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The  
Countryside  
Agency

# Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998

a practical guide for  
parish and town councils

Mark Deane and Susan Doran



## Key points

- Parish and town councils have a duty to consider the impact of all their functions and decisions on crime and disorder in their local area, under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.
- Parish and town councils should review how they exercise their powers and deliver their services, in order to comply with Section 17.
- As the most 'grassroots' level of government, parish and town councils are in an ideal position to represent the views of their communities and ensure that local crime reduction strategies represent those views.
- Parish and town councils should be fully involved in their local Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (led by the district authority and police force).
- The most effective way to reduce crime at a local level is by following an evidence-based, problem-solving approach.
- Parish and town councils can pay for crime and disorder reduction by using their precept for funds, Parish Plan Grants and payments from developers under the Town and Country Planning Act, Section 106.

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# Introduction

Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 states that all relevant authorities – which includes town and parish councils – have a duty to consider the impact of all their functions and decisions on crime and disorder in their local area. What does this mean in practice for town and parish councils? This guide has been produced to answer that question.

The duties introduced by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 affect all town and parish councils, whatever their size or location. The Act introduces a partnership approach to local crime reduction; town and parish councils should be partners in that process. The Act also imposes certain duties on town and parish councils to consider crime and disorder reduction in everything they do. It is therefore important that all clerks and local councillors have an understanding of the key parts of the Act that affect them.

Recent research carried out for the Countryside Agency has indicated that town and parish councils are having difficulty understanding the principles behind the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, in particular the principles behind Section 17. This guide, produced by the Countryside Agency and Nacro, is intended to set the scene in terms of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, and in particular examine Sections 5(2) and 17 of the Act and how they affect town and parish councils. It will seek to give practical examples of how town and parish councils can play a full and active part in local problem-solving. It will also seek to unravel the mystery behind Section 17 of the Act for town and parish councils and give practical solutions to ensure that Section 17 is complied with.

## Why is it important for town and parish councils to be involved in local crime and disorder reduction?

In 1997 it was estimated that the expenditure of town and parish councils amounted to over £200 million.<sup>1</sup> Town and parish councils have at their disposal a vast number of workers and local expertise and opinion to draw upon: one estimate puts the number working for them at 26,400, with as many as one-third doing so on a voluntary basis.<sup>2</sup> It is easy to see how ‘parish councils have the potential to be influential players in the community safety arena in rural areas’.<sup>3</sup>

Central government also recognises the importance of their role:

*'Parish councils will continue to play a key role in many of our towns and villages. They have a vital role in helping principal councils keep in touch with the smallest communities in their areas. Parish councils can work in partnership with their principal council to bring government closer to the people and to establish the decentralised delivery of local government services. It is important therefore that parish councils everywhere embrace the new culture of openness and accountability, putting their local people first.'*<sup>4</sup>

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 gives locally elected councils an ideal platform to ensure local issues are not ignored. Although rural areas generally suffer less reported crime than urban areas, it is still an area of concern for many residents. Town and parish councils should therefore become actively involved in the identification of the local problems and be part of the solution. The Crime and Disorder Act should be seen as an opportunity for change.

- 1 Byrne (2000): 521
- 2 Byrne (2000): 521
- 3 Lawtey and Deane (2001)
- 4 DETR (1998)

# The Crime and Disorder Act 1998

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 was born out of the realisation that if crime prevention and community safety initiatives were to work effectively then a number of partners would need to work together. There was recognition that the police could no longer be the primary crime prevention agents. The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 advocates the use of an holistic approach to crime and disorder. The Act highlights the establishment of a new modernising and radical agenda.

It seeks to encompass the two functions of crime prevention and community safety. The Act introduces for the first time a framework for partnership working at a local level.

The Crime and Disorder Act places a statutory 'duty' on the police and local authorities<sup>5</sup> to work together with key partners and agencies in partnership to formulate and implement local crime reduction strategies.

The partners are required to:

- **identify**, through local crime and disorder audits and consultation, key **local crime and disorder priorities**
- **formulate strategies to** assist in tackling these key priorities and **reduce crime** at the local level
- **monitor** and **evaluate** those strategies

<sup>5</sup> ie unitary, county, district, borough and metropolitan borough councils

## Section 5(2) of the Crime and Disorder Act *the right of parish councils to be consulted*

### Section 5(2) of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998

In exercising those functions, the responsible authorities shall act in co-operation with the following persons and bodies, namely:

- (a) every police authority any part of whose police area lies within the area;
- (b) every probation committee or health authority any part of whose area lies within the area; and
- (c) every person or body of a description which is for the time being prescribed by order of the Secretary of State under this subsection;

and it shall be the duty of those persons and bodies to co-operate in the exercise by the responsible authorities of those functions.

