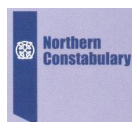


Antisocial Behaviour Plan

2005-2010

A multi-agency approach to tackling antisocial behaviour throughout Shetland



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Introduction

Community Safety is not only influenced by serious crimes: graffiti, vandalism and antisocial behaviour also increase the fear of crime and adversely affect the quality of life for all. Antisocial behaviour can destroy lives and shatter communities. It is a widespread problem but its effects are often most damaging in communities that are already fragile. If left unchecked it can lead to neighbourhood decline with people moving away and tenants abandoning housing. It can seriously damage the quality of life of vulnerable people through the fear of crime and the long-term effects of victimisation. It also incurs costs to a wide range of people including individuals and families, schools, local authorities, social landlords and businesses.

The Scottish Executive is committed to tackling antisocial behaviour and has introduced new legislation, the Antisocial Behaviour (Scotland) Act 2004, which provides a range of new legal tools.

One of the statutory requirements of the Act is for each local authority and relevant chief constable to prepare a strategy, for dealing with antisocial behaviour in the authority's area.

This document, which will form part of the overarching Community Safety Strategy 2005-2010, draws together the work that is already being undertaken to tackle and reduce antisocial behaviour in Shetland.

Definition Of Antisocial Behaviour

Section 143 of the Antisocial Behaviour (Scotland) Act 2004 states that:

A person engages in antisocial behaviour if they:

- Act in a manner that causes or is likely to cause alarm or distress; or
- Pursue a course of conduct that causes or is likely to cause alarm or distress to at least one person not of the same household as them.

The Act further clarifies that:

- “Conduct” includes speech;
- “A course of conduct” must involve conduct on at least 2 occasions; and
- “Likely to cause” has the effect that someone other than a victim of the antisocial behaviour can give evidence of its occurrence. This is intended specifically to enable the use of professionals as witnesses where those targeted by antisocial behaviour feel unable to come forward, for example, for fear of reprisals or intimidation

This behaviour may include:

- Noise nuisance
- Harassment
- Littering
- Dog fouling
- Abandoned vehicles
- Vandalism/graffiti
- Neighbourhood disputes
- Bullying
- Assaults
- Racist incidents
- Substance misuse
- Malicious 999 Calls

This list is illustrative only and is not exhaustive, but features various forms of behaviour, which by themselves, or collectively, may contribute towards antisocial behaviour.

The Act is part of a wider national strategy, which aims to bring about a change in people’s attitudes and behaviour.

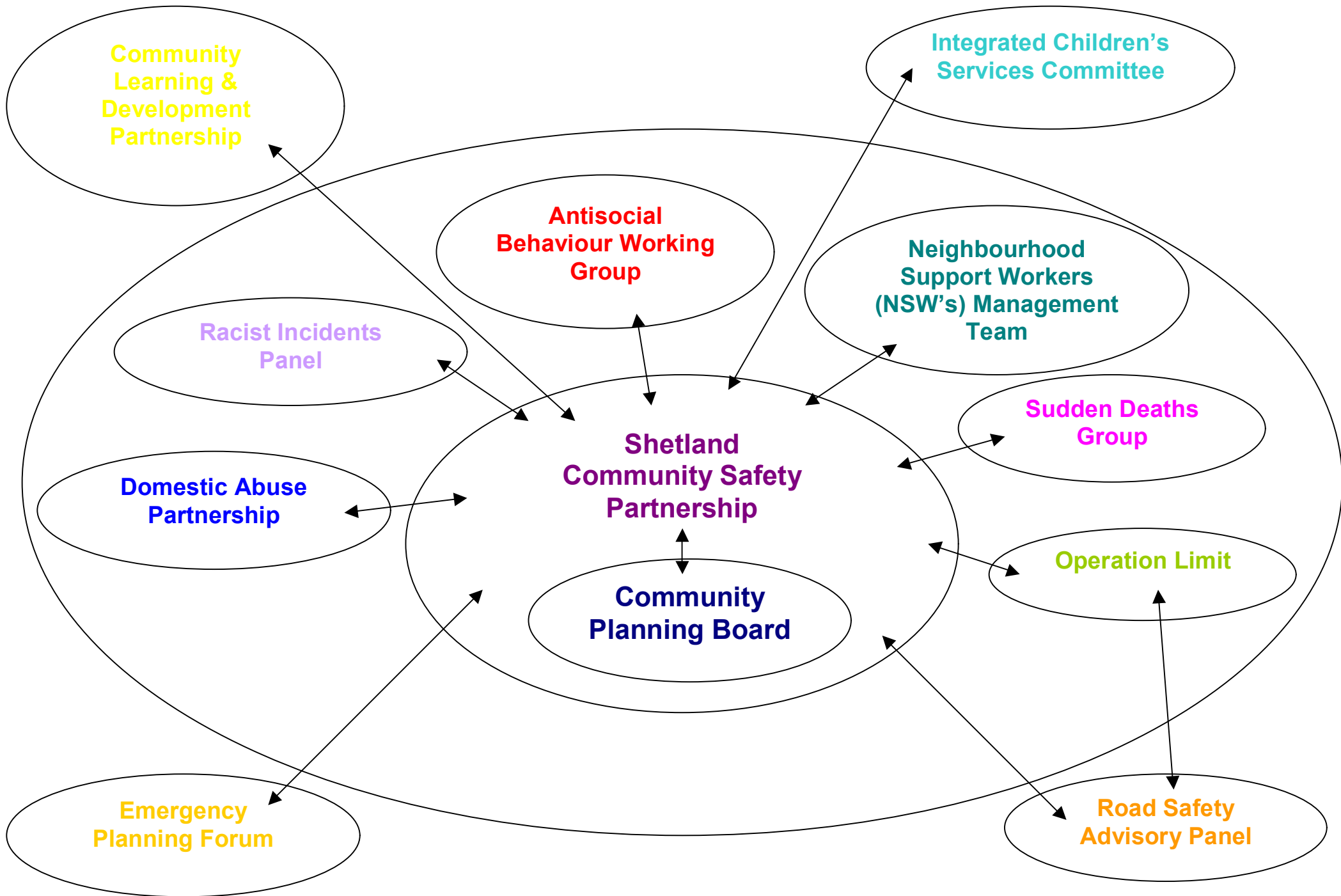
Partnership Working

The Shetland Community Safety Partnership has been established since March 2003, with representation from Shetland Islands Council, Northern Constabulary, Highland & Islands Fire Brigade, Scottish Ambulance Service, Crown Office & Procurator Fiscal's Service, Victim Support Shetland, MCA Coastguard and NHS Shetland making up its membership.

