

NORTHALLERTON TOWN COUNCIL

Crime and Disorder Statement



Review Date: May 2029

Introduction

Northallerton Town Council acknowledges its responsibilities under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, which places a duty on local authorities to consider the likely effect of their functions and decisions on crime, disorder, anti-social behaviour, substance misuse and reoffending within their area.

The Council recognises that community safety is an important element of its role in representing the residents of Northallerton and in managing the facilities, services and public spaces under its control.

Whilst responsibility for policing rests with North Yorkshire Police, the Council works with a range of partner organisations to support the creation and maintenance of a safe, welcoming and vibrant town for residents, businesses and visitors alike.

The Council recognises that Northallerton is generally a safe and prosperous market town and that its approach to crime and disorder should be proportionate to local circumstances. Members receive and review local policing reports through the Council's regular meetings, enabling the Council to remain aware of local crime trends, anti-social behaviour issues and community safety priorities. This information helps to inform the Council's discussions, partnership working and consideration of matters affecting community safety.

The Council's Strategic Plan, management of public assets and amenities, and partnerships with local organisations all contribute towards improving community wellbeing and reducing opportunities for crime and anti-social behaviour.

Partnership Working

The Council works with North Yorkshire Police, North Yorkshire Council, Northallerton BID and local community organisations to address issues affecting residents, businesses and visitors.

The Council supports the Northallerton Community Alcohol Partnership (CAP), which brings together local authorities, police, schools, retailers and community organisations to reduce underage drinking and alcohol-related anti-social behaviour through education, awareness and early intervention.

The Council also maintains a close relationship with Youthspace, a local organisation supporting young people in Northallerton. The Council provides accommodation within the Town Hall free of charge for Youthspace activities, helping to ensure accessible youth provision within the town. A Town Councillor and a member of Council staff also volunteer with the organisation, further strengthening links between the Council and Youthspace and reflecting the Council's commitment to supporting positive opportunities for young people.

Consideration in Decision-Making

Community safety considerations form part of the Council's decision-making processes, including:

- Considering the impact of projects, events and initiatives on residents and public safety.
- Responding to concerns raised by residents relating to anti-social behaviour, vandalism and environmental issues.
- Ensuring Council facilities, public spaces and assets are maintained in a way that promotes safe and positive use.
- Working with partners to support initiatives that improve community wellbeing and reduce opportunities for crime and disorder.

CCTV and Community Safety

The Council operates CCTV systems within the Town Hall and at a number of Council-managed sites. These systems assist in providing a safe environment for staff, visitors and facility users, protect Council assets and support the prevention and detection of crime. The Council has adopted a CCTV Policy governing the operation and management of these systems.

Community Engagement and Place Making

The Council provides opportunities for residents to raise concerns through Council meetings and engagement with Councillors and officers. Community safety issues are considered where appropriate and referred to the relevant authority when necessary.

The Council also supports community events, public amenities, parks, open spaces and community facilities. It recognises that well-maintained and actively used public spaces contribute to civic pride, community cohesion and a safer environment.

Conclusion

Northallerton Town Council demonstrates its commitment to the principles of Section 17 through partnership working, support for the Northallerton Community Alcohol Partnership, practical support for Youthspace, investment in community facilities and public spaces, operation of CCTV systems, consideration of local policing information and ongoing engagement with residents and partner organisations.

Through these activities, the Council actively contributes to community safety in a manner that is proportionate to local needs and seeks to ensure that Northallerton remains a safe, welcoming and vibrant town for residents, businesses and visitors.