

Welcome to the January edition of the Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) Bulletin. The ASB Unit within the Safer Communities Team is responsible for tackling ASB across the Bay. The monthly bulletin aims to highlight not only the statistics relating to the amount of ASB being dealt with by the team, but also to point out the local events at which you will be able to meet the team and discuss any concerns surrounding Anti Social Behaviour that you, as residents of the Bay, may have.

ASB Statistics

Reported ASB

Figure 1 shows the number of reports of ASB the team have received during the current financial year 2008/09. During January the team received **25** new ASB enquires, resulting in a total for the year to date of **395** reports which have been made by members of the public contacting the ASB hotline, in addition to referrals received from our Partnership Agencies such as the Police, RSL's (Registered Social Landlords) and Street Wardens.

Types of ASB

Figure 2 sets out the different types of ASB that have been reported to the team during the month and the numbers of such reported incidents. Neighbourhood disputes continue to account for the highest number of reported incidents with the ASB team adopting a very pro-active approach to visiting complainants and the alleged offenders to try and ascertain the reasons for the behaviour.

Source of referral

Figure 3 provides details of the referral source. Safer Communities is currently working closely with our Partnership Agencies with a view to increasing the number of referrals which are made via sources other than the ASB Hotline and have inter-team training sessions arranged with Westcountry Housing and Environmental Protection next month. A close working relationship with the police is paying dividends in that we are now receiving more and relevant ASB enquiries via the police.

ASB reported by Ward

Figure 4 identifies the different Ward areas throughout Torbay and the numbers of reported incidents of ASB that have been made within each Ward.

Figure 1

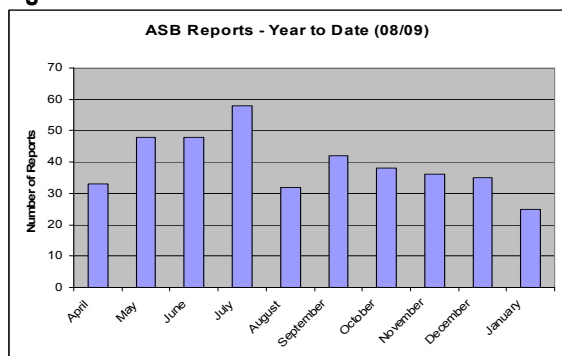


Figure 2

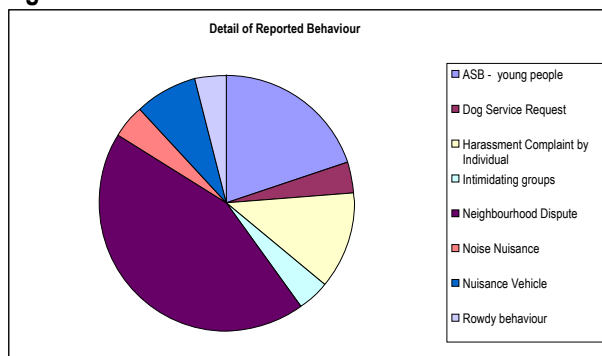


Figure 3

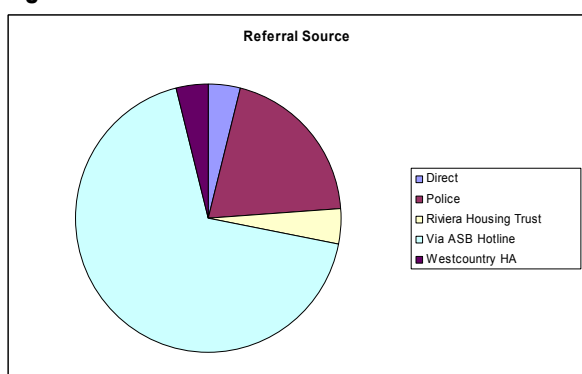
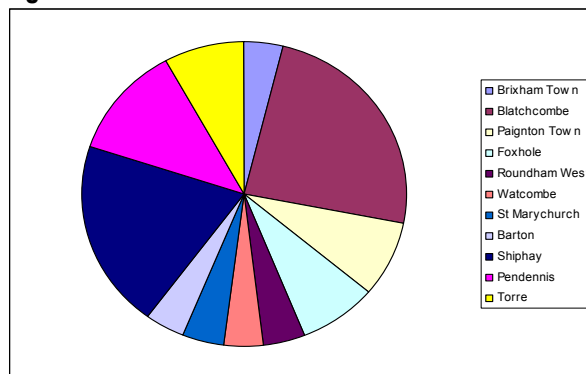


Figure 4



Current Caseload (as of January 2009)

The ASB team are currently dealing with 26 cases which are at different stages ranging from early intervention through to enforcement action. It is hoped that by tackling the problems early on, the alleged offenders can be encouraged to change their behaviour before it escalates. The team also liaises with the complainants on a weekly basis, unless the particular case requires more frequent contact, to offer support and advice to them during the investigation and evidence gathering process.