In addition to the key partnership members outlined above, a number of other agencies were identified as key contributors in this process. Town and parish councils are among these key contributors:

*'Town and parish councils (and community councils in Wales) will be key partners. By definition they are very close to the communities they serve and have a very good understanding of the range of issues of concern to local people. They may be able to provide a valuable local dimension when it comes to taking the community's views on crime and disorder problems of the area implementing the subsequent strategy.'*<sup>6</sup>

Town and parish councils have in the past been marginalised when it comes to partnership working and in some cases totally ignored within the process. The Act offers the necessary incentives to town and parish councils to participate in crime and disorder reduction policies by way of a statutory 'duty' to comply. It also ensures that the main partners, namely the local authorities and police, together with the other named partners work with town and parish councils to seek local solutions to local problems.

The majority of rural areas have more than one tier of local government. Involvement of both the county council and the district council in partnership activities can be a tentative process. When town and parish councils are added to this equation then the whole process can become very confusing and complex: 'involvement by parish councils in consultation



and in the development of community safety strategies has been at best patchy and at worst non-existent.’<sup>7</sup>

## Parish councils and partnership working: a joined-up approach to tackling crime and disorder

It has been recognised that implementing Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 will be a difficult task and the maze of provisions and obligations add to that confusion. Section 17 has been described as an ‘enabling device’<sup>8</sup> but Section 17 implementation has been poorly articulated.

It is neither the suggestion of this report nor a requirement of law that town or parish councils should take the lead in the partnership. Rather, it is good practice for them to be involved in their local Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership. The advantages of partnership working for town and parish councils include:<sup>9</sup>

- It avoids unnecessary duplication, confusion and waste of resources.
- Partner agencies will consider the impact of their policies and actions on crime and disorder.
- There is greater potential impact on crime and disorder through increased agency involvement.
- Pooling resources maximises their effectiveness.
- It provides opportunities for sharing expertise and learning from others.
- Bringing together a range of agencies enables each agency to concentrate on its strengths and experiences can be brought to bear on all areas of the partnership’s activities.

6 Home Office (1998): 2.35

7 Lawtey and Deane (2001)

8 Bullock *et al.* (2000)

9 Mullett (2001)

# Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act *mainstreaming crime and disorder reduction*

## Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998

'Without prejudice to any other obligation imposed on it, it shall be the duty of each authority to which this section applies to exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent, crime and disorder in its area.'

In addition to Section 5(2), which gives town and parish councils the right to be consulted about local crime and disorder reduction, Section 17 of the Act places a new obligation on local and other named authorities to consider the crime and disorder implications of all their activities, and to do all they reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder. Section 17 applies equally to town and parish councils and to other local authorities.

The purpose of the Act is to focus attention on more creative measures to tackle crime and disorder along with the traditional crime prevention methods. According to the Home Office, Section 17 emphasises 'the vital work of preventing crime and a new focus across a wide range of local services ... It is a matter of putting crime and disorder considerations at the heart of decision-making.'<sup>10</sup>

The greatest significance of Section 17 is the placing of ownership and responsibility for crime reduction beyond the police and on to a range of agencies. Section 17 has given these agencies a statutory responsibility to ensure that crime and disorder reduction is given the same importance in the decision-making process as other statutory responsibilities. Crime and disorder should not be seen as secondary considerations when making decisions.

Town and parish councils, therefore, must consider the impact on crime and disorder when undertaking their daily functions and services. This means not only positive impacts but also negative impacts. This is especially important when considering financial measures.

Compliance with Section 17 demonstrates the commitment and willingness of the local authority agents to address crime and disorder issues. However,

non-compliance could instigate a legal challenge from the courts for failure 'to do all that it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in its area'.

