

## 9a COMMUNITY SAFETY WORKING GROUP

*(previously the Antisocial Behaviour Working Group)*

**Members include councillors and co-opted members (e.g. Police)**

### **Purpose**

To monitor, address and reduce crime and its underlying causes in Congleton. This Working Group reports to the Community Committee, where any significant policy or funding decisions are made. This group meets in private, but members of the public may be invited or co-opted to take part, and minutes are made public.

This group monitors crime incidence in Congleton over time with a goal of year-on-year reduction. Crimes and activities covered include (but are not limited to):

- Antisocial behaviour
- Street crime including violence and criminal damage
- Drug and alcohol abuse
- Domestic abuse/violence and sexual offences
- Hate crime
- Burglary and theft
- Road traffic, speeding and parking offences

### **Delegation of Functions of the Working Group**

- This working group takes on tasks assigned by the Community Committee and conducts research, analysis and brainstorming to come up with potential solutions and ideas to reduce crime and improve community safety in Congleton.
- This is not a decision-making body; all solutions, ideas and funding requirements must be presented as proposals to Council Committee (usually the Community Committee), together with all relevant analysis, for the Committee to make a decision.
- All proposals taken from this Group to Committee must explain the impact on Community Safety and the financial, environmental and equality impact of the decision.

### **Membership, Voting and Roles**

- Town Councillors, and co-opted members from
  - Cheshire Police, especially the Congleton Beat Team
  - Cheshire East Council Anti-Social Behaviour Team
  - Relevant local community leaders
- Co-opted members will sign a volunteer agreement and be in post for one year, after which their agreement can be renewed if desired.
- On an as-needed basis, others may be invited to meetings, for example from the CCTV team, Cheshire Fire Service, CEC Domestic Abuse team, Congleton ShopWatch , Congleton PubWatch etc.
- The Chair (and Vice-Chair if wanted) will be elected by a vote of the Working Group Town Council members only.
- The secretariat for the meeting will be a member of CTC staff.

## 9a COMMUNITY SAFETY WORKING GROUP

*(previously the Antisocial Behaviour Working Group)*

Members include councillors and co-opted members (e.g. Police)

### Activities of Working Group

#### 1. Monitoring and Tracking Crime

- 1.1 Identify ASB and drug/alcohol 'hotspots'
- 1.2 Track domestic violence and sexual offences over time.
- 1.3 Understand the incidents of hate crime and reporting rates in Congleton.
- 1.4 Measure year-on-year theft and burglary data.
- 1.5 Monitor speeding/traffic/parking offences
- 1.6 Consider specific reports from the public of crimes in Congleton and input these to the Police and other agencies to help them develop tactics and strategies.

#### 2. Dealing with and Preventing Crime

- 2.1 Implement the Community Safety Charter in Congleton
- 2.2 Tackle ASB and drug/alcohol hotspots with Policing, CCTV, PSPOs and other strategies as required.
- 2.3 Understand and support the cross-agency approach to domestic and sexual violence and offer local support for these services.
- 2.4 Consider tactics to challenge hate crime such as local Reporting Centres and publicity campaigns.
- 2.5 Support the local Neighbourhood Watch team in helping householders prevent burglary and property theft.
- 2.6 Support efforts to prevent and punish speeding and other traffic offences, including making recommendations to the Integrated Transport Working Group where appropriate.
- 2.7 Support the daytime and night-time economy by supporting initiatives to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour and its negative impact on Congleton's businesses

#### 3. Reporting to Committee

- 3.1 Working Group minutes (with confidential elements removed) will be approved at the Community Committee and published on the Town Council Website.
- 3.2 All crime statistics, trends, Policing priorities and high-level strategies to prevent or combat crime will be reported to the Community Committee at each meeting.
- 3.3 Any decisions will be referred to the Community Committee, or another Council Committee as required.