

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AGENDA

Scrutiny making a positive difference: Member led and independent, Overview & Scrutiny Committee promote service improvements, influence policy development & hold Executive to account for the benefit of the Community of Dacorum.

WEDNESDAY 15 OCTOBER 2014 AT 7.30 PM

BULBOURNE ROOM, CIVIC CENTRE, HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

The Councillors listed below are requested to attend the above meeting, on the day and at the time and place stated, to consider the business set out in this agenda.

Adeleke N Hollinghurst

Adshead Killen

Mrs Bassadone Mahmood (Vice-Chairman)

Conway Marshall (Chairman)

Flint McLean Hearn R Sutton

Co-Opted Members: M Cook, J Howard, A Horn

Substitute Members: Councillors G Chapman, Clark, Harris, Rance and Wixted

For further information, please contact Trudi Coston on Tel: 01442 228224, or Email: Trudi.Coston@dacorum.gov.uk. Information about the Council can be found on our website: www.dacorum.gov.uk.

PART I

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1. MINUTES

To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 10 September 2014, which can be viewed at:

http://www.dacorum.gov.uk/home/council-democracy/meetings-minutes-and-agendas/events/2014/09/10/housing-and-community-overview-and-scrutiny-committee/housing-and-community

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive any apologies for absence

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive any declarations of interest

A member with a disclosable pecuniary interest or a personal interest in a matter who attends a meeting of the authority at which the matter is considered-

(i) must disclose the interest at the start of the meeting or when the interest becomes apparent

and, if the interest is a disclosable pecuniary interest, or a personal interest which is also prejudicial

(ii) may not participate in any discussion or vote on the matter (and must withdraw to the public seating area) unless they have been granted a dispensation.

A member who discloses at a meeting a disclosable pecuniary interest which is not registered in the Members' Register of Interests, or is not the subject of a pending notification, must notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest within 28 days of the disclosure.

Disclosable pecuniary interests, personal and prejudicial interests are defined in Part 2 of the Code of Conduct for Members

[If a member is in any doubt as to whether they have an interest which should be declared they should seek the advice of the Monitoring Officer before the start of the meeting]

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

An opportunity for members of the public to make statements or ask questions in accordance with the rules as to public participation

5. CONSIDERATION OF ANY MATTER REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE IN RELATION TO CALL-IN

None



AGENDA ITEM: 6

SUMMARY

| Report for: Housing and Community Overview & Scrutiny Comm | |
|--|-----------------|
| Date of meeting: | 15 October 2014 |
| PART: | 1 |
| If Part II, reason: | |

| Title of report: | Sportspace Performance Report 2013/2014 | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| Contact: | Councillor Neil Harden, Portfolio Holder for | | | |
| | Residents & Regulatory Services | | | |
| | Responsible Officer | | | |
| | Steve Baker (Assistant Director – Chief Executive's Unit) | | | |
| | Matt Rawdon (Group Manager – People) | | | |
| Purpose of report: | To provide members with information about the performance and activity of Sportspace during 2013/14 | | | |
| Recommendations | That Members note the annual performance report for Sportspace as presented at the meeting. | | | |
| | Dacorum Delivers – Performance | | | |
| Corporate objectives: | Building Community capacity – addressing health inequalities | | | |
| Implications: | <u>Financial</u> | | | |
| 'Value For Money Implications' | None from this report. | | | |
| | Value for Money | | | |

| | The funding model has achieved a reduction in grant from the Council, thereby contributing to value for money. |
|---|--|
| Risk Implications | There are no risk implications associated with this report |
| Equalities Implications | There are no specific equalities implications associated with this report |
| Health And Safety Implications | None |
| Consultees: | Dave Cove – Sportspace |
| Background papers: | None |
| Historical background (please give a brief background to this report to enable it to be considered in the right context). | The Dacorum Sports Trust (Sportspace) was established in 2004 and manages a number of sports facilities in the Borough. As part of monitoring the progress and effectiveness of the Council's partnership with Sportspace, an annual presentation is made to the Housing and Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee by Sportspace to provide Members with information about the performance, activities provided and outline some proposals for the future. |
| Glossary of acronyms and any other abbreviations used in this report: | |

1. Introduction

The Dacorum Sport Trust (Sportspace) has been managing a number of sport facilities in the Borough since 2004. As part of monitoring the progress and effectiveness of the Council's partnership with Sportspace, an annual presentation is made to the Housing and Community Overview & Scrutiny Committee to provide Members with information about the performance, activities provided, and outline some proposals for the future.

2. Key Performance Indicators

Sportspace gathers information and performance data on a number of activities. The following describes performance data reported to the Council:

- Attendance number of visits that are made at sports venue
- Staff Turnover
- Complaints
- Accidents/Incidents Customers
- Accidents /Incidents Staff
- Provision for targets groups hours of provision for young people
- Provision for targets groups hours of provision for older people
- Provision for targets groups hours of provision for people with disabilities

This information will be presented by Sportspace.

3. Plans for the future

Sportspace is working hard to meet the needs of customers by being innovative and work alongside statutory partners to achieve common goals. In partnership with the Council, it has been making efforts to improve facilities across the Borough.

Sportspace have been working with Dacorum Borough Council officers to better understand the outcomes of their provision in the community. These conversations are ongoing.

In addition, we are have recently been working together on the successful Community Sports Activation bid to Sport England and now starting to implement the project collectively. The project was formally launched on 20 September in Randalls Park, Highfield and is now called Get Set, Go Dacorum.

4. Sportspace Presentation

A presentation of the Sportspace Performance Report for 2013/14 will be given by Dave Cove, the Chief Executive of Sportspace.



AGENDA ITEM: 7

SUMMARY

| Report for: | Housing and Community Overview & Scrutiny Committee | | |
|---------------------|---|--|--|
| Date of meeting: | 15 October 2014 | | |
| PART: | 1 | | |
| If Part II, reason: | | | |

| Title of report: | STAR 2014 | | | |
|--------------------|---|--|--|--|
| Contact: | Cllr Margaret Griffiths, Portfolio Holder for Housing | | | |
| oonides. | Carolyn Leech, Team Leader, Policy and Participation and Sue Prowse, Tenant Involvement Officer – Authors | | | |
| | Andy Vincent, Group Manager – Tenants and Leaseholders Responsible Officer | | | |
| | The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the response to the 'STAR' 2014 tenant and leaseholder satisfaction survey and a comparison with previous STAR and STATUS survey results. In particular, all areas of unrepresentative low satisfaction levels from 2012 are reported upon. | | | |
| | The report contains a list of improvements that were taken to as draft recommendations and which were then agreed by the Housing Senior Management Team and the Tenant and Leaseholder Committee to take forward. | | | |
| Purpose of report: | These recommendations for improvement are now actions highlighted in the Service Plan 2014-2016 which has been presented to Housing and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee. | | | |
| | Progress will be monitored through the Service Plan and performance reports presented to committee at mid-year and end of year points. | | | |
| Recommendations | | | | |

| Corporate objectives: Implications: | Effective and empowered tenant involvement supports the Council's corporate objectives and contributes to: Our community capacity Economic development and regeneration Resources and value for money Affordable Housing Enhancing our profile and reputation Financial By undertaking STAR on a two year basis we are able to identify tenant and leaseholder priorities and plan to achieve improvements in these areas, ensuring that money is spent in the best way to tackle those items which are a priority. |
|---|---|
| 'Value For Money | Value for Money Value for Money is a regulatory requirement for all social |
| | housing providers. By ensuring that our tenants are empowered and involved in the services that they receive we will ultimately ensure that we are giving good value for money. |
| Risk Implications | Failure to deliver on the improvements recommended as a result of STAR 2014 could risk the image and reputation of the Housing Service. Mechanisms have been put in place to ensure that tenants actively monitor the STAR 2014 recommendations on a regular basis to ensure that the objectives are met. |
| Equalities Implications | Tenant Involvement deals with the whole tenant and leaseholder community, including young people. |
| Health And Safety Implications | There are no health and safety implications. |
| Consultees: | Tenants and Leaseholders Members of the Tenant and Leaseholder Committee Housing Senior Management Team |
| Background papers: | STAR survey 2012 results |
| Glossary of acronyms and any other abbreviations used in this report: | Tenant and Leaseholder Committee (TLC), Housing Maintenance and Environment Committee (HMEC), Housing Management Committee (HMC) Survey of Tenants and Residents (STAR), Total Asset Management (TAM) |

1.0 Background

The STAR 2014 survey is our second such survey of all tenants and leaseholder's and follows the standardised Housemark STAR format introduced in 2011, together with our own additional questions.

Three separate surveys were produced, specific to General Needs, Supported Housing tenants and DBC leaseholders.

A copy of the survey form was sent out to all tenants and leaseholders with a covering letter/flyer and reply paid envelope at the end of January 2014. The outer envelope carried a slogan devised by tenants, 'You can make a difference - Please don't put me in the bin – fill me in!' encouraging everyone to reply. Changes made and actions taken to drive service improvements as a result of the STAR 2012 survey were highlighted in the flyer in order to enable residents to see that the survey results are used to target resources, plan services and improvements.

Following a presentation of STAR recommendations to TLC in October 2013, a decision was made only to send a reminder card to any target group where the survey response looked likely to fall below 25%. This saved significant funds and meant that a reminder was only sent to leaseholders, as they were the only group identified with the below 25% response rate.

To ensure that everyone had the opportunity to complete a survey, assistance was offered to those that required help completing the form and around twenty residents requesting help with survey completion received a home visit from a member of Housing staff.

All respondents were offered the opportunity to take part in a prize draw for one of three £100 shopping vouchers, and of those who completed the survey around two thirds opted to take part in the draw. Online respondents were able to enter into an additional draw for a flat screen television/DVD combi. Due to the late publication of the web version of the survey, very few online responses were received (61 in total = 1.8%).

2.0 Results

This report contains the results of the STAR survey together with the recommendations for improvements that have been made.

2.1 Levels of response for each tenure group

2.1.1 General Needs Tenants:

8411 forms were sent out resulting in 2286 completed surveys = 27.2%

2.1.2 Supported Housing Tenants:

1875 forms were sent out resulting in 786 completed surveys = 41.9%

2.1.3 Leaseholders:

1633 forms were sent out resulting in 285 completed surveys = 17.5%

2.1.4 Overall totals:

A total of 11,919 forms across all tenures were sent out resulting in 3357 completed forms being returned = 28.2%, whilst this is a reduction on STAR 2012 it is still above our target of 25%.

2.1.5 Priorities for the Future

When we undertook the first STAR in 2012 as part of the preparations for the move to self-financing in April 2012, we invited respondents to rank five asset-based 'Priorities for the Future' options in order of importance or to make their own suggestions.

This idea was developed further for STAR 2014. Fourteen items were listed under five themes and tenants were invited to say which of these were important to them, ticking as many or as few items as they wished.

Tenants were then asked which one item would be their 'Top priority', with the aim of creating a list of top priorities and giving tenants influence over how we spend their rent money.

The overall results of all responses for items that are important to tenants can be found in **appendix 1**.

The top three results for 'Your Top Priority' under each group and overall were as follows:

General Needs tenants (1795 responses):

1st More frequent replacement of bathrooms and kitchens: 357 = 19.9%

2nd Improved parking (where possible): 291 = 16.2%

3rd New front/back doors: 284 = 15.8%

Supported Housing Tenants (559 responses):

1st More frequent replacement of bathrooms and kitchens: 94 = 16.8%

=2nd Improved parking (where possible): 87 = 15.6%

=2nd New front/back doors: 87 = 15.6%

Overall (2354 responses):

1st More frequent replacement of bathrooms and kitchens: 19.2%

2nd Improved parking (where possible): 16.1%

3rd New front/back doors: 15.8%

Using this information the following recommendation for improvement has been made:

Recommendation 1: That the council should continue to treat investment in replacement, kitchens, bathrooms and external doors and provision of new parking (where possible) as a priority when allocating budgets.

2.2 Levels of satisfaction

2.2.1 Core Questions

Housemark's standardised STAR format allows landlords a great deal of flexibility in devising their own survey; there are six 'core' questions which are compulsory if using the Housemark STAR branding and logo. These results are also fed into Housemark's benchmarking service for comparison with other social landlords. The remainder of the survey questions are set in order to deliver information that best enables us to set service priorities whilst not producing an excessively long survey form that could lead to a very poor response rate. This approach differs from the previous 'STATUS' surveys in which all questions were compulsory.

Appendix 2: Satisfaction Trends 2008-2012

2.2.2 Overall Satisfaction

N.B. Any items where satisfaction has moved up or down more than two percentage points since the 2012 survey has been highlighted – **GREEN** for increased satisfaction, **RED** for decreased satisfaction. It should be noted that whilst improvement in satisfaction may be below a 2 percentage point all areas have seen improvement since the STATUS 2008.