Commentators have suggested that 'Section 17 is arguably the most radical part of the Act ... It is difficult to conceive of any decision that will remain untouched by Section 17 considerations'.<sup>11</sup>

Section 17 provides a 'powerful thinking tool for crime and disorder reduction'.<sup>12</sup> One of its primary objectives is to encourage local authorities to think creatively about crime and disorder reduction strategies in relation to all their functions. **Town and parish councils, it has been recognised, have a genuine contributory role to play. They can provide a valuable local dimension on a range of issues and help to assist in formulating solutions. Town and parish councils need to be fully functional partners and actively engaged.**

Local authorities have the power as commissioning bodies to delegate work to parish and town councils (agency powers).<sup>13</sup> This does not mean, however, that legal responsibilities are transferred across to the town or parish council. Both the local authority and the town or parish council assume responsibility, both in terms of their contractual obligation and their duty under Section 17 to do all that it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in its area.

Quite clearly Section 17 applies now and needs to be seen to be applied. Doing nothing is not an option. In the long term the result should be a change in the ethos of each local authority to which this section applies, with crime and disorder reduction automatically considered. In the short term, there are things that can be done **now** to show an understanding of the implications of Section 17 and the intention to work towards changing the ethos of the council.

10 Home Office (1997)

11 Moss and Pease (1999)

12 Bullock *et al.* (2000)

13 It is advisable that the principal council's solicitor consults town and parish councils as to the remit and obligation once activities have been delegated.

# Practical steps to compliance with Section 17

Broadly speaking the work of town and parish councils falls into four main categories:

- 1 services such as managing community halls and playing fields
- 2 discretionary powers to spend 'free resource' money
- 3 a statutory right to be notified of all planning applications within the parish boundary and a statutory right to be consulted fully by the district council<sup>14</sup>
- 4 a statutory duty to hold regular parish meetings

Additionally town, parish and community councils are bodies with whom responsible authorities must co-operate in conducting an audit and developing a crime and disorder reduction strategy.<sup>15</sup> Conversely, town and parish councils have a statutory duty under certain pieces of legislation to co-operate in doing all that it can to reduce crime and disorder.

Potentially, all of the above have an impact on crime and disorder.

**Particular attention should be given to the matrix of roles and responsibilities of town and parish councils included within this document (Appendix, page 22), for the purposes of drawing attention to the potential significance of their role in ensuring community safety.**

## A preliminary review

It might prove useful to all authorities as a first step to compliance to review how much knowledge and implementation has already occurred before embarking on change. This 'scoping' exercise might involve short interviews with elected members and clerks to see how much knowledge they have on the subject. It should also include a review of the decision-making procedures, as well as all current plans, strategies and policies. It could also include a common definition of what is meant by crime and disorder.

This will also enable you to measure how far you have come since implementing the change process and more importantly show any external scrutiny agency that you are dealing with the implementation in a proper and reasonable way.

## Training

To ensure that the Crime and Disorder Act is being complied with and in particular Section 17, all elected members and clerks need to be fully aware of their obligations:

*'The lack of knowledge and understanding of the implications of Section 17 of the Act demonstrates the need for training in this area for everyone engaged in partnership work and community safety in general.'*<sup>16</sup>

Consequently the ability of Section 17 to be a fully functional vehicle, steering crime and disorder reduction initiatives forward is hampered until the wheels of understanding can propel it forward.

*An example of training: East Sussex Association of Town and Parish Councils, County Council, District Councils and Sussex Police organised a series of joint training events focussing on the Crime and Disorder Act provisions and their implications for town and parish councils.*

Another issue is the education of new town and parish councillors and clerks, so that they have an understanding of the implications of Section 17 and how they can positively contribute to this process. This guide provides an early opportunity to induct new members, with training being offered, possibly in partnership with the district/county council.

## Creating an audit trail for decision-making

**Complying with Section 17 is not enough – you have to be able to prove that you are complying with it.** It is therefore important to consider how you can create an audit trail for each and every decision made within the authority. All reports to members or committees should include an impact statement regarding crime and disorder. As stated earlier, this may be a positive or negative impact statement. In addition, it is important that debates and decisions are minuted to show that you have exercised your duty. If your knowledge of current crime and disorder reduction options would make it impossible to have an informed debate, you should seek expert advice – your local Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership will be able to provide this.

All meetings need to be minuted – even when only two people are present – when crime and disorder is discussed and decisions lead to the exercise of the council's powers. This is especially important if the council representative

involved gives a summary of decisions made or the edited version is used by the authority as a base for decision-making.

## Community consultation

Town and parish councils can facilitate the discussion of important community issues by local residents at parish meetings and represent their views to the district council and other local and national bodies. Increasingly, town and parish councils represent the views and needs of their community across a wide range of issues.