The Antisocial Behaviour Working Group is a sub-group of the Partnership with representatives from:

- Shetland Islands Council
 - Housing
 - Community Safety
 - Legal
 - Environmental Health
 - Education
 - Community Development
 - Social Work
- Northern Constabulary
- Victim Support Shetland
- Citizen's Advice Bureau
- Hjaltland Housing Association
- Shetland Community Drugs Team
- Shetland Alcohol Support Services
- Shetland Tenants Forum
- Shetland Youth Information Service
- Crown Office & Procurator Fiscal Service
- Scottish Children's Reporter Administration
- Health Action Team

The Antisocial Behaviour Plan is a fundamental part of the Community Safety Strategy 2005-2010, and it will be monitored, reviewed and revised on a regular basis. This work will be overseen through the Group's links with the multi-agency Community Safety Partnership, who will provide strategic direction and to whom the Group reports. The links between the groups are shown below.



Strategic Context

The National Picture

Community Safety is about “creating safer places for people to live, work and visit, without fear or risk of harm” (*Safe & Sound*, Accounts Commission 2000).

“*A Partnership For A Better Scotland 2003*” (Scottish Executive 2003) outlines how the Scottish Executive will work together to improve public services and tackle the real issues that matter to people in Scotland. Some of the issues highlighted are to support stronger, safer communities by targeting the key areas of children and young people, justice (including youth crime and prosecution) and social justice.

The national antisocial behaviour strategy is underpinned by 5 key principles. These are:

- Everyone has a right to live without the scourge of antisocial behaviour, but everyone also has responsibilities - to respect themselves, their immediate neighbours and the community generally.
- Building on what has gone before. There is a lot of good work being done across Scotland to tackle antisocial behaviour. Many individuals, local authorities and agencies already invest considerable energy, commitment and resources to address antisocial behaviour, its causes and effects. The 2004 Act and the wider antisocial behaviour strategy are designed to give added impetus to this work, so that antisocial behaviour can be tackled more effectively wherever it occurs.
- Prevention is better than cure and voluntary or negotiated solutions usually better than sanctions. Preventing antisocial behaviour and tackling it at the earliest possible stage continue to be essential. But enforcement is still needed and there have to be effective sanctions to deal with those who persistently fail to respond and for the most serious cases. The Executive has committed considerable investment, both direct and indirect, in support of these measures.
- Tackling antisocial behaviour is not about stigmatising particular groups of people. The 2004 Act and wider strategy are about supporting the great majority of people who want to live harmoniously with others in safe and secure communities. This includes the great majority of young people, who are more often the victims of antisocial behaviour, than the perpetrators. But we also need to tackle the small minority in communities whose present behaviour undermines this.
- Joined up action at the local level within a national framework. Action to tackle antisocial behaviour must respond to local needs and priorities, and must take into account differences between communities in local authority areas. It is only local agencies, working together in a concerted and co-ordinated way with local people that can tackle antisocial behaviour effectively. However, this action needs to fit with national priorities and with the national accountability framework that the Executive is currently developing with CoSLA and other partners.

The Local Picture

In Shetland, the Community Safety Partnership is working together with communities to reduce crime, the fear of crime, victimisation and antisocial behaviour, in order to protect and enhance the quality of life for those who live, work and visit the isles.

In addressing these issues, the Partnership is addressing the community safety priority outlined in the Council’s Corporate Plan 2004-2008 and Shetland’s Community Planning framework

“Together – Shetland”¹. The priority is to “make sure everyone is safe and is able to feel safe”, and the Partnership is determined that by working together towards this priority we maintain the security and sustainability of our communities.

Antisocial behaviour will be tackled throughout Shetland through our commitment to partnership working. This Plan will outline the nature of the problems experienced throughout Shetland and the appropriate interventions available to our communities and how they can be accessed.

In Shetland a four-strand, multi-agency, holistic approach to tackling antisocial behaviour is being adopted, focusing on:

- Prevention
- Intervention
- Enforcement
- Rehabilitation

This document will outline the nature of the problems experienced throughout Shetland and give examples of the interventions that may be used to alleviate these.

¹ “Together – Shetland” outlines how the Community Planning Board plans to work together to achieve a sustainable and self-sufficient community where everyone works together towards the same goals to ensure the long-term vitality and well-being of Shetland.

Antisocial Behaviour In Shetland

In Shetland, antisocial behaviour varies between geographical locations and in its nature. The Shetland Community Safety Partnership recognises that there is not one solution to every incident of antisocial behaviour, therefore it is important that we recognise the different issues facing our communities, and to know the circumstances in which they occur.

Through the analysis of statistical information, combined with local knowledge and consultation with both voluntary and statutory organisations, and the community as a whole, the Antisocial Behaviour Working Group has a clear understanding of the issues affecting our communities.

Evidence - Antisocial Behaviour

Overall, Shetland is considered to be a very safe place to live, however it is recognised by all involved that antisocial behaviour does have an adverse effect on the quality of life of some Shetland residents.