Appendix 3 - General Needs Tenants:

Appendix 4 - Supported Housing Tenants

Appendix 5 - Leaseholders

Appendix 6 - Overall totals

3.0 Communication

3.1 Staff Communication

In order to promote STAR 2014 internally we attended a series of team meetings as well as sending email updates where needed.

3.2 Tenant Communication

News and Views was the main method of communicating with tenants and leaseholders on STAR, both for the updates on STAR 2012 and promoting STAR 2014. We have also used Facebook and the website and have produced a series of publicity materials, including posters and flyers. The tenant involvement team have also attended Supported Housing Coffee Mornings.

In addition to this we have used the hold message for callers phoning the call centre and a press release in the local paper.

4.0 Priorities and Trends

As a result of the 2012 STAR survey results, several areas of the service were identified as priorities for improvement. Additionally, we sought to obtain information on access to services such as internet and useable bank accounts. In 2014 we included questions to determine awareness of the government's changes to the way that benefits are paid.

4.1 Internet Access at home:

There has been an increase in the number of people able to access the internet at home. In 2012, 55.7% of General Needs tenants had internet access at home; this has now increased by nearly 5 percentage points to 60.3%.

Whilst there has been an increase for Supported Housing tenants from 24.2% in 2012 to 29.3% in 2014, this is still below the national average.

The Government's new <u>Digital Inclusion Strategy</u> states that 37% of social tenants are digitally excluded and the strategy aims to help more people get online, with a target to reduce digital exclusion to 25 per cent by 2016. Currently more than half of Dacorum's tenants (51.6%) do not have internet access at home.

When asked about completing an application online nearly two thirds of our General Needs respondents (65%) would either not feel confident ('No') or would be unsure ('Not Sure') about completing an application for means-tested benefits online (see 4.6). For Supported Housing tenants this figure increases to more than four out of five responses (82.8%).

Reasons for lack of internet access and/or confidence to make online applications may be linked to age, disability or poverty. Half of all tenants responding to the survey (50.3%) are in receipt of Housing Benefit and nearly half (49.0%) state that they or a household member have a health problem that limits their day-to-day activities, around half of whom say that they are limited a lot. Around three in ten of our tenants (29.2%) are aged 75 or over and two thirds (65.4%) are aged 55 or over.

To help support tenants to get online all DBC sheltered schemes now have Wi-Fi installed. This is available for use by anyone inside the building free of charge. We will be running training 'taster' sessions for residents jointly with Dacorum Communities for Learning to help give people the confidence to get online.

Recommendation 2: That the Council should carry out further enquiries or surveys in order to ascertain why Dacorum's tenants seem more likely to be digitally excluded than the national average. Also to provide targeted training to enable and encourage older, financially disadvantaged or disabled tenants to use the internet if they wish to do so.

4.2 Car Parking:

The perception that car parking is a problem has continued to increase, despite the Council's investment in new parking pads and projects. This may be due to enhanced awareness following extensive publicity around the council's Parking Project, which started in the financial year 2012-2013 and has been extended for a further two years.

Provision of new car parking (where possible) was second of all tenants' 'Top Priority' for the future (see 3.1.5).

The percentage of respondents viewing parking as a problem in their neighbourhood was as follows:

2008 29% Feel it is a 'Very Big' problem

2012 64.7% (35.7% minor problem, 29.0% major problem)

DBC has invested substantially both in the provision of additional parking where possible and in barriers to ensure that Housing car parking is not subject to unauthorised use. Whilst the Parking Project has been extended for a further two years, many older estates simply do not have space to provide new parking bays.

See Recommendation 1.

4.3 Housing Cleaning Service

Cleaning of internal and external areas was identified as an area needing improvement following the 2012 STAR Survey. There has been much work done in this area to help improve the service that residents in blocks of flats receive.

In order to give a clearer comparison between the two surveys, the 'Neither' and 'Not applicable' responses have been discounted to show only those results indicating either satisfaction or dissatisfaction, This should help to remove any results where 'Neither' has been given as a response due to the fact that there are no communal areas in the block. ('Neither' responses were very high in 2012, prompting us to change the 2014 survey - the layout was amended slightly to make it clearer that respondents should answer the question only if they were receiving a Housing Cleaning service.)

Housemark discourages reporting results where 'Neither' responses are not included, but it is felt that this is valid for this question when making a comparison between the 2012 and 2014 surveys due to the strong likelihood that residents living in flats without a communal area may have ticked the 'Neither' box.

Taking this into account, the figures for satisfaction are now higher than they should be but do give a more accurate comparison between the surveys:

Internal Communal Areas:

| 2008 | Satisfied | 64% |
|------|--------------|----------------------------------|
| 2012 | Satisfied | 80.9% (39.7% very, 41.2% fairly) |
| | Dissatisfied | 19.1% (8.8% very, 10.3% fairly) |
| 2014 | Satisfied | 83.3% (39.6% very, 43.7% fairly) |
| | Dissatisfied | 16.7% (7.4% very, 9.3% fairly) |

These results indicate that – whilst the number of 'very satisfied' residents has not increased, the recent investment in the Housing Cleaning Service has led to a small but significant number of residents changing their opinion from 'very dissatisfied' or 'fairly dissatisfied' to 'fairly satisfied'.

Generally, if discounting the 'Neither' responses, it appears that satisfaction with cleaning of internal communal areas has improved.

External Communal Areas:

| 2008 | Satisfied | 51% |
|------|--------------|----------------------------------|
| 2012 | Satisfied | 66.9% (25.5% very, 41.4% fairly) |
| | Dissatisfied | 33.0% (15.9% very, 17.1% fairly) |
| 2014 | Satisfied | 68.2% (27.5% very, 40.7% fairly) |
| | Dissatisfied | 31.7% (12.4% very, 19.3% fairly) |

Whilst satisfaction with cleaning of external communal areas has not changed significantly overall, there is a noticeable decrease in those responding 'very dissatisfied' and a similar increase in 'very satisfied' responses.

The recent appointment of two cleaning operatives with vans has led to an increase in the prompt removal of litter and items fly-tipped or dumped on Housing land. A leaflet setting out Housing Cleaning standards was sent to all flat-dwellers in 2013. This shows instances when residents should report problems and gives contact details for the Cleaning Service.

Recommendation 3: That the Council should continue to promote awareness of the standard of cleaning that tenants can expect, monitor standards via satisfaction surveys and invest in improvements to the service, including staff training where necessary.

4.4 Grounds Maintenance

This is another service area highlighted as needing improvement following the 2012 STAR survey. A new Service Level Agreement for Grounds Maintenance has recently been negotiated, so it was felt that any improvements in satisfaction would be unlikely in the 2014 survey. In fact, whilst satisfaction was already low when compared with the Housing Service as a whole, it has continued to fall.

Only around half of General Need's tenants and Leaseholders (51.4%) are now satisfied with the maintenance of planted areas. The quality of grass cutting also has high rates of dissatisfaction as detailed below:

Thinking about the area bordering your home, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the following?

Grass cutting:

General Needs

| 2012 | Satisfied | 75.0% (29.0% very, 46.0% fairly) |
|--------------|--------------|----------------------------------|
| | Dissatisfied | 12.0% (3.5% very, 8.5% fairly) |
| 2014 | Satisfied | 69.8% (26.0% very, 43.8% fairly) |
| | Dissatisfied | 15.6% (4.8% very, 10.8% fairly) |
| Supported Ho | ousing | |
| 2012 | Satisfied | 76.4% (31.6% very, 44.8% fairly) |

Dissatisfied 17.1% (6.0% very, 11.1% fairly)

2014 Satisfied 75.6% (31.8% very, 43.8% fairly)

Dissatisfied 18.9% (6.0% very, 12.9% fairly)

Leaseholders

2012 Satisfied 68.4% (17.1% very, 51.3% fairly)

Dissatisfied 23.8% (8.2% very, 15.6% fairly)

2014 Satisfied 62.7% (14.7% very, 48.0% fairly)

Dissatisfied 26.9% (9.3% very, 17.6% fairly)

Maintenance of planted areas:

General Needs

2012 Satisfied 59.9% (22.3% very, 37.6% fairly)

Dissatisfied 15.5% (5.9% very, 9.6% fairly)

2014 Satisfied 52.7% (19.0% very, 33.7% fairly)

Dissatisfied 18.8% (7.3% very, 11.5% fairly)

Supported Housing

2012 Satisfied 60.1% (22.0% very, 38.1% fairly)

Dissatisfied 22.4% (9.6% very, 12.8% fairly)

2014 Satisfied 58.7% (23.4% very, 35.3% fairly)

Dissatisfied 23.8% (9.1% very, 14.7% fairly)

Leaseholders

2012 Satisfied 50.7% (11.1% very, 39.6% fairly)

Dissatisfied 31.7% (13.5% very, 18.2% fairly)

2014 Satisfied 42.0% (8.5% very, 33.5% fairly)

Dissatisfied 33.8% (16.9% very, 16.9% fairly)

Recommendation 4: That Grounds Maintenance should be a regular agenda item for Housing Maintenance and Environment Committee (HMEC) with a view to monitoring standards and investigating options for improving levels of satisfaction.

4.5 Responsive Repairs

Following the 2012 STAR Survey, Responsive Repairs was highlighted as a service area where satisfaction was lower than with the Housing Service overall, particularly around a repair being done 'right first time'.

The 2014 results do not show any significant change in Responsive Repairs satisfaction levels, although the number of contractors failing to show proof of identity has increased significantly for General Needs tenants (up from 17.6% in 2012 to 19.7% in 2014.)

The new TAM contract commencing in 2014 includes an undertaking to review our definition of 'right first time'. Tenants will be involved in this work to ensure confidence in future satisfaction surveys undertaken by the new contractors.

Supported Housing tenants are generally more satisfied with the way that Dacorum Borough Council deals with Repairs and Maintenance – up from 88.2% in 2012 to 91.4% in 2014. The percentage of supported housing tenants satisfied with the overall quality of their home has also increased significantly from 89.3% to 93.4%.

Recommendation 5: That HMEC and TLC should continue their involvement with monitoring the new TAM contract and work co-operatively with officers to devise both the new definition of 'right first time' and satisfaction surveys to promote confidence that service standards are being met.

4.6 Awareness of changes to the way that Benefits will be paid

The 2014 STAR survey included a new question prefaced by an explanatory paragraph to encourage responses – in the words of tenants the wording was designed to 'de-stigmatise' receipt of Housing Benefit. It is very clear that despite our best efforts to promote awareness, there are significant numbers of residents who are so far unaware of the forthcoming changes, including many who are currently in receipt of Housing Benefit.

For this reason the results should be analysed further to determine what percentage of residents giving a 'Yes' response to Question 8 also answered 'No' or 'Not sure' to Question 8b.

Many of our tenants including working people and pensioners receive help to pay their rent. Others who do not currently receive help may need to do so if their circumstances change. We would like you to answer some questions to help us understand whether our tenants are aware of the Government's changes to the way benefits are paid.

8. Do you currently receive any Housing Benefit payments?

General Needs

1001 (46.2%) Yes

1147 (53.0%) No

18 (0.8%) Prefer not to say

Supported Housing

448 (62.8%) Yes

254 (35.6%) No

11 (1.5%) *Prefer not to say*

8.a If you answered Yes to Question 8, please tell us whether all or part of your rent is paid by Housing Benefit

General Needs

300 (30.1%) All of my rent is paid by Housing Benefit

658 (65.9%) Part of my rent is paid by Housing Benefit

40 (4.0%) Prefer not say

Supported Housing

158 (36.2%) All of my rent is paid by Housing Benefit

262 (60.0%) Part of my rent is paid by Housing Benefit

17 (3.9%) *Prefer not say*

8.b Do you already know about the government's proposal to pay Housing Benefit to tenants instead of direct to the landlord?

General Needs

550 (25.8%) Yes

1216 (57.1%) No

363 (17.1%) Not sure

Supported Housing

169 (24.1%) Yes

396 (56.6%) No

135 (19.3%) Not sure

8.c If you ever needed to complete an application form for means tested benefits at some time in the future, would you feel confident to do this online?

General Needs

752 (35.0%) Yes

1010 (47.0%) No

388 (18.0%) Not sure

Supported Housing

121 (17.2%) Yes

487 (69.2%) No

96 (13.6%) Not sure

Recommendation 6: That the results of the question around Housing Benefits payments should be analysed to determine what percentage of those currently receiving Housing Benefit are not aware of the forthcoming changes. Also to determine whether there are any links between lack of awareness of the forthcoming changes and disability or lack of internet access at home. Measures then to be taken to ensure that all tenants are aware of how these changes will affect them.

5.0 'Literal' Responses

Respondents had the opportunity to give us any other comments about the Housing Service they receive and to tell us whether they agreed that we had met our obligation not to discriminate against them.

Further work is continuing to group these responses into themes; once this work is complete then these themes will be reported to the TLC and a suggested method of use given.

6.0 Listening to views and acting upon them

This could be considered a more subjective question than most others, with results reliant upon perceptions and communication. It is an area where lots of work has taken place over the past two years following STAR 2012.