This feeds into a wider process of consultation. Developing an inclusive, community-driven crime and disorder reduction strategy ensures compliance with Section 17.

14 Under the principles laid down by the Local Government and Rating Act 1997.

15 This has been legally stipulated in the Crime and Disorder Strategies (Prescribed Description) Order 1998 s.11998 no. 2452.

16 HMIC (2000)

# The problem-solving approach

Recent guidance on reducing crime has emphasised an evidence-based, problem-solving approach, in which the most appropriate solutions are identified for local problems.<sup>17</sup> Parish and town councils will need to get expert advice on implementing this approach (starting with the local Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership). The following summary is intended to give parish councillors and clerks a basic understanding of problem-solving and crime reduction.

The stages of the problem-solving approach are:

- 1 **Audit** crime and disorder in the local area. By law, the local Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership will have carried out a crime audit and should be able to provide data on the area covered by individual parish and town councils. Other agencies that have relevant data include the police, health authority, probation service and fire service.
- 2 The audit process should include **consultation** with the local community. As well as local residents and businesses, 'hard to reach' groups such as young people and ethnic minorities should be consulted. The following methods of consultation could be used: community meetings, focus groups, questionnaires and surveys.
- 3 The audit and consultation will enable you to **identify** local crime and disorder **problems** (eg criminal damage and graffiti to bus shelters and community buildings; theft from vehicles in a local car park).
- 4 Once the problems have been identified, you should **decide** your **priorities** – those problems that need to be addressed first.
- 5 **Identify a range of options** for tackling your priorities. Past experience will be a valuable guide here: both local (from the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership and police) and national (based on research by the Home Office and other national organisations such as Nacro). Always include 'doing nothing' as one option.
- 6 **Choose realistic options** from your list of possible options. In order to do this: identify what resources are needed, including funding, skills, labour and so on; identify how these resources will be found (funding sources are listed on page 16); and identify the possible risks and benefits for the introduction of each of the possible options. Set a timetable for implementing the chosen options (see also point 8).
- 7 **Implement** the **solutions** you have chosen on the basis of the work carried out to identify and choose them.

- 8 It is important to **set targets** for the options that are chosen, so that their success or failure can be measured. Targets should be SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and timetabled).
- 9 The success of the options that are implemented should be **monitored**, by consulting the local police and community, and checking crime and disorder data. This will highlight possible failings and show whether targets are being achieved. In addition, any project that has a set time period should be evaluated at the end of its operative cycle.<sup>18</sup>

17 For more detail than is possible here, see Gray *et al.* (2001) and Tilley & Laycock (2002).

18 For more detail on monitoring crime reduction initiatives, see Gray, Fox and Schuller (2001).



# Funding crime reduction

Although no new money was made available for the implementation of the Crime and Disorder Act, there are ways that town and parish councils can look to fund projects. Section 17 requires all authorities – including town and parish councils – to look carefully and assess why activities or groups are financed, in order to get value for money for their communities.

## Precept for funds

The precept forms a very small element of Council Tax: in 1998 Band D households paid just over £7 for all parish council services.

## Parish Plan Grants

These are intended to fund action plans that will cover social, economic and environmental issues facing a village or town. A grant of up to £5,000 to settle 75 per cent of the cost of devising the plan may be available. If a number of parishes work together, a greater grant may be obtainable, but to a maximum of 75 per cent of total costs. The remaining balance of 25 per cent of the costs should be met locally. This could be from the parish council's own funds, in kind for professional service, fund-raising events, local sponsorship or donations.

## The Town and Country Planning Act, Section 106

Where new developments take place, frequently sums of money are paid over by developers under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act in compensation for having not provided recreational space for the new house-owners. Those payments come to the town or parish council to manage the provision of public open space and recreation facilities (eg provision for young people).

## What is Best Value?

Best Value applies to local authorities, police and fire authorities and new bodies created by the Greater London Authority Act 1999. Although the Act places a statutory duty on those town and parish councils whose annual budgeted revenue expenditure exceeds £500,000 to adhere to the principles of Best Value, it will prove extremely useful for town and parish councils to apply the principles of Best Value since:

*'All town and parish councils are expected to embrace Best Value principles and to follow Best Value practices as far as possible. Good management practices and the pursuit of excellence should be universal across the public sector.'*<sup>19</sup>

Additionally parish and town councils may be asked at future audits about what Best Value principles their council adopts.

