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| **TITLE***Name / description of the issue being assessed* | Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Policy |
| **DATE** *Date the DIA is completed* | 11th October 2019 |
| **LEAD OFFICER***Name, title and dept of person responsible for carrying out the DIA*. | Aisling SimsPolicy and Partnerships Manager |
| 1. **Summary description of the proposed change**
* *What is the change to policy / service / new project that is being proposed?*
* *How does it compare with the current situation?*
 |
| The policy has been updated to reflect changes in practice and guidance including: * The definition of ASB, to bring it in line with the 2014 Act
* Reference to harassment and hate crime, plus cuckooing and mate crime
* Reference to the HRA funded post in the Community Safety Team
* To strengthen our expectation that residents will try to resolves lower level ASB themselves, before we intervene.
* To make reference to lifestyle tolerance and respect
 |
| 1. **Summary of evidence used to support this assessment**
* *Eg: Feedback from consultation, performance information, service user records etc.*
* *Eg: Comparison of service user profile with Medway Community Profile*
 |
| Over the past two years there has been a decline in the number of ASB cases reported to Housing Services.

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| Year | Total cases |
| 2017-18 | 126 |
| 2018-19 | 53 |

Current stats (11/10/2019) show that there are currently 40 live cases and the highest instances of these are for noise complaints:

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| --- | --- |
| Case type | Cases |
| ALCOHOL RELATED | 1 |
| CRIMINAL BEHAVIOUR  | 2 |
| DRUGS MISUSE | 3 |
| GARDEN NUISANCE | 5 |
| LITTER FLY TIPPING | 1 |
| MISUSE OF COMM AREAS | 4 |
| NOISE | 11 |
| PETS | 3 |
| VANDALISM | 3 |
| VERBAL ABUSE | 4 |
| VIOLENCE NON DV | 3 |
| Grand Total | 40 |

The current policy does not fully outline the types of cases that could potentially occur within our housing stock. By bringing the policy and our recording system fully in line with guidance we will have a more reflective Since the policy was last updated the service now part fund a post in the community safety team, this should improve and make the way we deal with ASB cases more effective. As part of the 2017 STAR survey there was a slight increase in satisfaction for both ‘Neighbourhood as a place to live’ (79%) and ‘ASB case handling’ (47%) Given all these figures it important for the Housing Service to make links with relevant teams and partner agencies to ensure an effective response to ASB on our estates. The use of a wider range of enforcement tools should keep the current rate of evictions for ASB minimal (one eviction due to ASB during 2018-19)  |
| What is the likely impact of the proposed change?*Is it likely to :** *Adversely impact on one or more of the protected characteristic groups?*
* *Advance equality of opportunity for one or more of the protected characteristic groups?*
* *Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who don’t?*
 |
| **Protected characteristic groups** | **Adverse impact** | **Advance equality** | **Foster good relations** |
| **Age**  |  |  |  |
| **Disabilty** |  |  |  |
| **Gender reassignment**  |  |  |  |
| **Marriage/civil partnership** |  |  |  |
| **Pregnancy/maternity** |  |  |  |
| **Race** |  | ***✓*** |  |
| Religion/belief |  | ***✓*** |  |
| **Sex** |  |  |  |
| **Sexual orientation** |  |  |  |
| **Other (eg low income groups)** |  | ***✓*** |  |
| 1. **Summary of the likely impacts**
* *Who will be affected?*
* *How will they be affected?*
 |
| This policy will be applied to all residents equally, but whilst not specifically targeted at any protected characteristic it is recognised that some aspects of could adversely impact on some of the groups.The proposed policy update includes references to new ASB case types and naturally these could affect some groups more than others. Victims of ‘cuckooing’ and ‘mate crime’ are often more likely to those thought of as vulnerable. Cases of harassment could affect the race and the religion/belief characteristics. By defining these terms it is likely that the policy will advance equality for these groups as Housing Services will work to prevent/resolve such cases. ASB cases are not currently monitored with profiling data so we are not able to establish if any groups are being affect more than others. Some groups who are unable to read written English can initially be disadvantaged, if material is not available in the appropriate format.   |
| 1. **What actions can be taken to mitigate likely adverse impacts, improve equality of opportunity or foster good relations?**
* *Are there alternative providers?*
* *What alternative ways can the Council provide the service?*
* *Can demand for services be managed differently?*
 |
| Following the inclusion of the new ASB cases types Housing will continue to monitor the cases logged by type. It would also be beneficial to monitor new cases alongside any profiling data that is held by the service. This would show if any particular groups are being affected by the change.Medway Council hold profiling information of tenants and leaseholders, and will ensure that documentation produced will be in the appropriate format for the resident. Medway Council can offer information translated, Braille or taped versions of the document. In some instances an interpretation service or other person can give the pertinent information in verbal format. |
| Action plan* *Actions to mitigate adverse impact, improve equality of opportunity or foster good relations and/or obtain new evidence*
 |
| **Action** | **Lead** | **Deadline or review date** |
| Include new case types within the housing management database | Housing Manager | December 2019 |
| Monitor number and types of ASB cases  | Housing Manager | Ongoing |
| Monitor the satisfaction of residents in their estates | Policy and Partnerships Manager | Ongoing |
| Consider monitoring profiling data alongside ASB cases | Housing Manager | January 2020 |
| Recommendation*The recommendation by the lead officer should be stated below. This may be:** *to proceed with the change, implementing the Action Plan if appropriate*
* *consider alternatives*
* *gather further evidence*

*If the recommendation is to proceed with the change and there are no actions that can be taken to mitigate likely adverse impact, it is important to state why.* |
| To proceed with the implementation of the policy |
| Authorisation *The authorising officer is consenting that:** *the recommendation can be implemented*
* *sufficient evidence has been obtained and appropriate mitigation is planned*
* *the Action Plan will be incorporated into the relevant Service Plan and monitored*
 |
| **Authorising Officer** | Mark Breathwick**Head of Housing**  |
| **Date**  | October 2019 |