

Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy 2019-2022

Consultation Feedback

Public consultation on the draft strategy was carried out between the 11th and 22nd March 2019 and was conducted largely on-line, although paper copies were made available.

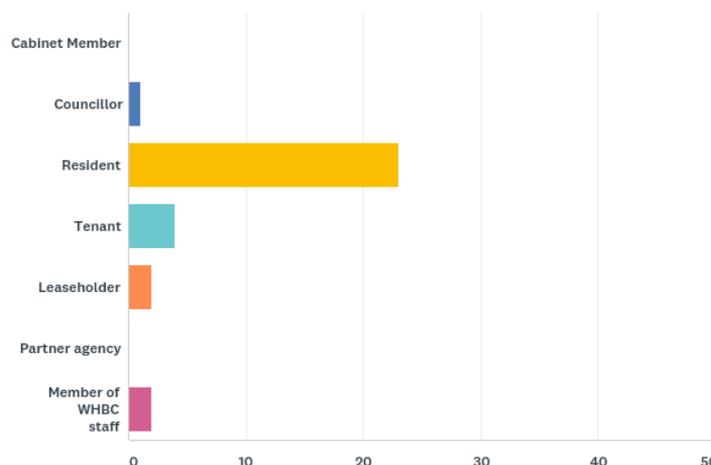
Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council's communications team promoted the consultation via social media, on the WHBC website, as well as providing internal exposure to staff via Team Talk.

The consultation was also circulated to all Members as well as to the tenant panel and resident panel, requesting their views.

The draft strategy was presented to members of the Responsible Authorities Group and the Joint Action Group and circulated with a link to the consultation, so that partners and stakeholders would also have the opportunity to comment on our approach.

There were 32 on-line submissions made and one postal submission. 90% of responses received were from residents, tenants and leaseholders.

Q1 What category of stakeholder are you?



Results from the consultation

Respondents were asked to identify whether they had experienced ASB, knew someone who had experienced ASB or had worked with either victims or perpetrators of ASB. 53% of those who responded stated that they had personally experienced ASB with a further 20% of 'other' responses having witnessed ASB or had dealt with it through their work.

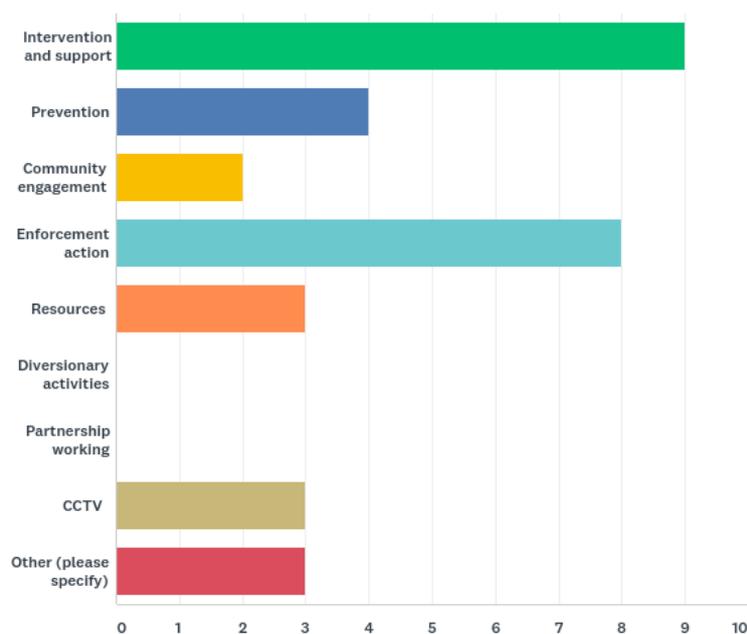
72% of respondents felt that the draft strategy covered all the elements that they were concerned about and those that responded adversely were asked to comment. The main themes were:

- Clear and transparent pathways are needed for investigating ASB with quick intervention
- Youth ASB – more diversionary activities, taking action on parents when their children are responsible for ASB and meaningful engagement to better life chances and stop repeat behaviour
- Doesn't deal with ASB caused by vehicles
- It was a tick box exercise rather than a plan with a weak definition of ASB
- More decisive action is needed and greater emphasis on the victim and wider community
- Some comments related to specific cases that the respondent had experienced

The comments have not greatly influenced change to the draft ASB Strategy as the comments relate largely to aspects of service delivery within the Action Plan or to specific cases or experiences.

As below, there was a significant number of respondents who would like to see more enforcement action as well as intervention and support, when asked what they would like to see more of in tackling ASB.

Q6 What would you like to see more of from the council and its' partners in tackling ASB across Welwyn Hatfield? (please tick all that apply)



Conclusion

The 'introduction' of the ASB Strategy has been changed to reflect that there is an ASB Action Plan to implement and deliver the ASB Strategy from an operational perspective, which will sit alongside the Community Safety Partnership Action Plan.

There was some confusion as to what should be included in a Strategy. Some of the comments were requests for details that are covered in the ASB Action Plan, the Policy and the ASB case management procedure. The ASB Action Plan deals with much of the feedback such as partnership working, resourcing, proactiveness, quick intervention and robust case management.

Youth diversionary activities were a common theme but again, the ASB Strategy is not the vehicle for such focussed activity and this will be dealt with via the Community Safety Action Plan and the proposed multi-agency Yopaulauth Strategy that will report into the Responsible Authorities Group.