

Equality Impact Assessment

Anti-Social Behaviour Powers – Policy
Framework

What is being assessed?	Anti-Social Behaviour Powers – Policy Framework
Department	Partnerships and Communities
Name of assessor	Patrick McCord
Strategic Management Lead	Rachel O'Reilly
Date of assessment	16/10/2015
Is this a new or existing function or policy?	New Policy

Please note that guidance (revised in March 2014) for completing this template is available on the intranet. This template was also revised in March 2014.

Section 1: Introduction and background (see p.10 of the guidance)

Please describe your service or function. This should include:

- **The aims and scope**
- **The main beneficiaries or users**
- **The main equality, accessibility, social exclusion issues and barriers, and the 'protected characteristics'¹ they relate to (not all assessments will encounter issues relating to every protected characteristic)**

If this EIA is part of a project it is important to focus on the service or policy the project aims to review or improve.

The Anti-Social Behaviour Powers Policy Framework sets out a single policy framework for dealing effectively with incidents of anti-social behaviour across Mole Valley. It pulls together and updates procedures and protocols to bring them in line with current legislation. This work will establish a more robust and consistent approach to the use of powers across the relevant business units of the Council and will set the foundations for the development of a strategic approach to enforcement of these powers.

The policy is focused on getting the best outcome for victims, particularly our most vulnerable residents including those who are elderly, disabled or have a mental health issue.

Now describe how this fits into the Council's Corporate Priorities, Sustainable Community Strategy or other local, regional or national plans and priorities.

ENVIRONMENT

¹ More information and definition of protected characteristics can be found [here](#)

The Anti-Social Behaviour Powers Policy Framework and Guidance will provide the Council with a framework for utilising statutory powers to tackle problems such as fly-tipping, littering and dog fouling. Through the appropriate use of these powers the Council will be able to take action to improve the local environment.

COMMUNITY WELLBEING

Active communities and support for those who need it

By ensuring that Mole Valley District Council has a robust approach to dealing with anti social behaviour this will contribute to the overall community wellbeing of our district.

If you are not carrying out an equality impact assessment, briefly summarise reasons why you have reached this conclusion, the evidence for this and the nature of any stakeholder verification of your conclusion.

Section 2: Analysis and assessment (see pp. 10-13 of the guidance)

Given available information, what is the actual or likely impact on minority, disadvantaged, vulnerable and socially excluded groups?

Indicate for each 'protected characteristics' whether there may be a positive impact, negative impact , a mixture of both or no impact.

Protected characteristics	Positive	Negative	No impact	Reason
Age	Y			The ASB Powers Policy Framework will enable the Council to act quickly and effectively in order to tackle ASB targeted at vulnerable groups using the powers available in legislation.
Disability	Y			
Gender reassignment	Y			
Marriage and civil partnership	Y			
Pregnancy and maternity	Y			
Race	Y			
Religion or belief	Y			
Sex	Y			
Sexual orientation	Y			
Other aspects to consider	Positive	Negative	No impact	Reason
Carers	Y			As above

Rural/urban issues	Y			The ASB Powers Policy Framework and Guidance will be used to specifically address flytipping, graffiti and rural crime.
HR issues (how will staff with protected characteristics be affected?)			Y	

What can be done to reduce the effects of any negative impacts? Where negative impact cannot be completely diminished, can this be justified, and is it lawful?

Where there are positive impacts, what changes have been or will be made? Who are the beneficiaries? How have they benefited?

The ASB Crime and Policing Act 2014 provided new powers to councils which have been incorporated into the new ASB Powers Policy Framework.

A key focus of the policy is on how we can provide effective support to victims of anti social behaviour, ensuring that together we understand better the impact ASB can have on their lives and ensuring processes are in place to protect them from further harm.

Priority is given to the identification and protection of high risk or vulnerable victims. A vulnerable person is one whose experience of ASB, and resulting harm, is likely to be more significant because of their individual personal circumstances.

Section 3: Evidence gathering and fact-finding (see p.14 of the guidance)

What evidence is available to support your views above? Please include:

- A summary of the available evidence
- Identification of where there are gaps in the evidence (this may identify a need for more evidence in the action plan)
- What information is currently captured with respect to usage and take up of services.
- What the current situation is in relation to equality and diversity monitoring (where relevant)

The Council manages cases involving high risk or vulnerable victims through local Community Incident Action Group (CIAG) meetings.

The CIAG is a multi agency group which discuss and agree action to reduce the negative impact that problem individuals and families have on victims through their anti social behaviour.

Both victims and perpetrators can be nominated by one, or more, of the attending agencies to be included on the agenda.

Using the expertise that exists on both groups they will identify desirable outcomes and determine what interventions will be used to achieve this.

All agencies represented at the CIAG are signed up to the Multi Agency Information Sharing Protocol. Minutes and actions of all meetings are recorded and stored securely.

How have stakeholders been involved in this assessment? Who are they, and what is their view?

This assessment has been agreed by the interdepartmental project team at Mole Valley District Council. The departments on the project team are:

Partnerships
Legal Services
Environmental Health
Housing Services
Environmental Services

Recommendations

Please summarise the main recommendations arising from the assessment. NB If it is impossible to diminish negative impacts to an acceptable or even lawful level the recommendation should be that the proposal or the relevant part of it should not proceed.

Section 4: Action Plan (see pp.15-16 of the guidance)

Actions needed to implement the EIA recommendations

Issue	Action	Expected outcome	Who	Deadline for action
Needs to communicate to a diverse audience	Comms plan/campaign	Ensure our messages are fair and consistent	Patrick McCord	Jan 2016

Sign off

Who will be responsible for reviewing this EIA?	Patrick McCord
Review date(s) i.e. when will this EIA be reviewed – see p.9 of guidance	16/10/16
Strategic Management Lead signed off	Rachel O'Reilly

- Signed off electronic version to be kept in your team for review
- Electronic copy to be forwarded to the Policy and Performance Team for publishing