637256  
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**Project Plan - Inquiry into Anti-Social Behaviour**

Date/Venue	Evidence Gathering Activity	
Pre-Inquiry Scrutiny Working Group 24 Nov 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overview of subject area with Lead Council Officer/s and Lead Cabinet Member. They will provide a strategic overview of Anti-Social Behaviour including details of the legal frameworks we work under and identifying who the key influencers are.</li> <li>Discuss and agree the Terms of Reference and Project Plan for the Inquiry.</li> <li>Agree public call for evidence and IIA for inquiry</li> </ul>	
<b>Evidence gathering</b>		
<b>Session 1</b> 17 Jan 23 2pm	Community Inclusion Community Safety Anti-Social Behaviour Officer	
<b>Session 2</b> 2 Feb 23 2pm	Police and Community Policing	Focus on key lines of inquiry, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitoring and enforcing</li> <li>Key partners and effectiveness of partnership working</li> <li>Specific service legislative/policy influences</li> <li>Key data</li> </ul>
<b>Session 3</b> 27 Feb 23 2pm	Youth Offending EVOLVE Education Health	

<b>Session 4</b> Mar - tba	Council Housing and the Housing Associations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tools used</li> <li>• Community activity to reduce ASB</li> <li>• Customer satisfaction and communication, do they collect public satisfaction on how dealt with?</li> <li>• Examples of practice</li> </ul>
<b>Session 5</b> Mar - tba	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public Protection services including for example noise abatement</li> <li>• Place/environmental services for example fly tipping, littering etc</li> </ul>	
<b>Session 6</b> Apr - tba	Round table meeting with Voluntary Sector, Community Groups and Local Businesses	
<b>Session 7</b> Apr/May - tba	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feedback from any consultation activity - either outside of meetings or that already exists</li> <li>• Submissions received from call for evidence</li> <li>• Desk based research - practice elsewhere</li> </ul>	
<b>Concluding Inquiry</b>		
<b>Meeting 8</b>	Findings report and discussion	
<b>Meeting 9</b>	Final report	