We have included regular 'STAR updates' in News and Views and the Annual Report to show the actions taken and improvements made following the STAR 2012 results. Overall, two thirds of our tenants and leaseholders (65.7%) are now satisfied that we listen to their views and act upon them, an increase of around 4 percentage points since 2012.

This compares favourably with the upper quartile for net satisfaction using Housemark Benchmarking data for 2013/14, which is 65.38% for General Needs and Housing for Older People. For the purposes of benchmarking, Housemark do separate Leaseholders from the total results, if we were to do the same then the percentage of tenants in General Needs and Supported Housing very or fairly satisfied with this question is 67.63%.

Recommendation 7: That we continue to publish STAR updates in News and Views and carry out further consultations in accordance with the Housing Consultation Strategy whenever changes are planned, whether to the service as a whole or at a local level.

7.0 Getting Hold of the right person

The results of the 2012 STAR survey indicated that fewer than one in five (19.7%) of those respondents who said that they had contacted the Council with a query other than to pay rent or service charges found it 'Difficult' to get hold of the right person. This was highlighted as an area for improvement.

The results of the 2014 survey indicate that this figure has increased and now exceeds one in five (22.1%). There could be many reasons for this increase but it is important that further work is done to investigate this.

Recommendation 8: That all possible steps should be taken to reverse the trend of increasing numbers of residents finding it difficult to reach the correct person when contacting the Council.

8.0 Rubbish and Litter

In 2012, more than half of respondents (55.8%) indicated that rubbish and litter was a problem in their neighbourhood. This figure has remained fairly constant in 2014 (57.1%).

Whilst clearance of rubbish and litter largely falls outside of the Housing Service, we have promoted and participated in community litter picks organised by Clean Safe & Green and Resident Services.

Recommendation 9: That using an Estate Management approach and working in partnership with other housing colleagues we should continue to organise and promote local area walkabouts to highlight any local problems and work co-operatively with Clean Safe & Green and Resident Services to tackle any local rubbish or littering issues.

9.0 Summary of Recommendations for improvement

Recommendation 1: That the council should continue to treat investment in replacement kitchens, bathrooms and external doors and provision of new parking (where possible) as a priority for allocation of budgets.

Recommendation 2: That the council should carry out further enquiries or surveys in order to ascertain why Dacorum's tenants seem more likely to be digitally excluded than the national average. Also to provide targeted training to enable and encourage older, financially disadvantaged or disabled tenants to use the internet if they wish to do so.

Recommendation 3: That the council should continue to promote awareness of the standard of cleaning that tenants can expect, monitor standards via satisfaction surveys and invest in improvements to the service, including staff training where necessary.

Recommendation 4: That Grounds Maintenance should be a regular agenda item for Housing Maintenance and Environment Committee (HMEC) with a view to monitoring standards and investigating options for improving levels of satisfaction.

Recommendation 5: That HMEC and TLC should continue their involvement with monitoring the new TAM contract and work co-operatively with officers to devise both the new definition of 'right first time' and satisfaction surveys to promote confidence that service standards are being met.

Recommendation 6: That the results of the question around Housing Benefits payments should be analysed to determine what percentage of those currently receiving Housing Benefit are not aware of the forthcoming changes. Also to determine whether there are any links between lack of awareness of the forthcoming changes and disability or lack of internet access at home. Measures then to be taken to ensure that all tenants are aware of how these changes will affect them.

Recommendation 7: That we continue to publish STAR updates in News and Views and carry out further consultations in accordance with the Housing Consultation Strategy whenever changes are planned, whether to the service as a whole or at a local level.

Recommendation 8: That all possible steps should be taken to reverse the trend of increasing numbers of residents finding it difficult to reach the correct person when contacting the Council.

Recommendation 9: That using an Estate Management approach and working in partnership with other housing colleagues we should continue to organise and promote local area walkabouts to highlight any local problems and work co-operatively with Clean Safe & Green and Resident Services to tackle any local rubbish or littering issues.

10.0 Conclusion

The nine recommendations for improvement detailed above were taken to the TLC, Portfolio Holder for Housing and Chair of the Housing and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee in draft form in May 2014. At this meeting it was agreed that these recommendations should be taken forward and should form part of the actions detailed in the Housing Service Plan.

In addition to this, it was agreed that the Housing Service would move to a two year service plan. This will enable us to mirror the STAR timetable and will also mean that tenant priorities that are highlighted as part of the STAR survey and agreed with TLC will be taken forward in a structured way and monitored through the service plan.

The draft Housing Service 2014/16 has been approved by the TLC and is currently in the process of being finalised with timescales/responsible officers etc. and once finalised will be subject to the corporate service plan template.

Progress against the service plan will be reported on at the mid-year and end of year points and a report will be submitted to both the TLC and Housing and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Appendix 1

The percentage figure given as the number of respondents ticking each option in relation to the total number of tenants' surveys returned (3072):

| | Improved Energy Performance (Helping to keep your costs down, 'greener' | Total number of responses and percentage of respondents choosing to tick the box as an item important to them |
|-----|--|---|
| 20. | better for the environment) a.) Improved cavity/loft insulations | 1139 (49.8%) <mark>4th</mark> |
| | b.) More efficient boilers | 1267 (55.4%) 3rd |
| | c.) Solar panels | 889 (38.9%) 8th |
| | d.) Other energy saving measures such as air or ground source heat pumps (where possible) | 496 (21.7%) 11th |
| | Estate Improvement/Neighbourhood (The area around your home) | |
| | e.) Improved parking (where possible) | 1425 (62.3%) 1st |
| | f.) Improved communal drying areas | 251 (11.0%) 13th |
| | g.) Improved landscaping and maintenance of planted areas Replacement Programme (Planned works) | 732 (32.0%) 10th |
| | h.) New front/back doors | 1124 (49.2%) <mark>5th</mark> |
| | i.) More frequent replacement of bathrooms and kitchens | 1322 (57.8%) 2nd |
| | j.) Improved central heating | 1115 (48.8%)=6th |
| | Suitability of Accommodation (Improving our existing homes) | |
| | k.) Installing wired smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors in all our homes | 1115 (48.8%) =6th |
| | I.) Redeveloping sheltered accommodation to change bedsits to flats | 486 (21.3%) 12th |
| | m.) Increasing size of kitchens (where possible) | 826 (36.1%) 9th |
| | New Homes (Helping to meet current and future housing needs) | |
| | n.) For example new builds, demolishing blocks of unsuitable flats to redevelop the area. | 991 (43.4%) 7th |

YOUR TOP PRIORITY

Which ONE of the items above would be your top priority? Please write the letter from the list above that relates to the one item you would choose.

- 1st More frequent replacement of bathrooms and kitchens (19.9%)
- 2nd Improved parking (where possible) (16.2%)
- 3rd New front/back doors (15.8%)



Appendix 2 - Tenants' & Leaseholders' Satisfaction **Surveys 2008 - 2014**



TRFNDS

N.B. 2008 Results are for STATUS Survey which was carried out using a postal sample survey and follow-up phone calls. All STATUS figures were rounded to whole percentages.

Overall Satisfaction - 'Core' Questions

Taking everything into account, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the service 1. provided by Dacorum Borough Council as your housing landlord?

STAR 2014 85.7% Satisfied **Trend** STAR 2012 86.5% -0.8 STATUS 2008 79%

7.7% Dissatisfied **STAR 2014** +0.7

STAR 2012 7.0% STATUS 2008 9%

How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the overall quality of your home? 2.

STAR 2014 82.2% Satisfied **Trend** STAR 2012 79.8% +2.4

STATUS 2008 75%

STAR 2014 11.4% Dissatisfied -2.0

STAR 2012 13.4% STATUS 2008 14%

How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with your neighbourhood as a place to live? 3.

STAR 2014 86.5% Satisfied **Trend** 86.8% STAR 2012 -0.3

STATUS 2008 80%

STAR 2014 8.0% Dissatisfied +0.6

STAR 2012 7.4% STATUS 2008 9%

How satisfied or dissatisfied are you that your rent (or service charges) 4.

provides value for money?

STAR 2014 78.5% Satisfied **Trend** STAR 2012 78.5%

9.7% Dissatisfied **STAR 2014**

STAR 2012 9.7% STATUS 2008 14%

STATUS 2008 70%



5. Generally, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way Dacorum Borough Council as your housing landlord deals with repairs and maintenance?

STAR 2014 78.4% Satisfied Trend STAR 2012 76.7% +1.7 STATUS 2008 69% STAR 2014 14.3% Dissatisfied -1.3 STAR 2012 15.6%

STAR 2012 15.6% STATUS 2008 19%

6. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you that Dacorum Borough Council as your housing landlord listens to your views and acts upon them?

STAR 2014 65.7% Satisfied Trend STAR 2012 61.4% +4.3 STATUS 2008 51%

STAR 2014 13.6% Dissatisfied -0.4

STAR 2012 14.0% STATUS 2008 N/A





Appendix 3 - Tenants' Survey 2014

General Needs Housing



Total number of responses: 2286

Overall Satisfaction

1. Taking everything into account, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the service provided by Dacorum Borough Council as your housing landlord?

756 (35.8%) Very satisfied 1045 (49.5%) Fairly satisfied 145 (6.9%) Neither

118 (5.6%) Fairly dissatisfied 49 (2.3%) Very dissatisfied

2. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the overall quality of your home?

583 (27.2%) Very satisfied
1102 (54.4%) Fairly satisfied
162 (7.6%) Neither

217 (10.1%) Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied

3 How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with your neighbourhood as a place to live?

935 (42.4%) Very satisfied 952 (43.2%) Fairly satisfied 135 (6.1%) Neither

135 (6.1%) Fairly dissatisfied 47 (2.1%) Very dissatisfied

4. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you that your rent provides value for money?

686 (31.4%) Very satisfied 994 (45.6%) Fairly satisfied 293 (13.4%) Neither 158 (7.2%) Fairly dissatisfied

158 (7.2%) Fairly dissatisfied 51 (2.3%) Very dissatisfied

5. Generally, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way Dacorum Borough Council as your housing landlord deals with repairs and maintenance?

743 (33.8%) Very satisfied 959 (43.6%) Fairly satisfied 172 (7.8%) Neither

208 (9.5%) Fairly dissatisfied

119 (5.4%) Very dissatisfied

6. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you that Dacorum Borough Council as your housing landlord listens to your views and acts upon them?

494 (22.5%) Very satisfied 921 (42.0%) Fairly satisfied

461 (21.0%) Neither

203 (9.2%) Fairly dissatisfied 116 (5.3%) Very dissatisfied

General Services

7. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way Dacorum Borough Council as your housing landlord deals with the following?

| | Very satisfied | Fairly satisfied | Neither | Fairly dissatisfied | Very dissatisfied |
|--|----------------|------------------|-------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Anti-social behaviour | 443 (21.9%) | 736 (36.3%) | 636 (31.4%) | 125 (6.2%) | 85 (4.2%) |
| Complaints | 417 (21.0%) | 783 (39.5%) | 578 (29.2%) | 135 (6.8%) | 69 (3.5%) |
| Your enquiries generally | 664 (33.2%) | 877 (43.9%) | 313 (15.7%) | 108 (5.4%) | 35 (1.8%) |
| Moving or swapping your home (transfers and exchanges) | 263 (15.2%) | 335 (19.3%) | 920 (53.1%) | 90 (5.2%) | 125 (7.2%) |

Advice and Support

Many of our tenants including working people and pensioners receive help to pay their rent. Others who do not currently receive help may need to do so if their circumstances change. We would like you to answer some questions to help us understand whether our tenants are aware of the Government's changes to the way benefits are paid.

- 8. Do you currently receive any Housing Benefit payments?
- 1001 (46.2%) Yes (Go to Q8a)
- 1147 (53.0%)No (Go to Q8b)
- 18 (0.8%) Prefer not to say (Go to Q8b)
- 8a. If you have answered Yes to Question 8, please tell us whether all or part of your rent is paid by Housing Benefit
- 300 (30,1%)All of my rent is paid by Housing Benefit
- 658 (65.9%)Part of my rent is paid by Housing Benefit
- 40 (4.0%) Prefer not to say

- 8b. Do you already know about the government's proposals to pay Housing Benefit to tenants instead of direct to the landlord?
- 550 (25.8%)Yes
- 1216 (57.1%)No
- 363 (17.1%)Not sure
- 8c. If you ever needed to complete an application form for means tested benefits at some time in the future, would you feel confident to do this online?
- 752 (35.0%)Yes
- 1010 (47.0%)No
- 388 (18.0%)Not sure

Contact and Communication

- Have you contacted Dacorum Borough Council as your Housing Landlord in the last 12 months with a query other than to pay rent or services charges?
- 1457 (69.2%) Yes (Go to Q10)
- 650 (30.8%) No (Go to Q11)
- 10. You have answered Yes to the above question. Please tell us...

| | | Easy | Difficult | Neither |
|-----|---|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| 10a | Was getting hold of the right person easy or difficult? | 964 (65.8%) | 315 (21.5%) | 187 (12.8%) |
| | | Helpful | Unhelpful | Neither |
| 10b | Did you find the staff helpful? | 1196 (82.4%) | 104 (7.2%) | 151 (10.4%) |
| | | Yes | No | |
| 10c | Was your query answered within a reasonable time? | 1190 (81.2%) | 276 (18.8%) | |

11. Do you have access to the internet at home?

1196 (60.3%) Yes 788 (39.7%) No

Your Neighbourhood

To what extent are any of the following a problem in your neighbourhood?