The Team Continues to Grow

The Family Intervention Project (FIP) team, which forms part of the Anti-Social Behaviour Unit, has grown in size again and this month we are pleased to announce the arrival of Sam Frost. Sam is working as a FIP Keyworker and will engage with some of the Bay's more "at risk" families with a view to providing intensive support on a daily basis; working with the families to assess how improvements can be made and, ultimately, helping the families to achieve these improvements for the benefit of themselves and their immediate community.

Sam acquired invaluable experience working in the Community in her previous role as a Street Warden with Torbay Council, and has already worked in some of the Bay's more deprived areas. We are sure this experience will add to the FIP team's existing skill base and enhance the team's overall effectiveness.



A warm welcome to Sam.

ASB News:

Hayes Road and St Michael's Neighbourhood Watch and Community Safety Meeting

This meeting was held on 22 January 2009 at Hayes Road School and was attended by Gael Hammett, the ASB Case Manager for Paignton and Brixham. Also in attendance were the Neighbourhood Policing Team led by Insp. Mel Broad together with the local Police Officer for the area and some of the PCSOs. Gael attended to provide advice about Anti Social Behaviour and to advertise Safer Communities' role in dealing with ASB issues. Greer Cree, Community Partnership Support Officer, was also at the meeting to provide details about local Partnership Groups. The evening was attended by over 50 residents who raised a number of varied queries.

"Moped Event"

Gael also attended a "Moped Event" at Victoria Car Park, Paignton, on 24 January 2009. Representatives from Torbay Council Road Safety Team, Devon & Cornwall Police Traffic Division, PGH Motorcycles and Safer Communities were on hand to highlight defects and safety issues relating to mopeds that are currently being ridden on the roads. The aim was to educate the riders about safety, the condition of their mopeds and to highlight good riding practice in order to keep them safe on the roads. The event was reasonably well attended with the advice being well received.

Housing Conference

Kelly Newman, ASB Case Manager for Torquay, attended a housing conference on the 22 January at the Riviera Centre Torquay. The conference was aimed at people with a learning disability and people were invited to pass on information and answer any enquires that came up on the day. 50 – 60 people were invited together with their support workers, resulting in an audience of about 100 people. Kelly delivered 5 separate 15min talks discussing what constitutes ASB and what individuals can do if they are suffering because of ASB. Various helpline numbers and information was given out together with hotline cards, leaflets and other goodies.

Community Partnership Meetings

Kelly was present at recent Community Partnership Meetings in St Marychurch and Tormohun wards and was available to answer any questions which were raised surrounding ASB issues in those areas. Forthcoming dates will be shown in future editions of this Bulletin, but if you would like any more information on Community Partnership Meetings, please contact Greer Cree (greer.cree@torbay.gov.uk).

Pendennis Project

The Pendennis Project is well under way. Funding from Government Office South West (GOSW) has enabled us to undertake a number of projects in the Pendennis area. The project consists of three elements:

- tackle a particular anti-social behaviour issue in the area
- inform the community on what anti-social behaviour is and how to report it
- invest in a community project

We have been able to negotiate with GOSW to increase the community information exercise to include the neighbouring community of Lichfield. As part of this exercise we are running 6 events. Two have already taken place, four remain:

20th February at the Acorn Centre, Lichfield 5-7pm for young people

28th February at the Acorn Centre, Lichfield 4-6pm for adults and families

2 events at the Windmill Centre, Pendennis dates in March to be confirmed

These events aim to engage the community to look at what issues they face in their communities and how we can all help to overcome them.

Forthcoming Events:

Pendennis Project: dates as above

Community Partnership Meetings: Salvation Army Hall, Princes Street, Paignton – 5 February, 7.00 pm
Brixham Rugby Club, 23 February, 7.00 pm

Be part of our ongoing bulletin

We are keen to ensure this bulletin is useful to you. It would be appreciated if you could spend a few minutes to complete this electronic form (please click on the following link)

www.torbay.gov.uk/asbulletin

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If you would like to contribute to future issues or to receive this newsletter in another format or different language, please contact ASB Admin on 01803 841274 or by email asb@torbay.gov.uk