

BODY:	CABINET
DATE:	15TH DECEMBER 2004
SUBJECT:	ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR POLICY AND PROCEDURE
REPORT OF:	TENANT SERVICES MANAGER
Ward(s):	All
Purpose:	To seek Cabinet approval of the Draft Housing Management Anti-Social Behaviour Policy and Procedure.
Contact:	Adrian Channon, Tenant Services Manager Telephone 01323 415325 or internally on extension 5325.
Recommendations:	That members approve the policy and procedure.

Appendix 1

1.0	<u>Introduction</u>
1.1	The Council has a duty under the Anti-Social Behaviour Act to publish its landlord policy and procedures on anti-social behaviour by 30 th December 2004.
1.2	The Government issued guidance at the end of August 2004 on what should be included in the Policy and Procedures.

1.3	Existing policies and procedures were revised in line with the guidance and consultation carried out with tenants, staff and a range of partner organisations on a new draft.
1.4	The policy and procedures require approval by Cabinet so that they can be published and made available for tenants from the start of 2005.
2.0	<u>Anti-Social Behaviour Policy and Procedure</u>
2.1	Tenants Advisory Group received a report on the policy on 12 th October 2004 and recommended that a working group comprising two tenant representatives and an elected member be set up to finalise the policy prior to its submission to Cabinet.
2.2	The draft policy incorporates comments from the working group as well as those of organisations and individuals consulted over the policy.
2.3	The draft also takes into account comments and recommendations made by the Audit Commission when they inspected Housing Management Services in September 2004.
2.4	The Government's own guidance, issued by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, is very prescriptive about what should be included in the Policy and Procedure.
2.5	The policy should outline the Council's general approach to Anti-Social Behaviour and to include specific policies linked to this approach. These include support for witnesses, racial harassment, domestic violence, multi-agency partnerships and the use of available remedies.
2.6	The Procedures outline how complaints of anti-social behaviour can be made and will be dealt with.
3.0	<u>Consultations</u>

3.1	<p>Tenants and leaseholders have been consulted via the Tenants Newsletter, Open House and asked for their comments on what they would like to see in the policy as well as being given an outline of what it should include.</p>
3.2	<p>Comments were also been received from:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> § Raglan Housing Association § Sussex Police § Crime Reduction Partnership co-ordinator § Eastbourne Borough Council's Legal Services § Housing staff
4.0	<p><u>Implications</u></p>
4.1	<p>Human Resource</p> <p>Implementing the policy can be met from existing resources.</p>
4.2	<p>Environmental</p> <p>Amongst the aims of the policy and procedure would be to take effective action against noise complaints as well as vandalism and criminal damage.</p>
4.3	<p>Financial</p> <p>The costs of publishing and implementing the policy and procedures will be met from existing budgets.</p>
4.4	<p>Youth</p> <p>Preventative and diversionary measures aimed at steering young people away from anti-social activities are part of the policy.</p>

4.5	<p>Community Safety</p> <p>Effectively tackling anti-social behaviour has major implications for community safety. Partnership working between all the agencies involved in crime reduction and community safety is the key to this.</p>
4.6	<p>Human Rights</p> <p>The Human Rights of both perpetrators and victims need to be balanced in any policy to ensure compliance with legal obligations.</p>
5.0	<p><u>Conclusion</u></p>
5.1	<p>The development of an updated policy and procedure on anti-social behaviour to all tenants and leaseholders will enable them to be clear about the council's commitment to dealing with anti-social behaviour and the standards of service they can expect.</p>
Adrian Channon	
Tenant Services Manager	
<p>Background Papers:</p> <p>The Background Papers used in compiling this report were as follows:</p> <p>Reports to Tenants Advisory Group 21/7/04 and 12/10/04</p> <p>Anti-Social Behaviour : Policy and Guidance .Office of the Deputy Prime Minister August 2004</p> <p>To inspect or obtain copies of background papers please refer to the contact officer listed above.</p>	