 Major Problem
 Minor Problem
 Not a Problem

 Car parking
 961 (46.2%)
 554 (26.6%)
 566 (27.2%)

 Rubbish or litter
 401 (19.6%)
 807 (39.5%)
 833 (40.8%)

| Noisy neighbours | 197 (10.0%) | 438 (22.2%) | 1341 (67.9%) |
|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Pets and animals | 151 (7.6%) | 369 (18.7%) | 1454 (73.7%) |
| Disruptive children / teenagers | 109 (5.5%) | 438 (22.3%) | 1418 (72.2%) |

13. In the last three years would you say your neighbourhood has improved or declined?

 128 (6.1%)
 Greatly improved

 293 (13.9%)
 Slightly improved

 1196 (56.8%)
 Stayed the same

 366 (17.4%)
 Slightly declined

 121 (5.8%)
 Greatly declined

14. Thinking about the area bordering your home, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the following?

| G | Very satisfied | Fairly satisfied | Neither | Fairly dissatisfied | Very dissatisfied |
|------------------------------|----------------|------------------|-------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Grass cutting | 558 (26.0%) | 940 (43.8%) | 313 (14.6%) | 232 (10.8%) | |
| Maintenance of planted areas | 385 (19.0%) | 682 (33.7%) | 580 (28.6%) | 232 (11.5%) | 147 (7.3%) |

Responsive Repairs

Have you had any repairs to your home in the last 12 months?

1631 (76.3%) Yes (Go to Q16) 507 (23.7%) No (Go to Q19)

Please <u>do not</u> answer the following three questions if you ticked 'No' for question 15

16. Thinking about the last repair completed, how satisfied or dissatisfied were you with the following?

| | Very satisfied | Fairly satisfied | Neither | Fairly dissatisfied | Very dissatisfied |
|---|----------------|------------------|------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Being told when workers would call | 919 (55.2%) | 521 (31.3%) | 53 (3.2%) | 108 (6.5%) | 63 (3.8%) |
| Being able to make an appointment | 839 (51.8%) | 519 (32.1%) | 135 (8.3%) | 87 (5.4%) | 39 (2.4%) |
| Time taken before work started | 632 (39.2%) | 624 (38.7%) | 147 (9.1%) | 129 (8.0%) | 80 (5.0%) |
| The speed of completion of the work | 832 (51.2%) | 525 (32.3%) | 102 (6.3%) | 94 (5.8%) | 73 (4.5%) |
| The attitude of workers | 1031(62.9%) | 435 (26.5%) | 95 (5.8%) | 57 (3.5%) | 21 (1.3%) |
| The overall quality of work | 766 (46.9%) | 566 (34.6%) | 100 (6.1%) | 125 (7.6%) | 77 (4.7%) |
| Keeping dirt and mess to minimum | 900 (55.2%) | 513 (32.5%) | 108 (6.6%) | 65 (4.0%) | 45 (2.8%) |
| The repair being done 'right first time' | 736 (45.2%) | 465 (28.5%) | 114 (7.0%) | 114 (9.5%) | 155 (9.8%) |
| The contractors doing the job you expected | 829 (50.8%) | 487 (29.8%) | 127 (7.8%) | 93 (5.7%) | 96 (5.9%) |
| The repairs service you received on this occasion | 806 (49.8%) | 496 (30.7%) | 124 (7.7%) | 101 (6.2%) | 91 (5.6%) |

17. Did the contractor show proof of identity?

1327 (80.3%) Yes 325 (19.7%) No

18. Was the repair appointment kept?

1501 (91.6%) Yes 138 (8.4%) No

Estate Services

Please only answer Q19 if you live in a flat.

19. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the cleaning of the following?

| Internal communal areas |
|---|
| External communal areas |
| (cleaning services only such as |
| cleaning of communal walkways and |
| removal of fly-tipped items, not hedge |
| trimming, grass cutting etc). |

| Very | Fairly | Neither | Fairly | Very | Not |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|------------|
| satisfied | satisfied | | dissatisfied | dissatisfied | applicable |
| 166 (25.1%) | 204 (30.9%) | 188 (28.4%) | 42 (6.4%) | 42 (6.4%) | 19 (2.9%) |
| 121 (18.1%) | 189 (28.3%) | 165 (24.7%) | 90 (13.5%) | 79 (11.8%) | 24 (3.6%) |

Your Priorities for the Future

Since the government changed the rules about how Housing is financed, we have more money to spend on the things that our tenants want. We would like to know what is most important to you so that we can spend our tenants' rent money wisely.

Please look at the following list and tick all the items that are important to you.

You may tick as many or as few boxes as you wish. Please note that this is to help us make plans for the whole Housing Service and does not necessarily relate to your own home.

| | Improved Energy Performance (Helping to keep your costs down, 'greener' | Total number of responses and percentage of respondents choosing to tick the box as an item important to them |
|-----|--|---|
| 20. | better for the environment) | |
| | e.) Improved cavity/loft insulations | 1139 (49.8%)4th |
| | f.) More efficient boilers | 1267 (55.4%) 3rd |
| | g.) Solar panels | 889 (38.9%) 8th |
| | h.) Other energy saving measures such as air or ground source heat pumps (where possible) | 496 (21.7%) 11th |
| | Estate Improvement/Neighbourhood (The area around your home) | |
| | e.) Improved parking (where possible) | 1425 (62.3%) 1st |
| | o.) Improved communal drying areas | 251 (11.0%)13th |
| | p.) Improved landscaping and maintenance of planted areas Replacement Programme (Planned works) | 732 (32.0%) 10th |
| | q.) New front/back doors | 1124 (49.2%) 5th |
| | r.) More frequent replacement of bathrooms and kitchens | 1322 (57.8%) 2nd |
| | s.) Improved central heating | 1115 (48.8%) =6th |

Suitability of Accommodation (Improving our existing homes)

t.) Installing wired smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors in all our homes

1115 (48.8%)=6th

u.) Redeveloping sheltered accommodation to change bedsits to flats

486 (21.3%) 12th

v.) Increasing size of kitchens (where possible)

826 (36.1%) 9th

New Homes (Helping to meet current and future housing needs)

w.) For example new builds, demolishing blocks of unsuitable flats to redevelop the area.

991 (43.4%)7th

YOUR TOP PRIORITY

Which ONE of the items above would be your top priority? Please write the letter from the list above that relates to the one item you would choose.

1st More frequent replacement of bathrooms and kitchens (19.9%)

2nd Improved parking (where possible) (16.2%)

3rd New front/back doors (15.8%)

About You

21. Dacorum Borough Council must give all its tenants the same opportunities to use all our services and benefit from peaceful enjoyment of their homes. We must not discriminate against you by treating you differently from other tenants or by failing to take any special needs you may have into account.

Do you agree that we have met this obligation to you?

1816 (91.5%) Yes

169 (8.5%)

No (please give details below)

Please note this question is intended to help us understand the needs of our tenants generally. We will not be able to respond to you individually.

Work continues - these responses will be grouped into themes

Please tell us if you have any other comments about the service you receive from Dacorum Borough Council, your housing landlord. (Please note this question is intended to help us understand the needs of our tenants generally. We will not be able to respond to you individually)



Appendix 4 - Tenants' Survey 2014



Supported Housing

Total number of responses: 786

Overall Satisfaction

1. Taking everything into account, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the service provided by Dacorum Borough Council as your housing landlord?

348 (49.0%) Very satisfied 317 (44.6%) Fairly satisfied 17 (2.4%) Neither

21 (3.0%) Fairly dissatisfied 7 (1.0%) Very dissatisfied

2 How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the overall quality of your home?

341 (47.6%) Very satisfied
328 (45.8%) Fairly satisfied
14 (2.0%) Neither

23 (3.2%) Fairly dissatisfied 10 (1.4%) Very dissatisfied

3 How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with your neighbourhood as a place to live?

421 (57.4%) Very satisfied 265 (36.1%) Fairly satisfied 20 (2.7%) Neither

23 (3.1%) Fairly dissatisfied 5 (0.7%) Very dissatisfied

4 How satisfied or dissatisfied are you that your rent provides value for money?

391(53.9 %) Very satisfied 278 (38.3%) Fairly satisfied 35 (4.8%) Neither

17 (2.3%) Fairly dissatisfied 5 (0.5%) Very dissatisfied

5. Generally, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way Dacorum Borough Council as your housing landlord deals with repairs and maintenance?

369 (50.3%) Very satisfied 302 (41.1%) Fairly satisfied 19 (2.6%) Neither

34 (4.6%) Fairly dissatisfied

10 1.4(%) Very dissatisfied

6. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you that Dacorum Borough Council as your housing landlord listens to your views and acts upon them?

223 (30.4%) Very satisfied 343 (46.7%) Fairly satisfied 111 (15.1%) Neither

42 (5.7%) Fairly dissatisfied 15 (2.0%) Very dissatisfied

General Services

7. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way Dacorum Borough Council as your housing landlord deals with the following?

| | Very satisfied | Fairly satisfied | Neither | Fairly | Very |
|--|----------------|------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| | | | | dissatisfied | dissatisfied |
| Anti-social behaviour | 252 (39.6%) | 217 (34.1%) | 129 (20.3%) | 25 (3.9%) | 13 (2.0%) |
| Complaints | 201 (33.4%) | 246 (40.9%) | 122 (20.3%) | 24 (4.0%) | 9 (1.5%) |
| Your enquiries generally | 275 (44.9%) | 258 (42.1%) | 53 (8.6%) | 22 (3.6%) | 5 (0.8%) |
| Moving or swapping your home (transfers and exchanges) | 184 (35.7%) | 107 (20.7%) | 187 (36.2%) | 20 (3.9%) | 18 (3.5%) |

Advice and Support

Many of our tenants including working people and pensioners receive help to pay their rent. Others who do not currently receive help may need to do so if their circumstances change. We would like you to answer some questions to help us understand whether our tenants are aware of the Government's changes to the way benefits are paid.

g Do you currently receive any Housing Benefit payments?

448 (62.8%) Yes (Go to Q8a)
254 (35.6%) No (Go to Q8b)
11 (1.5%) Prefer not to say (Go to Q8b)

8a. If you have answered Yes to Question 8, please tell us whether all or part of your rent is paid by Housing Benefit

158 (36.2%)

All of my rent is paid by Housing Benefit

262 (60.0%)

Part of my rent is paid by Housing Benefit

17 (3.9%)

Prefer not to say

| 8b. | Do you already know about the government's proposals to pay Housing Benefit to |
|-----|--|
| | tenants instead of direct to the landlord? |

8c. If you ever needed to complete an application form for means tested benefits at some time in the future, would you feel confident to do this online?

If you would like further information about Welfare Reform, Housing Benefit or help with managing your rent account, please call 01442 228000 and ask for Mandy Peters or Paula Bowman.

Contact and Communication

9. Have you contacted Dacorum Borough Council as your Housing Landlord in the last 12 months with a query other than to pay rent or services charges?

| 366 (53.4%) | Yes (Go to Q10) |
|-------------|-----------------|
| 320 (46.6%) | No (Go to Q11) |

10. You have answered Yes to the above question. Please tell us...

| | | Easy | Difficult | Neither |
|-----|---|-------------|------------|-----------|
| 10a | Was getting hold of the right person easy or difficult? | 267 (69.9%) | 80 (20.9%) | 35 (9.2%) |
| | | Helpful | Unhelpful | Neither |
| 10b | Did you find the staff helpful? | 339 (87.1%) | 21 (5.4%) | 29 (7.5%) |
| | | Yes | No | |
| 10c | Was your query answered within a reasonable time? | 334 (86.1%) | 54 (13.9%) | |

11. Do you have access to the internet at home?

Your Neighbourhood

12. To what extent are any of the following a problem in your neighbourhood?

| | Major Problem | Minor Problem | Not a Problem |
|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Car parking | 238 (35.7%) | 148 (22.2%) | 281 (42.1%) |
| Rubbish or litter | 77 (12.0%) | 212 (33.0%) | 353 (55.0%) |
| Noisy neighbours | 19 (3.1%) | 72 (11.7%) | 526 (85.3%) |
| Pets and animals | 23 (3.7%) | 66 (10.7%) | 527 (85.6%) |
| Disruptive children / teenagers | 16 (2.6%) | 96 (15.6%) | 505 (81.8%) |

13. In the last three years would you say your neighbourhood has improved or declined?

| Greatly improved |
|-------------------|
| Slightly improved |
| Stayed the same |
| Slightly declined |
| Greatly declined |
| |

14. Thinking about the area bordering your home, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the following?

| | Very satisfied | Fairly satisfied | Neither | Fairly dissatisfied | Very dissatisfied |
|------------------------------|----------------|------------------|---------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Grass cutting | 229 | 315 | 39 | 93 | 43 |
| | (31.8%) | (43.8%) | (5.4%) | (12.9%) | (6.0%) |
| Maintenance of planted areas | 151 | 228 | 112 | 95 | 59 |
| | (23.4%) | (35.3%) | (17.4%) | (14.7%) | (9.1%) |

Responsive Repairs

Have you had any repairs to your home in the last 12 months?