At a meeting, held in November 2003 to address the growing concerns about violence and general antisocial behaviour in the Lerwick Town Centre, several different agencies and community representatives agreed that late night crowds, litter, the misuse of alcohol and a recent spate of violent assaults in Lerwick were contributing to an increased fear of crime within the Shetland community as a whole.

The perception of antisocial behaviour in Shetland does not match the reality, but that in itself is an area that must be addressed. The aim of this Plan is not only to inform the community about what antisocial behaviour is– it also aims to promote tolerance, understanding and mutual respect. The Plan sets out how the partner agencies are working together to resolve antisocial behaviour, whilst valuing and protecting the diversity of lifestyles within our communities.

Whilst noting that the purpose of this meeting was to discuss problems relating to the Lerwick Town Centre area only, it is important to recognise that antisocial behaviour can affect any community in Shetland. A multi-agency commitment to tackling antisocial behaviour is the way forward. It is also recognised that unless the community is fully involved in the development of the antisocial behaviour plan, it will be difficult to implement and unlikely to have the desired effect.

It is also important to emphasise that the problem of antisocial behaviour is a cross-tenure issue and that services and responses must be developed for all tenures. It is also not just a landlord issue: it is a social order issue and, as such, liable to interventions and responses by many agencies, both statutory and voluntary, in partnership with the local authority.

Table 1 illustrates the types of incidents attended/complaints received by the NSW's in Lerwick in December 2004

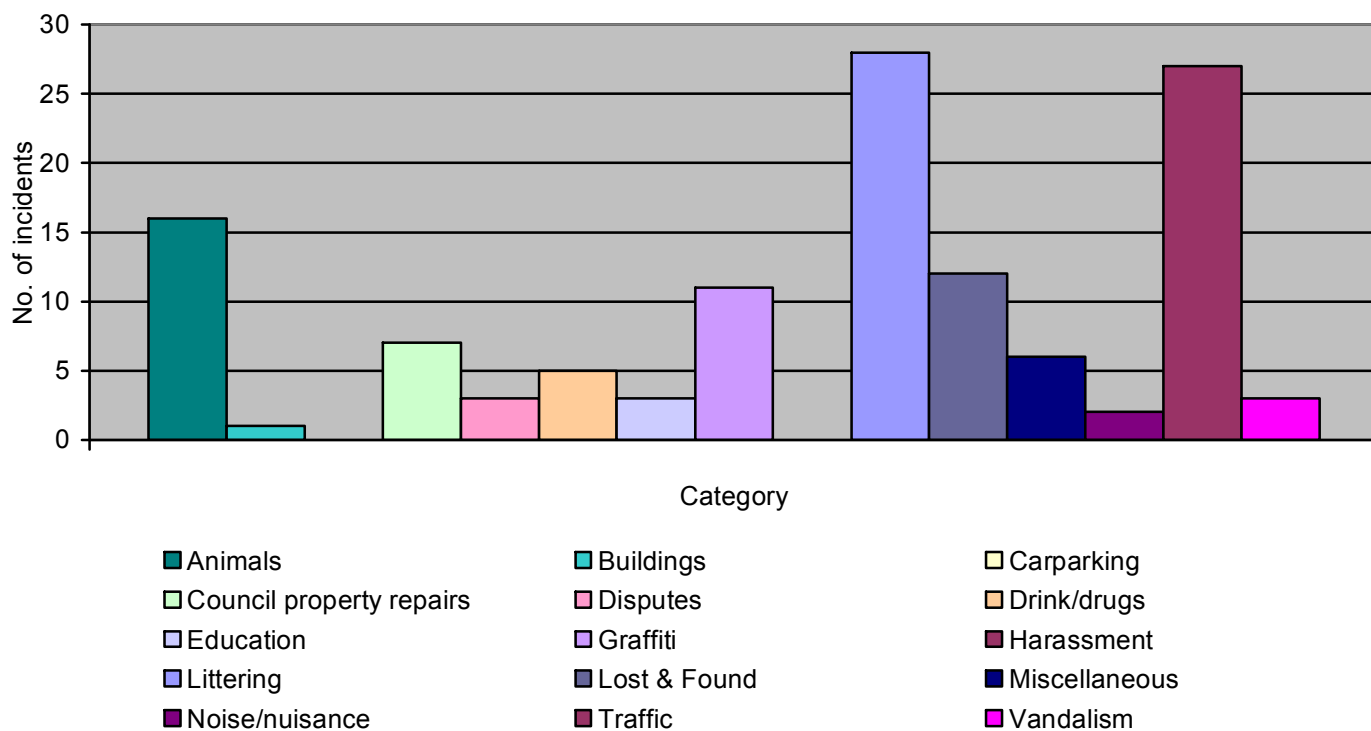
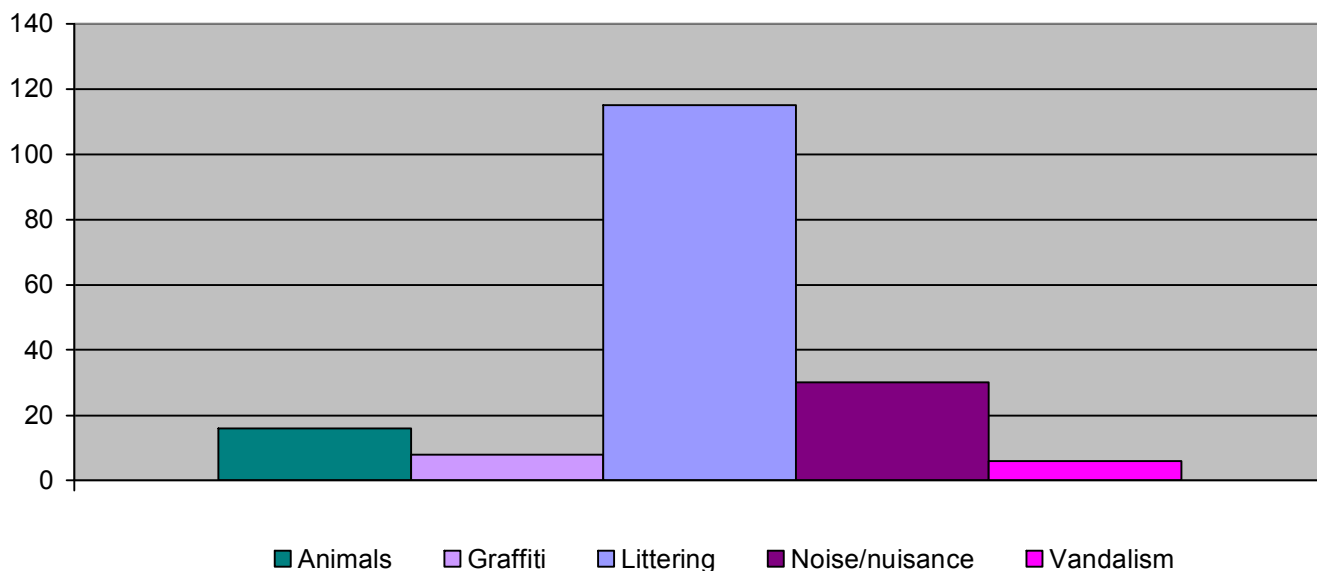