## Why use Best Value?

The principle of Best Value requires that authorities 'make a real and positive difference to the services which local people receive from their authority'.<sup>20</sup> This will assist in ensuring that parish and town councils have the opportunity to secure continuous improvement in the way in which they exercise their functions, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness.<sup>21</sup>

The purpose of this is to raise awareness of crime and disorder issues and to make crime and disorder and community safety mainstream in council services and decision-making. Compliance with Section 17 will be audited, so town and parish councils must be able to show that they are taking account of their roles and functions.

## Reviewing Best Value: a guide to compliance<sup>22</sup>

Parish and town councils may wish to consider carrying out a review of the ways in which they currently carry out their various functions and duties:

- **Challenge** the way services are delivered.
- **Consult** users, potential users and others.
- Demonstrate that the services are delivered **competitively**.

- Demonstrate how their performance **compares** with that of other parish and town councils delivering similar services.

By enforcing a Best Value ethos, you can demonstrate that your authority and parish/town council is looking at every opportunity to 'mainstream' crime and disorder and therefore demonstrate that you are actively complying with Section 17.

Through asking the following pertinent questions parish and town councils can ensure that they:

- Are accountable to the community for their actions and for the duties they perform.
- Realise what the concerns are of those within their communities in relation to crime and the fear of crime.
- Consider the implications of the duties and functions they perform and revise the effectiveness of each on a regular basis.

**Challenge** will involve asking:

- What contribution does a particular function or duty make with regard to reducing crime and disorder within the parish?
- Is the parish/town council doing all that it can to perform this function or duty effectively?

**Consultation** will involve asking:

- What will be the purpose of consulting others in relation to reducing crime and disorder?
- Who will be consulted/involved?
- What will they be consulted about?
- How will the consultation/involvement be achieved?
- Where and when will the consultation take place?

**Comparison** will involve asking:

- How do other parish and town councils perform similar functions/duties?

**Competition** will involve asking:

- What lessons can be learned from others and how can you apply them to your town or parish council?
- Are there any other agencies (for example community groups, voluntary sector, private sector) who you work together with to deliver a particular duty/function?

19 DETR Circular 10/99 para.9

20 DETR Circular 10/99 para.9

21 Please refer to Appendix (page 22).

22 A more comprehensive guide to Best Value for parish and town councils can be found on the website of the National Association of Local Councils ([www.nalc.gov.uk](http://www.nalc.gov.uk)).

# Additional legislative considerations

## Sharing information in partnerships

Section 115 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 provides that any person can lawfully disclose information, where necessary or expedient for the purposes of the Act, to a chief officer of police, a police authority, local authorities, probation service or health authority, even if they do not otherwise have this power. In other words, sharing information on individuals within a Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership does not infringe the Data Protection Act. Any parish council that is worried about information sharing should, however, seek legal advice.

## Human Rights Act 1998

Although the Human Rights Act is a separate and distinct piece of legislation, there may be occasions when not complying with Section 17 may infringe individual rights under this Act. Equally, actions taken to reduce crime may themselves infringe individual rights under the Act. For further guidance on this, see Afzal and Schuller (2000) and Rowe and Maw (1999).

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## Useful organisations

### **Countryside Agency**

Rural Services Branch  
Dacre House  
19 Dacre Street  
London SW1H 0DH  
[www.countryside.gov.uk](http://www.countryside.gov.uk)

### **Home Office**

50 Queen Anne's Gate  
London SW1H 9AT  
020 7273 4000  
[www.homeoffice.gov.uk](http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk)  
[www.crimereduction.gov.uk](http://www.crimereduction.gov.uk)

### **Local Government Association**

Local Government House  
Smith Square  
London SW1P 3HZ  
020 7664 3000  
[www.lga.gov.uk](http://www.lga.gov.uk)

### **Local Government Information Unit**

22 Upper Woburn Place  
London WC1H 0TB  
020 7554 2800  
[www.lgiu.gov.uk](http://www.lgiu.gov.uk)

### **Nacro**

Crime and Social Policy Section  
237 Queenstown Road  
London SW8 3NP  
020 7501 0555  
[www.nacro.org.uk](http://www.nacro.org.uk)

### **National Association of Local Councils**

109 Great Russell Street  
London WC1B 3LD  
020 7637 1865  
[www.nalc.gov.uk](http://www.nalc.gov.uk)

# Appendix

## *key powers and duties of parish and town councils*

This guide provides an easy checklist of potential opportunities for town and parish councils to reduce local crime and disorder.