442 (64.1%) Yes (Go to Q16) 248 (35.9%) No (Go to Q19)

Please <u>do not</u> answer the following three questions if you ticked 'No' for question 15

Thinking about the last repair completed, how satisfied or dissatisfied were you with the following?

| g . | Very satisfied | Fairly satisfied | Neither | Fairly dissatisfied | Very dissatisfied |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|---------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Being told when workers would call | 305 | 127 | 10 | 8 | 6 |
| | (66.9%) | (27.9%) | (2.2%) | (1.8%) | (1.3%) |
| Being able to make an appointment | 263 | 130 | 21 | 14 | 5 |
| | (60.7%) | (30.0%) | (4.8%) | (3.2%) | (1.2%) |
| Time taken before work started | 213 | 165 | 18 | 22 | 12 |
| | (49.5%) | (38.4%) | (4.2%) | (5.1%) | (2.8%) |
| The speed of completion of the work | 272 | 135 | 9 | 12 | 15 |
| | (61.4%) | (30.5%) | (2.0%) | (2.7%) | (3.4%) |
| The attitude of workers | 328 | 100 | 8 | 4 | 5 |
| | (73.7%) | (22.5%) | (1.8%) | (0.9%) | (1.1%) |
| The overall quality of work | 284 | 135 | 9 | 11 | 10 |
| | (63.3%) | (30.1%) | (2.0%) | (2.4%) | (2.2%) |

| Keeping dirt and mess to minimum | 306 | 108 | 5 | 14 | 5 |
|--|---------|---------|--------|--------|--------|
| | (69.9%) | (24.7%) | (1.1%) | (3.2%) | (1.1%) |
| The repair being done 'right first time' | 255 | 125 | 14 | 32 | 24 |
| | (56.7%) | (27.8%) | (3.1%) | (7.1%) | (5.3%) |
| The contractors doing the job you | 276 | 115 | 15 | 12 | 16 |
| expected | (63.6%) | (26.5%) | (3.5%) | (2.8%) | (3.7%) |
| The repairs service you received on | 287 | 122 | 9 | 8 | 16 |
| this occasion | (64.9%) | (27.6%) | (2.0%) | (1.8%) | (3.6%) |

17. Did the contractor show proof of identity?

408 (87.9%) Yes 56 (12.1%) No

18. Was the repair appointment kept?

441 (95.9%) Yes 19 (4.1%) No

Estate Services

Please only answer Q19 if you live in a flat.

How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the cleaning of the following?

| | Very | Fairly | Neither | Fairly | Very | Not |
|--|-----------|-----------|----------|--------------|--------------|------------|
| | satisfied | satisfied | | dissatisfied | dissatisfied | applicable |
| Internal communal areas | 218 | 172 | 32 | 25 | 16 | 5 |
| | (46.6%) | (36.8%) | (6.8%) | (5.3%) | (3.4%) | (1.1%) |
| External communal areas | 146 | 162 | 61 | 52 | 18 | 10 |
| (cleaning services only such as | (32.5%) | (36.1%) | (13.6%) | (11.6%) | (4.0%) | (2.2%) |
| cleaning of communal walkways and | (===,=, | (/-/ | (1010,0) | (******) | (110,10) | (===,,, |
| removal of fly-tipped items, not hedge | | | | | | |
| trimming, grass cutting etc). | | | | | | |
| _ | | | | | | |

Supported Housing

Thinking of where you live now, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the following? (please tick one box in each row)

| | Very satisfied | Fairly satisfied | Neither | Fairly dissatisfied | Very dissatisfied | Not applicable |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|---------------------|---------|------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Having a choice and control over the | 314 | 221 | 75 | 18 | 9 | 28 |
| support I receive | (47.2%) | (33.2%) | (11.3%) | (2.7%) | (1.4%) | (4.2%) |
| The frequency of contact with my | 358 ´ | ` 178 [^] | ` 68 ´ | 23 ´ | ` 8 ´ | ` 40 ´ |
| Supported Housing Officer | (53.0%) | (26.4%) | (10.1%) | (3.4%) | (1.2%) | (5.9%) |
| The overall performance of my | 393 | 137 | 64 | 21 | 9 | 39 |
| Supported Housing Officer | (59.3%) | (20.7%) | (9.7%) | (3.2%) | (1.4%) | (5.9%) |
| Knowing where to obtain help and | 321 | 228 | 51 | 25 | 7 | 17 |
| information | (49.5%) | (35.1%) | (7.9%) | (3.9%) | (1.1%) | (2.6%) |
| Being able to manage and live more | 457 | 169 | 27 | 6 | 1 | 22 |
| independently in my own home | (67.0%) | (24.8%) | (4.0%) | (0.9%) | (0.1%) | (3.2%) |
| Feeling safer and more secure in my | 442 | 174 | 25 | 8 | 7 | 20 |
| own home | (65.4%) | (25.7%) | (3.7%) | (1.2%) | (1.0%) | (3.0%) |
| How easy it is to access all areas of | 427 | 183 | 21 | 13 | 6 | 19 |
| my home and scheme | (63.8%) | (27.4%) | (3.1%) | (1.9%) | (0.9%) | (2.8%) |
| The facilities at my scheme | 343 | 178 | 47 | 15 | 15 | 44 |
| | (53.4%) | (27.7%) | (7.3%) | (2.3%) | (2.3%) | (6.9%) |

Thinking about living in sheltered housing compared with a home without any support, 21. to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following? (please tick one box in each row)

| Strongly | Slightly agree | Neither | Slightly | Strongly disagree | Not applicable |
|----------|--|---|---|---|--|
| 192 | 144 | 180 | 29 | 31 | 65 |
| (30.0%) | (22.5%) | (28.1%) | (4.5%) | (4.8%) | (10.1%) |
| 188 | 146 | 184 | 26 | 17 | 63 |
| (30.1%) | (23.4%) | (29.5%) | (4.2%) | (2.7%) | (10.1%) |
| 239 | 185 | 119 | 16 | 17 | 69 |
| (37.1%) | (28.7%) | (18.4%) | (2.5%) | (2.6%) | (10.7%) |
| 137 | 159 | 187 | 58 | 27 | 72 |
| (21.4%) | (24.8%) | (29.2%) | (9.1%) | (4.2%) | (11.3%) |
| 161 | 152 | 164 | 31 | 20 | 114 |
| (25.1%) | (23.7%) | (25.5%) | (4.8%) | (3.1%) | (17.8%) |
| | agree 192 (30.0%) 188 (30.1%) 239 (37.1%) 137 (21.4%) 161 | Strongly agree Slightly agree 192 144 (30.0%) (22.5%) 188 146 (30.1%) (23.4%) 239 185 (37.1%) (28.7%) 137 159 (21.4%) (24.8%) 161 152 | Strongly agree Slightly agree Neither agree 192 144 180 (30.0%) (22.5%) (28.1%) 188 146 184 (30.1%) (23.4%) (29.5%) 239 185 119 (37.1%) (28.7%) (18.4%) 137 159 187 (21.4%) (24.8%) (29.2%) 161 152 164 | Strongly agree Slightly agree Neither disagree Slightly disagree 192 144 180 29 (30.0%) (22.5%) (28.1%) (4.5%) 188 146 184 26 (30.1%) (23.4%) (29.5%) (4.2%) 239 185 119 16 (37.1%) (28.7%) (18.4%) (2.5%) 137 159 187 58 (21.4%) (24.8%) (29.2%) (9.1%) 161 152 164 31 | Strongly agree Slightly agree Neither disagree Slightly disagree disagree Strongly disagree disagree 192 144 180 29 31 (30.0%) (22.5%) (28.1%) (4.5%) (4.8%) 188 146 184 26 17 (30.1%) (23.4%) (29.5%) (4.2%) (2.7%) 239 185 119 16 17 (37.1%) (28.7%) (18.4%) (2.5%) (2.6%) 137 159 187 58 27 (21.4%) (24.8%) (29.2%) (9.1%) (4.2%) 161 152 164 31 20 |

Your Priorities for the Future

Since the government changed the rules about how Housing is financed, we have more money to spend on the things that our tenants want. We would like to know what is most important to you so that we can spend our tenants' rent money wisely.

Please look at the following list and tick all the items that are important to you. You may tick as many or as few boxes as you wish. Please note that this is to help us make plans for the whole Housing Service and does not necessarily relate to your own home.

| 22. | <u>Improved Energy Performance</u> (Helping to keep your costs down, 'greener' |
|-----|--|
| | better for the environment) |

Total number of responses and percentage of reenondent tick the em them

244 10th

| | | choosing to ti box as an itel important to t |
|----------|--|--|
| | i.) Improved cavity/loft insulations | 279 8th |
| | j.) More efficient boilers | 349 3rd |
| | k.) Solar panels | 217 11th |
| | I.) Other energy saving measures such as air or ground source heat pumps (where possible) | 145 13th |
| ļ | state Improvement/Neighbourhood (The area around your home) | |
| | e.) Improved parking (where possible) | 397 1st |
| | x.) Improved communal drying areas | 139 14th |
| <u>!</u> | y.) Improved landscaping and maintenance of planted areas eplacement Programme (Planned works) | 320 5th |
| | z.) New front/back doors | 334 4th |
| | aa.) More frequent replacement of bathrooms and kitchens | 356 2nd |
| | bb.) Improved central heating | 244 10 th |

<u>Suitability of Accommodation</u> (Improving our existing homes)

cc.) Installing wired smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors in all our homes

313 6th

dd.) Redeveloping sheltered accommodation to change bedsits to flats

182 **12th**

ee.) Increasing size of kitchens (where possible)

261 9th

New Homes (Helping to meet current and future housing needs)

284 7th

ff.) For example new builds, demolishing blocks of unsuitable flats to redevelop the area.

YOUR TOP PRIORITY

- Which ONE of the items above would be your top priority? Please write the letter from the list above that relates to the one item you would choose.
 - 1st More frequent replacement of bathrooms and kitchens
 - =2nd Improved parking (where possible)
 - =2nd New front/back doors

About You

Dacorum Borough Council must give all its tenants the same opportunities to use all our services and benefit from peaceful enjoyment of their homes. We must not discriminate against you by treating you differently from other tenants or by failing to take any special needs you may have into account.

Do you agree that we have met this obligation to you?

627 (92.9%) Yes

48 (7.1%) No (please give details below)

Please note this question is intended to help us understand the needs of our tenants generally.

We will not be able to respond to you individually.

Work continues - these responses will be grouped into themes

24. Please tell us if you have any other comments about the service you receive from Dacorum Borough Council, your housing landlord. (Please note this question is intended to help us understand the needs of our tenants generally. We will not be able to respond to you individually)

Total number of responses:285



Appendix 5 - Leaseholders' Survey 2014



Overall Satisfaction

1. Taking everything into account, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the service provided by Dacorum Borough Council as your housing landlord?

42 (15.3%) Very satisfied

147 (53.6%) Fairly satisfied

41 (15.0%) Neither

29 (10.6%) Fairly dissatisfied Very dissatisfied

2. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the overall quality of your home?

69 (25.5%) Very satisfied

151 (55.7%) Fairly satisfied

23 (8.5%) Neither

20 (7.4%)

Fairly dissatisfied

8 (3.0%)

Very dissatisfied

3 How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with your neighbourhood as a place to live?

68 (24.3%) Very satisfied

140 (50.0%) Fairly satisfied

25 (8.9%) Neither

39 (13.9%) Fairly dissatisfied 8 (2.9%) Very dissatisfied

4 How satisfied or dissatisfied are you that your service charges provide value for money?

45 (16%) Very satisfied

107 (38.8%) Fairly satisfied

45 (16.3%) Neither

55 (19.9%) Fairly dissatisfied

24 (8.7%) Very dissatisfied

5. Generally, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way Dacorum Borough Council as the owner of your freehold deals with repairs and maintenance?

31 (11.3%) Very satisfied

113 (41.1%) Fairly satisfied

42 (15.3%) Neither

60 (21.8%) Fairly dissatisfied

29 (10.5%) Very dissatisfied

6. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you that Dacorum Borough Council as the owner of your freehold listens to your views and acts upon them?