Table 2 illustrates the number & types of incidents recorded by Shetland Islands Council Housing Service. These figures represent incidents across all tenures not just Council property. These figures are based on statistics gathered from Housing, Environmental Health/Waste Services, the Neighbourhood Support Workers and Hjalmland Housing Association between April & December 2004

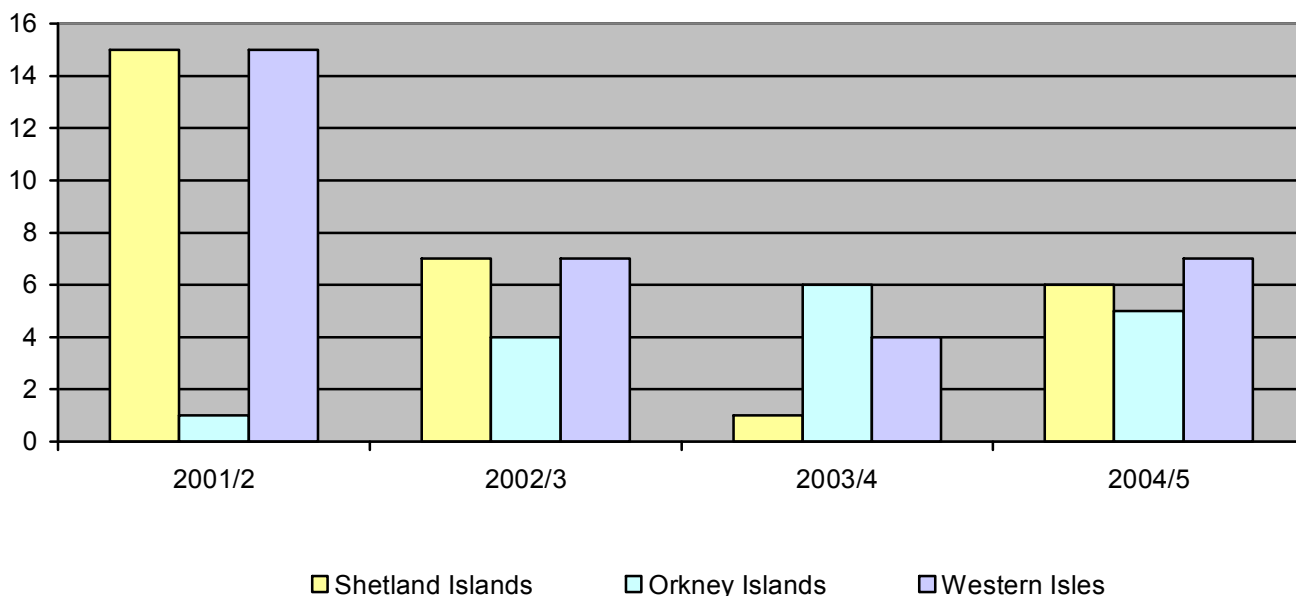


*Please note that there will have been some figures recorded twice in Tables 1 & 2. This is because the statistics in Table 1 as recorded by the Neighbourhood Support Workers have been illustrated a second time in Table 2, as a part of Housing Services statistics.

Evidence - Malicious 999 Calls

The Highland & Islands Fire Brigade, in partnership with the Northern Constabulary, wishes to continue their joint deliberate false alarm reduction policy. The policy of zero tolerance and investigation of all malicious 999 calls has been effective as demonstrated in the graph below.

Table 3 illustrates the number of malicious 999 calls received by the Emergency Services



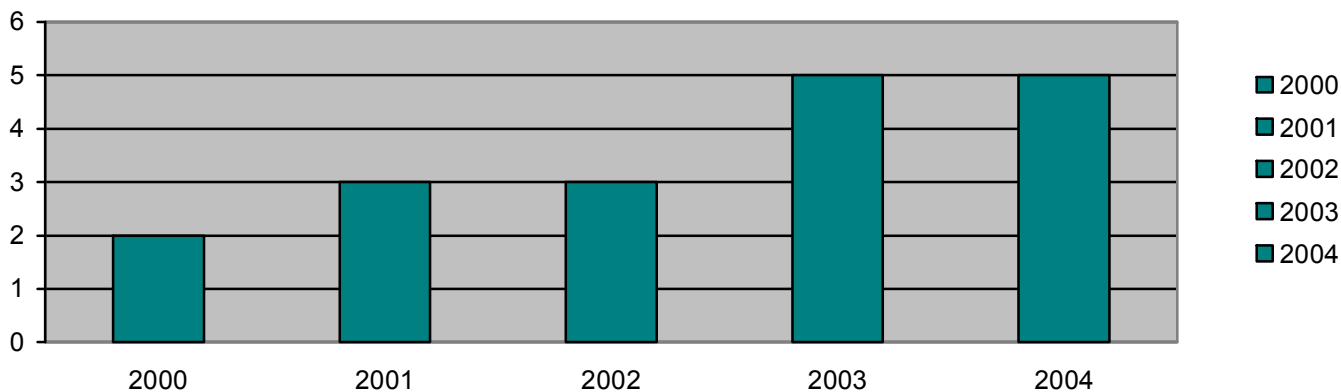
Evidence - Racist Incidents

The Shetland Community Safety Partnership is working to tackle racist incidents, which are defined as “an incident, which is perceived to be racist by the victim or any other person”.