<b>Powers and duties</b>	<b>Statutory provision</b>
Power to maintain cemeteries/monuments and memorials	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss.9, 10; Local Government Act 1972, s.214; Parish Councils and Burials Authorities (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1070, s.1
Power to provide and maintain bus shelters	Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1953, s.4
Power to provide and equip buildings for use of clubs having athletic, social or educational objectives	Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, s.19
Powers to spend money on various crime prevention measures	Local Government and Ratings Act 1997, s.31
Power to repair and maintain public footpaths and bridleways	Highways Act 1980, ss.43, 50
Power to light roads and public places	Parish Councils Act 1957, s.3; Highways Act 1980, s.301
Power to provide parking places for vehicles, bicycles and motorcycles	Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, ss. 57, 63
Power to plant trees, etc and to maintain roadside verges	Highways Act 1980, s.96
Provision of litter receptacles	Litter Act 1983, ss. 5, 6
Power to acquire land for or to provide recreation grounds, public walks, pleasure grounds and open spaces and to manage and control them	Public Health Act 1875, s. 164; Local Government Act 1972, Sched. 14, para. 27; Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1980, s. 44; Open Spaces Act 1906, ss. 9, 10; Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, s. 19
Right to be notified of planning applications	Town and Country Planning Act 1990, Sched. 1, para. 8
Powers to contribute financially to traffic calming schemes	Local Government and Rating Act 1997, s. 26
Powers to spend money on community transport schemes	Local Government and Rating Act 1997, ss. 26–29

Potential crime and disorder issues	Examples of crime reduction opportunities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Criminal damage to headstones, monuments or memorials</li> <li>• Fear of crime through neglect of areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remove or repair criminal damage within short space of time.</li> <li>• Ensure areas are always well maintained, eg bushes are well maintained with no 'hidden' areas.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Criminal damage</li> <li>• Graffiti</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replace glass with perspex; in severe cases remove shelter.</li> <li>• Remove graffiti immediately.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth nuisance through lack of facilities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide youth drop-in centre or similar meeting-place.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meet Section 17 requirements by providing relevant crime prevention measures.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fear of crime</li> <li>• Assaults</li> <li>• Public nuisance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure good visibility.</li> <li>• Improve lighting.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fear of crime</li> <li>• Road safety</li> <li>• Assaults</li> <li>• Public nuisance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve lighting.</li> <li>• Ensure prompt repair of lights.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Theft of and from vehicles</li> <li>• Theft of motorcycles, scooters and bicycles</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure sufficient secure parking is available. For larger parking areas, ensure compliance with the standards of the 'secured car parks' scheme.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Damage to trees</li> <li>• Increase in litter due to lack of grass verge cutting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure regular verge cutting.</li> <li>• Consider variegated shrubs to protect trees from attack.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase in litter</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide suitable receptacles at key places.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth nuisance</li> <li>• Litter</li> <li>• Fear of crime</li> <li>• Assaults</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide appropriate youth facilities.</li> <li>• Maintain clean and tidy grounds.</li> <li>• Ensure clear visibility of facilities.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased burglaries</li> <li>• Increased youth nuisance</li> <li>• Increased theft of/from vehicles</li> <li>• Increased fear of crime</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure compliance with the principles of 'secured by design'.</li> <li>• Use any 'planning gain' appropriately.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Road safety</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure appropriate road calming measures are considered as part of speed management policies.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of access to youth and other facilities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision of community transport could reduce isolation and improve access to facilities out of area.</li> </ul>





Nacro is the principal non-governmental organisation for reducing crime in England and Wales.

We work with local people, practitioners and inter-agency partnerships to reduce crime levels, lessen the fear of crime and regenerate communities.

Our research, our work with Government and our experience of delivering services at a local level give us an excellent national perspective on what works in community safety and how to adapt and apply this at a local level. Community safety practitioners from a range of community safety partnerships use this expertise at every stage of partnership development.

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The Countryside Agency is the statutory body working to:

- conserve and enhance the countryside
- promote social equity and economic opportunity for the people who live there
- help everyone, wherever they live, to enjoy this national asset

The Countryside Agency will work to achieve the very best for the English countryside, its people and its places:

- leading with research and advice
- influencing others, especially central and local government
- demonstrating ways forward through practical projects

To find out more about our work, and for information about the countryside, visit our website: [www.countryside.gov.uk](http://www.countryside.gov.uk)

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