 27 (9.7%)
 Very satisfied

 100 (36.1%)
 Fairly satisfied

 88 (31.8%)
 Neither

 44 (15.9%)
 Fairly dissatisfied

 18 (6.5%)
 Very dissatisfied

General Services

7. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way Dacorum Borough Council as the owner of your freehold deals with the following?

| | Very satisfied | Fairly satisfied | Neither | Fairly dissatisfied | Very dissatisfied |
|--------------------------|----------------|------------------|-------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Anti-social behaviour | 18 (6.8%) | 96 (36.4%) | 101 (38.3%) | 29 (11.0%) | 20 (7.6%) |
| Complaints | 21 (7.9%) | 107 (40.1%) | 80 (30.0%) | 41 (15.4%) | 18 (6.7%) |
| Your enquiries generally | 43 (15.8%) | 126 (46.3%) | 56 (20.6%) | 34 (12.5%) | 13 (4.8%) |

Contact and Communication

8. Have you contacted Dacorum Borough Council as the owner of your freehold in the last 12 months with a query other than to pay service charges?

159 (64.4%) Yes (Go to Q9) 100 (38.6%) No (Go to Q10)

you have answered Yes to the above question. Please tell us...

| | | Easy | Difficult | Neither |
|-----|---|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Q9a | Was getting hold of the right person easy or difficult? | 93 (54.1%) | 51 (29.7%) | 28 (16.3%) |
| Q9b | Did you find the staff helpful? | Helpful 124 (72.5%) | Unhelpful 26 (15.2%) | Neither 21 (12.3%) |
| Q9c | Was your query answered within a reasonable time? | 111 (64.9%) Yes | 60 (35.1%) No | I |

10. Do you have access to the internet at home?

178 (72.4%) Yes 68 (27.6%) No

Your Neighbourhood

11. To what extent are any of the following a problem in your neighbourhood?

| | Major Problem | Minor Problem | Not a Problem |
|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Car parking | 109 (40.4%) | 95 (35.2%) | 66 (24.4%) |
| Rubbish or litter | 79 (29.4%) | 110 (40.9%) | 80 (29.7%) |
| Noisy neighbours | 43 (16.3%) | 77 (29.2%) | 144 (54.5%) |
| Pets and animals | 20 (7.6%) | 61 (23.1%) | 183 (69.3%) |
| Disruptive children / teenagers | 16 (6.3%) | 65 (25.4%) | 175 68.4(%) |

12. In the last three years would you say your neighbourhood has improved or declined?

| 12 (4.4%) | Greatly improved |
|-------------|-------------------|
| 41 (15.0%) | Slightly improved |
| 129 (47.1%) | Stayed the same |
| 59 (21.5%) | Slightly declined |
| 33 (12.0%) | Greatly declined |

13. Thinking about the area bordering your home, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the following?

| • | Very satisfied | Fairly satisfied | Neither | Fairly dissatisfied | Very dissatisfied |
|------------------------------|----------------|------------------|------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Grass cutting | 41 (14.7%) | 134 (48.0%) | 29 (10.4%) | 49 (17.6%) | 26 (9.3%) |
| Maintenance of planted areas | 23 (8.5%) | 91 (33.5%) | 66 (24.3%) | 46 (16.9%) | 46 (16.9%) |

Responsive Repairs

14. Have you had any repairs to your block in the last 12 months?

| 155 (57.0%) | Yes (Go to Q15) |
|-------------|-----------------|
| 117 (43.0%) | No (Go to Q16) |

Please <u>do not</u> answer the following question if you ticked 'No' for question 14

15. Thinking about the last repair completed, how satisfied or dissatisfied were you with the following?

| | Very satisfied | Fairly satisfied | Neither | Fairly dissatisfied | Very dissatisfied |
|---|----------------|------------------|------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Time taken before work started | 13 (8.7%) | 59 (39.6%) | 36 (24.2%) | 23 (15.4%) | 18 (12.1%) |
| The speed of completion of the work | 24 (16.2%) | 62 (41.9%) | 28 (18.9%) | 17 (11.5%) | 17 (11.5%) |
| The attitude of workers | 37 (25.0%) | 43 (29.1%) | 56 (37.8%) | 4 (2.7%) | 8 (5.4%) |
| The overall quality of work | 32 (21.3%) | 48 (32.0%) | 29 (19.3%) | 23 (15.3%) | 18 (12.0%) |
| Keeping dirt and mess to minimum | 36 (23.8%) | 61 (40.4%) | 27 (17.9%) | 12 (7.9%) | 15 (9.9%) |
| The repair being done 'right first time' | 32 (21.3%) | 38 (25.3%) | 35 (23.3%) | 21 (14.0%) | 24 (16.0%) |
| The contractors doing the job you expected | 31 (20.5%) | 43 (28.5%) | 45 (29.8%) | 17 (11.3%) | 15 (9.9%) |
| The repairs service you received on this occasion | 33 (22.0%) | 43 (28.7%) | 40 (26.7%) | 18 (12.0%) | 16 (10.7%) |

Estate Services

16. Thinking about the property, block or scheme where you live, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with following?

| | Very satisfied | Fairly satisfied | Neither | Fairly dissatisfied | Very dissatisfied | Not applicable |
|---|-------------------|---------------------|---------|------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| The cleaning and upkeep of internal | 31 | 82 | 38 | 30 | 20 | 74 |
| communal areas | (11.3%) | (29.8%) | (13.8%) | (10.9%) | (7.3%) | (26.9%) |
| The cleaning and upkeep of external | 19 | <mark>72</mark> | 40 | 59 | 32 | 44 |
| communal areas | (7.1%) | (27.1%) | (15.0%) | (22.2%) | (12.0%) | (16.5%) |
| (cleaning services only such as | | | | | | |
| cleaning of communal walkways and | | | | | | |
| removal of fly-tipped items, not hedge trimming, grass cutting etc). | | | | | | |
| External building repairs and | 16 | 88 | 62 | 46 | 38 | 22 |
| maintenance | (5.9%) | (32.4%) | (22.8%) | (16.9%) | (14.0%) | (8.1%) |
| Repairs to communal areas | 10 | 73 | 68 | 38 | 34 | 44 |
| | (3.7%) | (27.3%) | (25.5%) | (14.2%) | (12.7%) | (16.5%) |

Advice and Support

17. Thinking about your service charges, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with following?

| The consultation letters you receive when Dacorum Borough Council notifies you under Section 20 of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1985 that they intend to carry out works which will cost leaseholders £250 or more | Very satisfied 39 (14.3%) | Fairly satisfied 89 (32.7%) | Neither 59 (21.7%) | Fairly dissatisfied 34 (12.5%) | Very dissatisfied 27 (9.9%) | Not applicable 24 (8.8%) |
|---|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------|---|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| How easy it is to understand your service charge invoice | 58 | 135 | 30 | 26 | 17 | 10 |
| | (21.0%) | (48.9%) | (10.9%) | (9.4%) | (6.2%) | (3.6%) |
| The information included with invoices and on our Section 20 notification letters regarding your rights as a leaseholder and the ability to pay large invoices by instalments | 57 | 109 | 44 | 19 | 17 | 20 |
| | (21.4%) | (41.0%) | (16.5%) | (7.1%) | (6.4%) | (7.5%) |

18. Thinking about the information and advice you receive from Dacorum Borough Council about being a leaseholder, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with following?

| | Very satisfied | Fairly satisfied | Neither | Fairly dissatisfied | Very dissatisfied | Not applicable |
|---|-------------------|---------------------|---------------|------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Your obligations under the terms and conditions of your lease | 54 (19.6%) | 147 (53.5%) | 55 (20.0%) | 9 (3.3%) | 7 (2.5%) | 3 (1.1%) |
| Dacorum Borough Council's website as a source of useful information | 27 (10.0%) | 86 (31.9%) | 87 (32.2%) | 8 (3.0%) | 8 (3.0%) | 54 (20.0%) |

About You

Are you or any household member's day-to-day activities limited because of a health problem which has lasted, or is expected to last, at least 12 months? (Please tick one box only)

23 (8.4%) Yes, limited a lot 34 (12.5%) Yes, limited a little 216 (79.1%) Not applicable

Please tell us if you have any other comments about the service you receive from Dacorum Borough Council as the owner of your freehold. (Please note this question is intended to help us understand the needs of our leaseholders generally. We will not be able to respond to you individually)

Work continues - these responses will be grouped into themes



Appendix 6 - Tenants' & Leaseholders' Survey 2014



OVERALL RESULTS

Figures do not add up to 100% as 'Neither' responses are not included

Overall Satisfaction

1. Taking everything into account, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the service provided by Dacorum Borough Council as your housing landlord?

85.7% Satisfied 37.0% Very 48.7% Fairly

7.7% Dissatisfied 2.3% Very 5.4% Fairly

2. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the overall quality of your home?

82.2% Satisfied 31.7% Very 50.5% Fairly

11.4% Dissatisfied 3.1% Very 8.3% Fairly

3 How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with your neighbourhood as a place to live?

86.5% Satisfied 44.3% Very 42.2% Fairly

8.0% Dissatisfied 6.1% Very 1.9% Fairly

4. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you that your rent (or service charges) provides value for money?

78.5% Satisfied 35.2% Very 43.3% Fairly

9.7% Dissatisfied 2.5% Very 7.2% Fairly

5. Generally, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the way Dacorum Borough Council as your housing landlord deals with repairs and maintenance?

78.4% Satisfied 35.6% Very 42.8% Fairly

14.3% Dissatisfied 9.4% Very 4.9% Fairly

6. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you that Dacorum Borough Council as your housing landlord listens to your views and acts upon them?

65.7% Satisfied 23.2% Very 42.5% Fairly

13.6% Dissatisfied 4.6% Very 9.0% Fairly

11. Do you have access to the internet at home?

Yes 1549 (54.8%) No 1279 (45.2%)



AGENDA ITEM: 8

SUMMARY

| Report for: | Housing & Community Overview & Scrutiny Committee |
|---------------------|---|
| Date of meeting: | 15 October 2014 |
| PART: | 1 |
| If Part II, reason: | |

| Title of report: | New Anti-Social Behaviour Legislation and the Community Trigger |
|--------------------|--|
| Contact: | Neil Harden, Portfolio Holder for Resident and Regulatory Services |
| | Author/Responsible Officer Julie Still/Nicola Bryant |
| Purpose of report: | To inform members of the Community Trigger and potential for their involvement |
| | 2. To inform members of the new powers introduced in the Anti- Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 |
| Recommendations | Members note the implications of the Community Trigger and the new legislation |
| Corporate | Clean and Safe Environment |
| objectives: | Dacorum Delivers |
| Implications: | <u>Financial</u> |
| | Within existing budgets. |
| 'Value For Money | Value for Money |

| Implications' | |
|---|---|
| Risk Implications | Reputation – considered use of the new legislation to ensure proportionality. |
| | Service risk implications are considered and reviewed as part of service delivery |
| Equalities Implications | Equalities are considered as part of all ASB actions and as part of the legislation. |
| Health And Safety Implications | There are no health and safety implications |
| Consultees: | Nicola Bryant, , Community Safety Partnership, Dave Moore, Herts County Council Community Safety Unit, Herts Constabulary, Registered Landlords, DC Housing Service. |
| Background papers: | Putting the Victim First and Statutory Guidance |
| Glossary of acronyms and any other abbreviations used in this report: | ASB Anti Social Behaviour ASBO Anti Social Behaviour Order |

Background

- **1.1** Putting Victims First was the title of the White Paper that introduced the proposed changes to a new approach to crime, policing and community safety.
- 1.2 As the title of the White Paper suggests, the approach to the new legislation aimed at putting the victim's needs at the centre of all agencies approaches to addressing anti-social behaviour (ASB). It recognises the learning from tragic cases such as the deaths of Fiona Pilkington and her daughter. It acknowledges that in many cases, anti-social behaviour is targeted against the most vulnerable in our society and, even what is perceived as 'low level' anti-social behaviour, when targeted and persistent, can have devastating effects on a victims life.
- 1.3 The statutory guidance for implementation of the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, expects the response to ASB to depend on a range of factors but most importantly on the needs of the victim and the impact the behaviour is having on their lives. It expects solutions to be jointly developed by local agencies working together with their communities and with victims.

Importantly it expects front line professionals to be free to use their judgement to address ASB rather than apply 'a one size fits all' approach.

1.4 The new Act received Royal Ascent on 13 March 2014 and some provisions of the Act commenced in May 2014, (relating to dangerous dogs) the bulk of the ASB provisions commence on 20th October 2014.