According to the 2001 Census there were 167 black and ethnic minority individuals, living and working in Shetland. The ethnic groups are diverse and wide-ranging - Thai, Chinese, Caribbean, African, Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Czech, Hungarian, Belgian, Spanish, French, Latvian, Estonian, Russian, Slovak and Iranian. However, Shetland also has substantial Scottish, English, Welsh and Irish communities too.

Since 2000, the number of racist incidents reported to Northern Constabulary in Shetland has increased from 2 incidents to 5 incidents. The Racist Incidents Panel Working Group believes that the reason for this is that more people recognise racism as unacceptable and are therefore more inclined to report it.

Table 4 illustrates the number of racist incidents reported to Northern Constabulary between 2000 & 2004



Whilst these figures may cause alarm, it is important to note that we are comparable to Orkney, but considerably lower than the Western Isles. Shetland remains one of the safest places in which to live in the UK. We are very proud of the community in which we live and we are determined to maintain our high quality of life.

Evidence - Bullying

The Anti-Bullying Group is continuing their work by implementing a community-wide anti-bullying commitment, which will apply across the whole of Shetland, and not just in its schools.

Working Together To Tackle Antisocial Behaviour

Antisocial behaviour will be tackled throughout Shetland through our commitment to partnership working.

Victim Profiles

The Antisocial Behaviour Working Group recognise that antisocial behaviour can affect anyone in any community. We will carry out a mapping exercise to establish baseline data on this during 2005-6.

Offender Profiles

The Antisocial Behaviour Working Group recognise that there are different ranges of perpetrators committing antisocial behaviour in the community. These can be broadly broken down into three main types of perpetrator: -

- Those who don't care;
- Those people who have a lack of awareness of the impact of their behaviour; and
- Those who commit targeted antisocial behaviour

Therefore it is important to raise awareness about antisocial behaviour and the impact it can have on the whole community. The Group will aim to carry out a mapping exercise to establish baseline data on this during 2005-6.

Financial Cost

The Antisocial Behaviour Working Group recognise that antisocial behaviour incurs both financial and social costs to individuals and to the whole community. To date, Shetland Islands Council has not kept records relating to the cost incurred by antisocial behaviour, however by raising awareness of antisocial behaviour issues throughout Shetland we will endeavour to establish a baseline and set up the mechanisms required to record this data in the future.

Information Sharing

Information sharing is essential to the success of any Plan to tackle antisocial behaviour. To effectively manage antisocial behaviour it is vital that the relevant agencies share information at a local level. To achieve effective information sharing, Shetland Islands Council and the Northern Constabulary are committed to ensuring that all relevant information relating to incidents of antisocial behaviour within the Shetland Islands will be exchanged between them.

Shetland Islands Council and the Northern Constabulary are also committed to ensuring that all persons who have an interest in dealing with antisocial behaviour receive, and can provide, information relating to antisocial behaviour. Information sharing protocols between the following local agencies are to be developed to ensure that information flows effectively between them in order that antisocial behaviour is dealt with appropriately: -

- Shetland Islands Council
- Northern Constabulary
- Authority Reporter
- Hjaltland Housing Association
- NHS Shetland
- Community Mediation - Shetland
- Shetland Community Drugs Team
- Shetland Alcohol Support Services
- Crown Office & Procurator Fiscal Service

Where necessary, further information sharing protocols will be considered with appropriate partners to ensure that all agencies are focused on dealing effectively with antisocial behaviour.

The development of information sharing protocols aims to tackle the real and perceived barriers to the sharing of information, namely to: -

- Help parties identify what data is available, who holds them and how to use them;
- Encourage a willingness between partners to share information;
- Deal with legislative issues and ensure compliance; and
- Provide consistency for information sharing within the area.

The disclosure and sharing of information to deal with antisocial behaviour is further facilitated by the introduction of Section 139 of the 2004 Act. Section 139 provides a legal protection for those who disclose information to a relevant authority where the disclosure of information is necessary or expedient for the purposes of any provision of the 2004 Act, or any other enactment that deals with antisocial behaviour or its effects. However, a person disclosing information and relying on this protection will have to be satisfied that they are complying with the Data Protection Act 1998 and any other relevant rules of law. Relevant authority means a local authority, a chief constable, the principal reporter, a registered social landlord and any authority managing Housing Benefit.

Record of Antisocial Behaviour Orders

Section 15 of the 2004 Act imposes a duty on each local authority to establish and maintain a record of ASBOs and interim ASBOs granted in their area, including those on 12-15 year olds.

This record will include details of ASBOs granted on: -

1. The application of the local authority;
2. The application of registered social landlords within the local authority area;
3. Conviction in the criminal court.

The content of the record of ASBOs is specified in the 2004 Act and may be the subject of further regulations by Scottish Executive Ministers.

In particular, information should be retained on the use and effect of interim ASBOs and ASBOs to support monitoring and evaluation exercises.

Responsibility for maintaining the record of antisocial behaviour orders will rest with the Legal and Administration Service of Shetland Islands Council. Appropriate procedures and protocols will be developed to ensure that the content of the record is correct.

