

NORTHERN JOINT POLICE BOARD

29 August 2008

Agenda Item	
Report No	

Anti-Social Behaviour

Report by the Chief Constable

SUMMARY

This report provides Board members with information in relation to aspects of anti-social behaviour

BACKGROUND

At the NJPB meeting held in Stornoway on 23 April 2008, a Member raised an issue around aspects of anti-social behaviour and in particular the police response to litter and dog fouling. The Chief Constable agreed to provide a break down of the police response to these issues. The following figures relate to the following period, 1st April 2006 – 31 March 2007, 1st April 2007 – 31 March 2008.

Litter

Between the period 1st April 2006 – 31 March 2007, 22 people were reported and between 1st April 2007 – 31 March 2008, 35 people reported. In the main these were people who refused to pick-up litter when asked to do so by a police officer. Over and above this numerous individuals were warned regarding littering and made to uplift the litter they had dropped. The types of littering witnessed by officers were:

- Throwing of glasses/bottles and cans
- Dropping papers and cigarette ends
- Dropping of take-away packaging
- Throwing rubbish from moving motor vehicles

Certain Council employees also have the power to deal with littering offences and often work closely with police officers to carry out joint patrols of local areas prone to littering e.g. in the vicinity of schools

On the 2nd June 2008 such joint working was undertaken as part of a national campaign, no offences were detected on the day.

Dog Fouling

Between the period 1st April 2006 – 31 March 2007, 2 people were reported and between 1st April 2007 – 31 March 2008, 4 people were reported in relation to their dogs fouling in public areas i.e. pavements and foot paths.

Urinating in Public

Between 1st April 2006 and 31st March 2007 a total of 354 people were reported for urinating in public. For the period 1st April 2007 to 31st March 2008 a total of 336 people were reported for the same crime.

CONCLUSIONS

All officers are aware that anti-social offences of this nature are important to local communities. Officers will take the appropriate action when such offences are directly witnessed by them and will often resolve the matter using their discretion. When this fails, officers will take the appropriate action and report offenders to the Procurator Fiscal.

RECOMMENDATION

Members are invited to note the report.

I Latimer
Chief Constable

30 July 2008