2. Victims and Communities

- 2.1 As previously mentioned victims and communities are at the forefront of the new legislation offers victims and communities a say in the way that ASB is dealt with in two specific areas.
- **2.2** The Community Trigger This measure allows victims to use the Community Trigger to demand action which starts with a review of their case. The Community Safety Partnership will have a duty to undertake a case review when someone requests one and the local threshold is met.
- 2.3 The local threshold is that they have made 3 reports within a 6 month period or that there have been more than 2 reports from different individuals in the same period.
- 2.4 Reports under the Community Trigger will go to a single point of contact and in Dacorum this is the Anti-Social Behaviour Team. The reports will be assessed against the Dacorum threshold. If it is met, a board of individuals from the partners in the Community Safety Partnership (police, Dacorum Borough Council, Fire and Rescue, Housing providers and Health,) will review the case and how it has been managed. They will apply a problem solving approach to decide if additional actions should/could have be taken.
- 2.5 If additional action should/could have been taken and action plan will be drafted with time scales for implementation and this will be discussed with the victim and a resolution to the problem agreed.
- 2.6 Importantly for Councillors it is of note that the Community Trigger can be used by any person on behalf of a victim, so for example a family member, friend carer, Councillor or Member of Parliament but they must have the victims consent. This is intended to ensure that all victims are able to use the Community Trigger.
- 2.7 It is expected that all agencies involved in addressing ASB maximise awareness of the Trigger within their community and in particular to vulnerable people and those who work with vulnerable people.
- 2.8 Information relating to the Community Trigger will be in the Autumn Dacorum Digest, it can be accessed on the Dacorum Borough Council website and the websites of all agencies involved with addressing ASB.

- 2.9 The Police and Crime Commissioner will be involved in the Trigger by way of: -
 - Auditing case reviews
 - Providing a route for victims to query the decision on whether the threshold was met of the way a review was carried out; or
 - Monitoring use of the Trigger to identify any learning and best practice.
- **2.10** The Community Trigger is completely separate to any complaints policy of individual agencies.
- **2.11** A copy of the Dacorum Community Safety Partnership Community Trigger procedure is attached at appendix A. Please note this is still in a draft form during a consultation period

2.12 Community Remedy

- 2.13 The Community Remedy is the second part of the legislation which is intended to keep the victim at the forefront when dealing with ASB. It is the responsibility of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) and relates to a menu of restorative options that are intended to give members of the public and victims their say on how the perpetrators of low level crime and anti social behaviour 'payback' to the individuals and communities they have offended against.
- 2.14 In Hertfordshire the PCC has recently finishes a consultation on the options available in Hertfordshire http://www.hertscommissioner.org/get_involved/public_consultation/community_remedy_consultation.aspx

3 New Tools to address ASB

- 3.1 The new legislation brings together a range of enforcement powers under a single piece of legislation and reduces the large number of previous tools to just 6.
- 3.2 There is a significant change in that the new legislation is tenure neutral and can be used for all residential and non residential properties and areas.
- 3.3 Below is a chart that lists the new power/tool and the old tool/power it replaces. There is a brief overview of the criteria applicable to the new tool/power, the minimum age applicable and the agencies that can use the legislation.

| Tool/Power/ Replaces | Criteria | Age | Applicants | |
|--|--|-------------------|---|--|
| Injunction – replaces Anti Social Behaviour Injunction/ ASBO / Drink Banning Order/ Individual Support Order | Nuisance and annoyance relating to a residential property Harassment, alarm and distress relating to non residential – ie Town Centre, shopping centres. Power of arrest is applicable where there is a risk or threat of violence | 10 years an over | Police Social Housing Providers British Transport Police Environment Agency NHS | |
| Criminal Behaviour Order – Replaces ASBO on conviction | Convicted offence which caused harassment alarm or distress and to prevent further behaviour | 10 Years and over | Police/Prosecutor | |
| Dispersal Powers – replaces previous dispersal powers | The presence or behaviour of an individual has caused harassment, alarm, distress, crime, or disorder and direction will remove or reduce likelihood of reoccurrence | 10 years and over | Uniformed Constable or person with delegated power | |
| Public Space Protection Orders | Activities in an area have had a detrimental effect on quality of life and | Not applicable | Local Authority | |

| (PSPO's) – Replace - gating orders, Dog Control Orders, Designated Public Place Orders (restrictions on alcohol in a public place) | are likely to continue, or, these activities are likely to occur and; the activities are continuing/persistent, unreasonable and justify restrictions being made. | | |
|---|---|-------------------|--|
| Closure of Premises associated with nuisance or disorder – Replaces Premises Closure Order and Class A Closure | For use where the use of the premises has resulted, or is likely to result, in nuisance or disorder has occurred, or is likely to occur in an area near to premises and is associated. The order is necessary to prevent the behaviour form continuing, reoccurring or occurring | Not applicable | Local Authority Police |
| Community Protection Notice Replaces some Environmental Powers, eg. Littering notices | Behaviour causing continuing or persistent detrimental effect on quality of life and is unreasonable. There must have been a written warning and time to right the wrong before issued | 16 years and over | Local Authority Constable Person with delegated powers |

4 Housing

- 4.1 In addition to the general powers there is a significant change to Housing possession legislation.
- 4.2 A ground for absolute possession will be introduced. This is a discretionary ground but if used it gives mandatory possession to a landlord where certain criteria have been met.
- 4.3 A breach of the above orders, the need for a closure order or a relevant criminal conviction (are examples of but not limited to) are grounds to use this power.
- 4.4 A full internal hearing procedure is required as with introductory and demoted tenancies before an application is made to court where if all procedural requirements have been met, the Court, must give the landlord possession.
- 4.5 It is anticipated that there will be Human Rights challenges with this process as with previous mandatory decisions. It will be essential that this is shown to be used proportionately and where other tools are inappropriate or have failed.
- 4.6 In addition to the absolute ground for possession there are additional discretionary grounds introduced which relate to violence and aggression towards employees and relating to involvement in rioting.

5 Policy and Procedure

5.1 To reflect the changes in the legislation, new Policy and Procedures are in the process of being drafted in collaboration with our Housing colleagues and they will come to this committee for scrutiny in December 14 Dacorum Community
Safety Partnership

Community Trigger
Process & Guidance
(DRAFT)

August 2014



Introduction

The Anti-social Behaviour (ASB), Crime and Policing Act (the act) received Royal Assent April 2014. The Act introduces new powers in regards to ASB, dangerous dogs, forced marriage, sexual harm and illegal firearms used by gangs and in organised crime. It also includes changes to improve the provision of services to victims and witnesses.

In addition to the new powers for practitioners the Act introduces two measures that focus on victims of ASB.

- 1. To give victims the power to ensure that action is taken to deal with persistent anti-social behaviour through a 'Community Trigger' (CT).
- 2. To give victims a greater say in what form of sanction an offender receives out of court through a 'Community Remedy' or 'review'. The review is to be led by the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) undertaking public, police and local authority consultation. This is expected to be ready to go live with the CT.

The Community Trigger was trialled in four different areas and the findings have been published. This report looks at the Community Trigger in more detail and a description of how the process will operate in Dacorum.

Summary of trials

Trials started in June 2012 in Manchester, Brighton and Hove, West Lindsey and Boston (Lincolnshire), with a further trial in the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames on 17 August 2012.

- . The key findings were:
- The community trigger helped to stop the anti-social behaviour in several persistent and difficult cases. In other cases, explaining the course of action to the victim helped increase their confidence in the agencies responding.
- Most victims who used the community trigger were impressed with how quickly positive action was taken as a result. Even where no further action was taken, victims have appreciated having more information about what has been done and what could be done.
- The number of triggers was low, but the majority were genuine, and several were longstanding difficult cases. There was not a flood of triggers from the 'worried well' or those who 'shout loudest', as many councils and others feared when the Trigger was proposed.
- Trial areas valued the flexibility in designing their own community trigger. They adapted the process and thresholds to both suit the needs of their communities and provide an effective response to victims. Trial areas felt that this flexibility allowed them to make efficient use of existing multi-agency working practices and resources.
- The community trigger empowered victims to challenge lack of action taken by agencies. It provides a mechanism for multi-agency accountability which cannot be achieved through single-agency complaints processes. In the trial, even areas with good working

practices uncovered complex and long-term cases that had not been resolved by the agency they were reported to. In these cases the community trigger made agencies discuss the problem and take action to stop the anti-social behaviour and support the victim.

The full summary report can be found at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/empowering-communities-protecting-victims-summary-report-on-the-community-trigger-trials

Community Trigger - Dacorum CSP

The County criteria has been agreed as:

Three reports from an individual about separate incidents in 6 months or 3 individuals have separately reported similar in 6 months.

A single point of contact (SPOC) is needed to receive the initial complaints to ensure continuity and easier for the public to access. The SPOC for Dacorum Borough Council should be the ASB Team Leader, with deputising duties delegated to ASB Team members.

The process: Community Trigger received

Appendix A depicts the proposed CT process in full.

Below are the methods whereby the CT can be activated

Online

A specifically designed online form has been designed (see **Appendix C**) that can be completed and submitted. The forms will be sent to the SPOC.

By phone

All relevant agencies will be briefed on the process of the CT and should they receive a call from someone wishing to use the CT they should in the first instance direct the caller to the online form; if this is not possible then to the SPOC

In writing/Email

CTs may be received in writing however this will not actively be encouraged as a letter may not contain the required information. Should someone prefer to make a request in writing the online form can be sent to them for completion.

Anonymous CTs will not be accepted: however the contents will be passed to relevant agencies for intelligence purposes.

Any CTs received will require the individual to consent to the information being shared with agencies. Should consent not be given then the CT will not be pursued. Existing information sharing protocols will cover any subsequent exchange of information.

| Consideration / Action: | |
|--|--|
| All agencies to brief their call takers on the agreed process. | |

Upon receipt of the CT, the following actions will be taken by the SPOC

- The victim/complainant will be written to acknowledging receipt of the CT. This will be within 2 working days of the CT being received. This is seen as an achievable timeframe as the letter will be a standard letter and there will be no investigation needed prior to the letter being sent out. Administrative processes will be established to ensure that this happens whether SPOC is on duty or not.. The letter will advise that the CT has been received and will be added to agenda of next ASBAM meeting.
- Relevant agencies will be notified of the CT that has been received and requested to have information ready for the next ASBAM where case will be discussed.
- An ICM case will be created on SafetyNet for the individual if there is not already one in existence. Findings from the trials noted the benefit in using existing procedures and shared IT systems. SafetyNet has a built in risk assessment for any ASB victims and witnesses and the capacity to save documents and allocate actions. In addition by recording on SafetyNet it will allow agencies to see if a victim/witness has requested a CT previously.

Undertaking the CT assessment

All CTs received will be taken to the next ASBAM meeting for assessment. The ASBAM meets on a monthly basis to review and discuss cases of ASB in the Borough. It is a multi-agency meeting that is attended by statutory and non-statutory CSP partner agencies.

CTs should be discussed there as

- It is an established group.
- It is unnecessary to arrange a specific sub group for CTs as agency attendance would be mirrored to the ASBAM Officers and agencies
- The meetings take place often enough to ensure that any CT received will be dealt
 with in an acceptable time frame. However, should an agency have a concern or
 case presents as high risk then a sub group meeting should be arranged.

Consideration / Action

The trial areas noted the importance of the CT not being used as a replacement for using agencies existing complaints procedures. The CT should not be used as a complaint procedure against an individual officer or agency. The CT is a process for problem solving and finding solutions for the victim(s), as well as providing a mechanism for multi-agency accountability which cannot be achieved through single agency complaints procedures.

Consideration / Action

Should the timescale of the next ASBAM be deemed as too long to wait to assess the case a specific meeting will be arranged. This may also be the case should the victim be seen as high risk (as per SafetyNet assessment)

ASBAM assessment

The ASBAM chair or deputy will go through the CTs that have been received since the last meeting, as well as reviewing any previous ones that have been discussed.

There will have to be a minimum of three agencies present to review any trigger. Wherever possible there should be an agency present which has not previously been involved in the case in order to maximise transparency of process.

Consideration / Action:

Agencies need to ensure that they have officers available to attend meetings.

Outcomes

The victim(s) will be notified of the outcome within 5 working days of the ASBAM meeting. Standard letter formats will be produced.

· The criteria is not met

The ASBAM may decide that the CT criteria has not been met. A letter will be sent to the victim(s) advising the outcome and the reasons as to why the criteria has not been met. Advice and guidance will be given to them on how to report any further problems and details of the appeals process provided.

The criteria has been met but no further action

The ASBAM agrees that the CT criteria has been met however at present there is no further action that can be taken (e.g. awaiting Court dates, insufficient evidence for enforcement action). The case will be added to the ASBAM for monitoring. Advice and guidance will be given to them on how to report any further problems and details of the appeals process provided.

The trigger has been met

The ASBAM agrees that the CT has been met and recommendations and actions will be agreed for further investigation. This may include additional actions for agencies whichhave previously been involved in the case, or new actions for agencies which may not previously have been involved. The review will follow problem solving methodology. A single point of contact will be agreed to lead on the case and allocated on SafetyNet. A letter will be sent to the victim(s) informing them of the proposed actions. The trigger will remain on the ASBAM agenda for discussion until a time it can be closed.

Consideration / Action:

Standard letters to be produced and agreed, and if possible uploaded to SafetyNet as standard template documents. Proposed standard letters can be found in **Appendix C**

Appeals

Guidance from all pilot areas shows that there needs to be an appeals procedure in place for when an individual(s) is/are not happy with the outcome or decision from their CT application.