Sharing of Information on Record of ASBOs

The exchange of information about individuals between landlords and other agencies is an important and sensitive area. Where a relevant authority is aware that an individual plans to move or has moved to a different area, the authority should inform the "receiving" authority that an ASBO was granted against the individual. Provision for the exchange of such information will be incorporated into established procedures for information sharing.

Local authorities, any police force, any registered social landlord and the Principal Reporter have a right to request the information held on the record of ASBOs.

Scottish Executive Ministers may request information held on the record.

Where a local authority receives a request for information on the record of orders from a person not specified in the 2004 Act, they will have to consider whether the sharing of information is proportionate having considered the rights of the person named on the order and the need to prevent crime and disorder. Appropriate procedures and protocols will be developed to deal with requests for information on the record of orders to ensure compliance with the 2004 Act, Data Protection Act 1998 and any other relevant legislation.

Community Consultation

A wide-ranging consultation was undertaken for the Community Safety Strategy 2005-2010, to ensure that as many people as possible had the opportunity to have their say. As the Antisocial Behaviour Plan forms part of the Community Safety Strategy a separate consultation exercise is not required. However, the Working Group may wish to carry out additional engagement and consultation exercise if they deem it appropriate. This will be done on a locality basis - it is the intention of the Antisocial Behaviour Working Group to feed into existing structures set up to engage with localities to achieve this.

Monitoring & Evaluation

All work currently being undertaken to address antisocial behaviour has to be monitored and evaluated to ensure the outcomes are achieved. The Scottish Executive has set down a large number of monitoring and evaluation indicators; our local monitoring and evaluation will reflect this, but will be tailored to suit local circumstances.

The Antisocial Behaviour Working Group proposes to measure antisocial behaviour using the following indicators:

Noise

- No. Of complaints received by environmental health that were the Council's responsibility for advice or investigation (Source: Audit Scotland)

Rowdy Behaviour

- No. Of incidents of disorderly conduct: breach of the peace (Source: Northern Constabulary)
- Percentage of people with a fear of crime (Source: Your Voice Public Opinion Survey)

Nuisance Behaviour

- No. Of incidents of disorderly conduct: urinating etc (Source: Northern Constabulary)
- No. Of incidents of fire raising (Source: Northern Constabulary)

Bullying Or Harassment

- No. Of bullying incidents in schools (Source: Education Service, Shetland Islands Council)
- No. Of assaults (Source: Northern Constabulary)
- No. Of referrals to the Community Mediation Worker (taking into account the areas) (Source: Citizens Advice Bureau)

Criminal Damage Or Vandalism

- No. Of incidents of vandalism, malicious damage or malicious mischief (Source: Northern Constabulary)
- No. Of incidents of graffiti (Source: Local Environmental Audit & Management System (LEAMS) – reported to Audit Scotland)

Litter/Rubbish

- No. Of incidents of litter and dog fouling (Source: Local Environmental Audit & Management System (LEAMS) – reported to Audit Scotland)

Drugs/Substance Misuse & Dealing

- How intimidated do you feel by groups of people drinking in town? (Source: Your Voice Public Opinion Survey)
- No. Of incidents of drink-driving (Source: Northern Constabulary)
- No. Of incidents of drug driving (Source: Northern Constabulary)
- No. Of incidents of drunk and incapable (Source: Northern Constabulary)

We will ensure that the areas by which incidents are recorded are consistent with other Plans. In reviewing these statistics we would be looking for hotspots and patterns of antisocial behaviour.

The Action Plan commits to using data collected during the first year to generate baseline information on antisocial behaviour and identify gaps in our recording methods.

The Community Safety Officer or Antisocial Behaviour Co-ordinator will provide six monthly evaluation reports to the Community Safety Partnership, who in turn reports to the Community Planning Board.

The Partnership also provides regular evaluation reports to the Scottish Executive and will carry out an annual review of the Community Safety Strategy. They will also produce an Annual Report of the previous year's achievements.

Links to other strategies & plans

This Action Plan forms part of the Community Safety Strategy 2005-2010, whilst linking directly and indirectly into many other plans and strategies. These include:

National

Scottish Executive

- *“Putting Our Communities First” – A Strategy For Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour*
- *“Social Justice – A Scotland Where Everyone Matters”*

Regional

Northern Constabulary

- *“The Pursuit Of Excellence in Community Policing”*

Highland & Islands Fire Brigade

- *“Community Safety Plan”*

Local

Shetland Community Planning Board

- *“Together – Shetland” - Shetland’s Framework For Community Planning For Working Together & With Communities Across Shetland and associated strategies (see Proforma)*
- Shetland Islands Council Corporate Plan
- Domestic Abuse Action Plan (this document is currently under development and will be incorporated into the Community Safety Strategy)
- Shetland Islands Council’s Integrated Children’s Services Plan
- Integrated Assessment Framework

This list is not exhaustive and every opportunity will be taken to ensure that the relevant plans and strategies consider antisocial behaviour.

Appendix A

Preventative Measures

Antisocial Behaviour Working Group

An Antisocial Behaviour Working Group has been established as a sub-group of the Community Safety Partnership. The multi-agency group comprises of representatives from: Shetland Islands Council; Northern Constabulary; Victim Support Shetland; Hjaltland Housing Association; Shetland Community Drugs Team; Shetland Alcohol Support Services; Shetland Tenants Forum; Shetland Youth Information Service; Crown Office & Procurator Fiscal Service; Scottish Children's Reporter Administration; Community Mediation and NHS Shetland.

Antisocial Behaviour Co-ordinator

The Antisocial Behaviour Co-ordinator will be responsible for implementing and monitoring Shetland's Antisocial Behaviour Plan in partnership with a wide range of other agencies. The Co-ordinator will be responsible for dealing with issues and complaints of antisocial behaviour across all tenures throughout Shetland.

Neighbourhood Support Workers

Shetland Islands Council's Housing Service secured funding under the Scottish Executive's Building Strong, Safe & Attractive Communities (BSSAC) initiative for 2004-5 and 2005-6. Some of this funding has enabled the Council to recruit four Neighbourhood Support Workers (NSWs) for a fixed term of two years.

The aim of the service offered by the NSWs is to improve the quality of life for residents in the community by:

- Regularly patrolling local areas to provide a high profile public deterrence to anti-social behaviour, vandalism and environmental damage;
- Acting as a link between local people and service providers in relation to anti-social behaviour, vandalism and environmental damage;
- Assisting, where appropriate, in the speedy resolution of incidents of anti-social behaviour, vandalism or environmental damage through reporting incidents, gathering information and providing evidence (including attending court);
- Developing a pro-active approach to engaging with young people by providing information on social and leisure activities, and enabling them to raise issues of concern;
- Engaging positively with local people, providing community safety advice, and assisting in reassuring and supporting vulnerable people and victims of crime; and
- Making appropriate referrals to the Antisocial Behaviour Team and developing an awareness of community-based initiatives designed to tackle anti-social behaviour.

CCTV (Closed Circuit Television)

In November 2003 the Community Safety Partnership held a problem-solving workshop in the Town Hall, in response to increasing public concern over incidents of serious assaults and anti-social behaviour in Lerwick Town Centre. A number of issues were raised in respect of the actual and perceived increase in antisocial behaviour experienced in the Lerwick Town Centre area. One of the matters deemed worthy of further investigation was the installation of a Public Space CCTV System, and Members of Shetland Islands Council tasked officers from the Council and Northern Constabulary to carry out a feasibility study into CCTV. This study is currently ongoing and a report will be submitted to the Community Safety Partnership and to Services Committee.

Neighbourhood Compact

A Neighbourhood Compact is an agreement between the Community Planning Board and the community itself which sets out in very clear terms the support and services that will be delivered by the relevant agencies and the standards of behaviour that are expected from local residents.

Racist Incidents Panel

In 2004, a Racist Incidents Panel was established in Shetland to ensure that the relevant mechanisms were in place to enable more effective reporting of racist incidents and to deal with them effectively and efficiently.

The number of recorded racist incidents in Shetland has risen from 2 in 2000 to 5 in 2004, however this is comparable to Orkney, yet lower than the Western Isles, maintaining Shetland as one of the safest places to live in the UK.

Alcohol Byelaw

Another issue raised at the workshop was for further investigative work to be carried out into an alcohol byelaw. Following an extensive consultation exercise, and a final report to Shetland Islands Council in November 2004, a decision was made to support the Community Safety Partnership in taking forward the implementation of an alcohol byelaw for Lerwick. The Partnership recognise the strong links between alcohol and antisocial behaviour and we will work together to address this.

Once enacted, the alcohol byelaw will make it an offence to consume alcohol in a public place within the Lerwick Community Council area. However, there are a number of dates, which could be exempt from the provisions of the byelaw, such as Up Helly Aa and New Year. There is also the facility to have parts of what are normally defined as "public places" licenced under the Licensing (Scotland) Act 1976, thereby allowing the consumption of alcohol in the specified, licenced area for the period of the license.

The alcohol byelaw will not stop anyone from being able to consume alcohol in their own house or garden, nor will it stop any person legally entitled to purchase alcohol from buying alcohol from a licensed premises and conveying it to a private place for consumption.

Once the byelaw comes into effect, signs will be erected at the designated area given notice of the effect of the byelaw, and the Partnership will be responsible for reviewing the byelaw every two years.

Safer Shetland Action Line

The Community Safety Partnership is currently in the process of establishing a "Safer Shetland Action Line". The aim of the Action Line is to offer a variety of methods by which members of the community can contact the Community Safety Partnership to express their views or concerns on any community safety issues. It can be accessed via telephone, email, answerphone, PO Box address and text messaging (SMS), providing members of the community with a variety of safe, confidential ways to report community safety concerns. Any information received that is not of a criminal nature, but had an impact on quality of life issues e.g. bullying at school, noisy neighbours, concerns about fire/water safety will be disseminated to the relevant agency so that it can be addressed accordingly.

Interventions, Enforcement & Rehabilitation

Antisocial Behaviour Strategies

The Antisocial Behaviour etc (Scotland) Act 2004 gives Shetland Islands Council the authority to tackle antisocial behaviour. Under this piece of legislation, every local authority, together with the relevant Chief Constable, must prepare, publish and review a strategy for dealing with antisocial behaviour in their council area. This strategy will not only deal with enforcement issues, but will address issues such as prevention, support and early intervention.

Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABCs)

Acceptable Behaviour Contract's are agreements voluntarily made with individuals/households involved in incidents of antisocial behaviour. This disposal is usually targeted at young people between the ages of 12 and 16 where ASBOs could not be granted against them.

Antisocial Behaviour Orders (ASBOs)

Antisocial Behaviour Orders have been extended to 12-15 year olds, to help deal with the small number of persistently antisocial young people. In cases involving a child, the Sheriff must have regard to views of the Principal Reporter before deciding on an interim order and the views of the Children's Panel before a full ASBO is served. A child cannot be imprisoned for breach of an order.

The Antisocial Behaviour etc (Scotland) Act 2004 includes other changes to ASBOs:

- The introduction of a statutory power of arrest for breach of an ASBO, which is already a criminal offence;
- The introduction of ASBOs on conviction in the criminal court and a requirement on local authorities to maintain a record of orders; and
- Any ASBO that is applied for is no longer limited to the boundaries of the local authority area, and can now cover other local authority areas.

Closure of premises

The Antisocial Behaviour etc (Scotland) Act 2004 includes a new police power targeting those premises at the centre of acute antisocial behaviour, for example drinking or drug dens. If a closure order is granted, the premises can be closed for up to 3 months, with a possible extension of up to 6 months. If anyone remains within or enters the premises once the order has been served, they would be guilty of an offence, which could result in a fine or imprisonment.