It is proposed that in Dacorum the CSP Coordinator fulfils the role of managing appeals through the JAG .

In order that JAGs are fully aware of the CT process within the Borough, CT will be a standing agenda item.

Communication, publicity and existing processes

During the trials the CT was publicised in a variety of ways. However, the focus for agencies needs to be ensuring that communications meet the needs of communities, especially the most vulnerable.

The following publicity activity has been suggested:

- Comms Team to be briefed on CT and produce appropriate briefing material
- Partnership press release)
- Links on partnership websites to relevant ASB page
- CSP staff in all agencies within the CSP to be briefed on the CT, so those who interact with members of the public can offer advice where necessary

Processes

DBC "Vexatious Complaints Procedure" needs to be reviewed to ensure that it ties in with CT

It is vital that reporting of Noise Nuisance aligns with ASB and CT procedures.

Peer Reviewing of CT Processes – It is proposed that ASB Team Leader at St Albans District Council will coordinate an independent peer review of DBC procedures.

Consideration / Actions

Training / briefing to be arranged for CSP staff and elected members . This would be via electronic memo in the first instance.

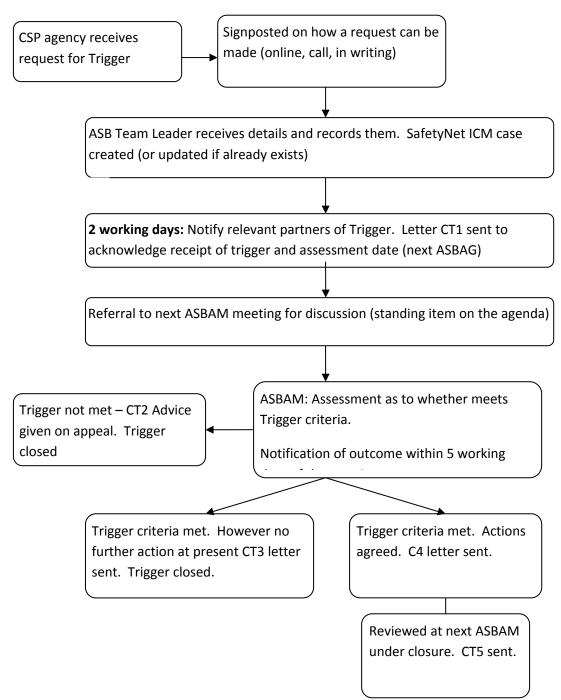
Partnership press release

May 14th to July 15th has been designated as the start date for what is known as the commencement period of the Act.

Summary of considerations & actions

- All agencies to brief their call takers on the agreed process.
- Websites to be updated with relevant information and links to online form
- The trial areas noted the importance of the CT not being used as a replacement for using agencies existing complaints procedures. The CT should not be used as a complaint procedure against an individual officer or agency. The CT is a process for problem solving and finding solutions for the victim(s), as well as providing a mechanism for multiagency accountability which cannot be achieved through single agency complaints procedures.
- Should the timescale of the next ASBAM be deemed as too long to wait to assess the
 case a specific meeting will be arranged. This will also be the case should the victim be
 seen as high risk (as per SafetyNet assessment)
- Agencies need to ensure that they have officers available to attend meetings. These
 officers should have authority/delegated authority to make decisions.
- Standard letters to be produced and agreed, and if possible uploaded to SafetyNet as standard template documents.

Appendix A: CT Process



Letters

CT1: Acknowledgement of Trigger and date of next ASBAG given where case will be assessed.

CT2: Trigger has not met criteria. Advice given on case and details of appeal.

CT3: Trigger has met criteria however all possible action has already been undertaken. Details on appeal given.

CT4: Trigger has met criteria. Outline actions agreed and contact of lead officer

Appeals

All appeals should be in writing to the Chair of the CSP Board for their investigation.

Appendix B: Referral Form

Your contact details

Please provide your details so that we can contact you. If you are completing this form on behalf of a friend or a client of your service, please provide details of the person affected by this situation. We will use this to ask any further questions or provide feedback on your referral as necessary.

Your details will not be shared with agencies outside of the Community Safety
Partnership but will be stored in line with Data Protection principles. Please confirm you
are willing for disclosure to agencies in order for the Trigger to be investigated (TICK
BOX)

Anonymous Community Trigger referrals will **not** be accepted, however details recorded and shared with agencies.

Name:

Address (including postcode)

Contact number

Email address

Preferred method of contact: Email / Phone / Writing (please delete)

Which of these best describes you?

Private tenant / Owner occupier / housing association / other (please specify)

Where applicable please provide details of your landlord / housing association

Equalities Monitoring (Optional questions)

| ge | ender RadioButt Gender | |
|----|-------------------------------|----------|
| • | Male | |
| 0 | Female | |
| О | Transgender Age | ComboBox |

Age

Sexual orientation

| Heterosexual |
|--|
| Gay / Lesbian |
| Bi-sexual |
| Other (please state below) |
| Religion - please state Disability TextAre |
| Please give details of any disability Ethnicity ComboB |
| Ethnicity |
| |
| Details of incidents |
| The Community Trigger criteria is as follows: |
| Three reports from an individual about separate incidents in 6 months or 3 individuals have separately reported similar in 6 months. |
| Please describe what has happened or is happening? |
| (Text box with the following advice: How do you meet the above criteria? Please |
| provide as much information as possible) |
| To Whom and how have you reported these problems previously? |
| (Text box with the following advice: Please provide details of agencies and any reference numbers you have been given) |
| How have the incidents affected you? |
| (Text box) |
| What outcome would you like from the Community Trigger? |
| (Text box) |
| Keeping you informed |

We will keep you informed about progress.

1)

2)

3)

4)

We will acknowledge receipt of your referral within two working days.

An initial assessment of your situation will be carried out at the next Anti-social

Behaviour Agency Meeting (ASBAM). You will be notified of the outcome of the assessment within 5 working days of the ASBAM meeting. If your referral meets the criteria, an officer from an appropriate lead agency (in discussion with you) will review your situation and advise of the next steps.

Yes, please keep me informed No, I do not wish to be kept informed

Appendix C: Letters Your contact: Tel: Fax: Our ref: Date:

Re: Community Trigger Referral

Your referral to the Dacorum Community Trigger has been received and recorded. Your reference is CT???.

To confirm your details are as follows:

(Contact details)

Should the above be incorrect please contact me on .

Your case has been referred to the next Anti-social Behaviour Agency Meeting (ASBAM) for review. At the meeting partner agencies will assess whether the criteria has been met and subsequent actions agreed. The date of this meeting is ??? you will be notified within 5 working days of the meeting of the outcome.

To report any further incidents of ASB please contact:

- Herts Police on 101 (non emergency) or 999 (emergency only)
- Housing Association contact details (where applicable)
- Complete the enclosed incident diary

Further details of the Community Trigger are enclosed.

Appendix C: Letters

| Your contact: | |
|---------------|--|
| Tel: | |
| Fax: | |
| Our ref: | |
| Date: | |

Dear

Re: Community Trigger Referral

Following your referral to the Watford Community Trigger, the case was discussed at the Anti-social Behaviour Agency Meeting (ASBAM) on ???.

Having reviewed your case in full, we do not feel that your case meets the trigger criteria. To meet the criteria there needs to have been three reports from an individual about separate incidents in 6 months or 3 individuals have separately reported similar in 6 months.

If you wish to discuss this decision in more detail please do not hesitate to contact (insert allocated lead officer and details).

If you are not happy with this outcome you have the right to appeal to the Chair of the Joint Agencies Group. Further information on appeals can be found in the enclosed leaflet.

To report any further incidents of ASB please contact:

- Herts Police on 101 (non emergency) or 999 (emergency only)
- Housing Association contact details (where applicable)
- Complete the enclosed incident diary

Further details of the Community Trigger are enclosed.

Appendix C: Letters

| Your contact: | |
|---------------|--|
| Tel: | |
| Fax: | |
| Our ref: | |
| Date: | |

Dear

Re: Community Trigger Referral

Following your referral to the Dacorum Community Trigger, the case was discussed at the Anti-social Behaviour Agency Meeting (ASBAM) on ???.

Having reviewed your case in full, we do feel that your case meets the trigger criteria. However, after reviewing your case thoroughly it has been agreed that at present there is no further action that can be taken. Agencies have responded to incidents that have been reported and taken appropriate action based upon the available evidence.

If you wish to discuss this decision in more detail please do not hesitate to contact (insert allocated lead officer and details).

If you are not happy with this outcome you have the right to appeal to the Chair of the Joint Agencies Group. Further information on appeals can be found in the enclosed leaflet.

To report any further incidents of ASB please contact:

- Herts Police on 101 (non-emergency) or 999 (emergency only)
- Housing Association contact details (where applicable)
- Complete the enclosed incident diary

Further details of the Community Trigger are enclosed.

Appendix C: Letters

| Your contact: | |
|---------------|--|
| Tel: | |
| Fax: | |
| Our ref: | |
| Date: | |

Dear

Re: Community Trigger Referral

Following your referral to the Dacorum Community Trigger, the case was discussed at the Anti-social Behaviour Agency Meeting (ASBAM) on?

Having reviewed your case in full, we do feel that your case meets the trigger criteria. The following actions have been agreed:

- (Insert name and agency) has been allocated the lead officer in your case. Their contact details are (insert contact details). They will make contact with you within 5 working days.
- · List other actions

To report any further incidents of ASB please contact:

- Herts Police on 101 (non-emergency) or 999 (emergency only)
- Housing Association contact details (where applicable)
- Complete the enclosed incident diary

Further details of the Community Trigger are enclosed.

9. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

To consider passing a resolution in the following terms: That, under s.100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 Schedule 12A Part 1, as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, the public be excluded during the items in Part II of the Agenda for this meeting, because it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, that if members of the public were present during these items there would be disclosure to them of exempt information relating to:

APPENDIX A

Scrutiny making a positive difference: Member led and independent, Overview & Scrutiny Committee promote service improvements, influence policy development & hold Executive to account for the benefit of the Community of Dacorum.

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY Overview & Scrutiny Committee: Work Programme 2014/15

| Meeting Date: | Report Deadline | Items: | Type : | Contact details: | Background information | Outcome of Discussion |
|---------------------|--------------------|--|-----------|--|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 12 November 2014 | 31 October 2014 | Quarter 2 Performance Report (& Q2 Operational Risk Reports) | PM | E Brooks, Assistant Director, Housing J Still, Group Manager, Resident Services C Troy, Group Manager Regulatory (PH – M Griffiths, N Tiley, N Harden) | | |
| | | Q2 Financial Data Report | | R Baker, Group Manager, Finance (PH – N Tiley) | | |
| | | Old Town Hall | | J Still, Group Manager, Resident Services. (PH - N Harden) | | |
| | | Empty Homes | | E Brooks, Assistant Director, Housing (PH M Griffiths) | | |
| | | Community Infrastructure Levy | | James Doe, Assistant Director Planning, Development & Regeneration | | |

| Meeting Date: | Report Deadline | Items: | Type : | Contact details: | Background information | Outcome of Discussion |
|--|------------------------|--|-----------|--|--|-----------------------|
| 10 December 2014 | 28 November 2014 | Joint Budget OSC | SC | M Hone, Corporate Director Finance & Operation | To consider the draft budget proposals 2015/16 | |
| | | Air Quality Action Plan | | N Egerton, Team Leader, Environmental Health | The Air Quality Action Plan sets out a work programme for the improvement of air quality within the Borough. Twenty measures have been selected for implementation within the next three years, which are aimed at reducing levels of air pollution within the three air Quality Management Areas and improving air quality across the Borough in general. | |
| 28 January 2015 | 16 January 2015 | Review of the operations of the Housing Allocations Policy. | PD | Elliott Brooks, Assistant Director, Housing (PH – M Griffiths) | | |
| | | Housing Asset Management Strategy – 1 st Draft | | E Brooks, Assistant Director, Housing (PH M Griffiths) | | |
| 4 February 2015 (Joint Budget OSC) | 22 January 2015 | Budget 2015-16 | Sc | M Hone, Corporate Director Finance & Operation | To consider the draft budget proposals 2015/16 | |
| | | Ideally no further items to be | | | | |

| Meeting Date: | Report Deadline | Items: | Туре | Contact details: | Background information | Outcome of Discussion |
|------------------|--------------------|--|------|--|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Date. | Deadilile | added | | | imormation | |
| 18 March 2015 | 6 March 2015 | Quarter 3 Performance Report (& Q3 Operational Risk Reports) | PM | E Brooks, Assistant Director, Housing J Still, Group Manager, Resident Services C Troy, Group Manager Regulatory (PH – M Griffiths, N Tiley, N Harden) | | |
| | | Quarter 3 Financial Data Report | | R Baker, Group Manager, Finance | | |

PM – Performance management

PD – Policy Development

SC – Scrutiny

Items to be scheduled:

- Complaints annual report June 2015
- Housing Appeals Update Jan/Feb 2015