Community Mediation - Shetland

In September 2004 a Community Mediation Worker was appointed for two years, through the Scottish Executive's *Building Strong, Safe & Attractive Communities* initiative. The post is based in the Citizens Advice Bureau.

Community Mediation is a free, impartial, non-judgemental and confidential service available to anyone. It is particularly effective in dealing with a wide range of disputes, such as noise disturbance, antisocial behaviour, garden and communal area disputes. The process, although skilled, is very simple and effective in a large number of cases reaching a joint meeting.

Community Reparation Orders

The Sheriff Court has been given a new sentencing option where a person aged 12 or over is convicted of an offence involving antisocial behaviour. The Community Reparation Order (CRO) would require an offender to undertake between 10 and 100 hours reparative work in the community.

Parenting Orders

The Antisocial Behaviour etc (Scotland) Act 2004 allows the courts to make an order requiring a parent to undertake compulsory counselling or support where their child has engaged in criminal or antisocial behaviour and it is in the interests of the child to prevent further similar behaviour or conduct.

Dispersal of Groups

The Antisocial Behaviour etc (Scotland) Act 2004 provides new powers of dispersal with the aim of bringing relief to communities and deal with antisocial behaviour in particular trouble spots. The Act creates a new power for a senior police officer to name an area, in conjunction with the local authority, where there has been significant, persistent and serious antisocial behaviour, and the presence or behaviour of groups is contributing to the problems.

Electronic Tagging

From April 2005 courts will be able to impose Restriction Of Liberty Orders using electronic monitoring (tagging) on under 16 year olds and the Criminal Justice Unit, based in Social Work, will provide the necessary support. Electronic monitoring will also be available through the children's hearing system as a direct alternative to secure accommodation.

Fixed Penalty Notices

The police are being given new powers to issue fixed penalty notices (FPNs) for low level antisocial offences, including being drunk and incapable, breach of the peace, vandalism, urinating in public, and drinking in areas covered by bye-laws.

Graffiti & Environment

Preventing vandalism and graffiti and improving the environment plays are important measures, which will enable us to promote Shetland as a safe, secure and attractive community.

New measures introduced by the Antisocial Behaviour etc (Scotland) Act 2004 include a ban on the sale of spray paint to under-16 year olds. The Act also gives local authorities new powers to remove graffiti from street furniture such as phone boxes, park benches, transport and educational institutions. If it is not removed, the local authority can carry out this work, and claim back the cost from the owner.

In addition, fixed penalty notices can now be issued for fly tipping, the police have been given the power to issue fixed penalty notices for litter and there are increased penalties for environmental offences.




Noise Nuisance

Local authorities have been given the power to implement a noise nuisance service in their area up to 24 hours a day and 7 days a week. If an officer of the local authority considers that the noise coming from someone's home is more than, or may have been more than, the noise level allowed, they may issue a warning notice. If the noise is not abated after a period of 10 minutes, and an internal noise measurement establishing the set level has been breached, local authority officers have the power to impose £100 fixed penalty notices and have also been granted more effective powers to seize noise-making equipment.


Seizure Of Vehicles

The Antisocial Behaviour etc (Scotland) Act 204 allows the police to deal with people who cause alarm, distress or annoyance to members of the public through the antisocial use of vehicles on or off public roads. The police are given the power to stop, seize and remove vehicles if they have a good reason for believing that they are being, or have been used, in a way, which is likely to alarm, distress or annoy members of the public.

For further information on this document, a copy on audio cassette, large print, Braille or require assistance in reading this, please:

 01595 744527
 community.safety@sic.shetland.gov.uk
 Community Safety
Shetland Islands Council
Town Hall
Hillhead
Lerwick, ZE1 0HB
Shetland

Or, for an electronic copy, download from the web at:

 www.shetland.gov.uk

Or do you require the services of an interpreter? If so, please contact 01595 744527 for assistance. An interpreter will be made available or the document can be supplied in your choice of language.

你是否需要傳譯服務？

如果需要，請致電 01595 744537 尋求幫助。

我們會適當地為你安排傳譯人員或者提供你需要文字的文件。

ਕੀ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਕਿਸੇ ਇੰਟਰਪਰੈਟਰ (ਤੁਭਾਸ਼ੀਆ) ਦੀਆਂ ਸੇਵਾਵਾਂ ਦੀ ਲੋੜ ਹੈ?

ਜੇਕਰ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਲੋੜ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਕ੍ਰਿਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਲਈ 01595 744537 ਤੇ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।

ਜਿਥੇ ਸੰਭਵ ਹੈ ਸਕਿਆ ਇੰਟਰਪਰੈਟਰ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਕਰਵਾਇਆ ਜਾਏਗਾ ਜਾਂ ਤੁਹਾਡੀ ਪਸੰਦ ਵਾਲੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਦਸਤਾਵੇਜ਼ ਭੇਜਿਆ ਜਾਏਗਾ।

आपनि कि एकजन दोभाषीर साहाय्य चान ?

यदि आपनार प्रयोजन থাকे ताहले अनुग्रह करे योगायोग करून -01595 744537
येखाने सञ्जब सेखाने एकजन दोभाषीर व्यवस्था करा हबे अथवा आपनि ये भाषाते च
दलीलति अनुवाद करे आपनाके प्रदान करा हबे ।

کیا آپ کو انٹرپریٹر کی ضرورت ہے؟

اگر ایسا ہے تو پھر (انٹرپریٹر کی) مدد حاصل کرنے کیلئے فون نمبر 01595 744537 پر بات کریں۔

جہاں ممکن ہو اوہاں انٹرپریٹر کی سہولت فراہم کی جائے گی یا پھر (مطلوبہ) دستوویز کا ترجمہ آپ کی

پسندیدہ زبان میں فراہم کیا جائے گا۔