

Affected by

**ANTI-SOCIAL  
BEHAVIOUR?**

**Your  
guide to  
dealing with it**

# WHAT IS ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR?

## Anti-social behaviour (ASB)

includes a variety of behaviour covering a whole complex of **unacceptable activity that can blight the quality of community life.**

[Other terms such as 'nuisance', 'neighbour disputes' and 'disorder' are also used to describe some of this behaviour.]

Anti-Social Behaviour is generally defined as **behaviour that causes or is likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to another individual.**

Some typical examples of Anti-Social Behaviour:

### HARASSMENT

- intimidating behaviour
- violence or the threat of violence to another person
- abusive language
- aggressive begging

### NUISANCE NEIGHBOURS

- loud music
- constant dog barking
- seriously untidy gardens

### YOBBISH BEHAVIOUR

- graffiti / vandalism
- verbal / physical abuse
- intimidation / harassment
- motor bikes on public footpaths
- misuse of fireworks

### VEHICLE NUISANCE

- excessive noise
- excessive vehicle repairs and maintenance carried out in gardens

### ENVIRONMENTAL ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

- fly-tipping
- storing rubbish in gardens
- dog fouling
- abandoned vehicles

# WHO CAN BE AFFECTED BY IT?

**YOUR** grandparents – perhaps afraid to leave the house after dark if they feel intimidated by large groups hanging around outside their home

**YOUR** pet – injured by a misused firework

**YOUR** children – can't play in the park because of broken glass / drug debris

**YOU** – unable to sleep because your neighbours play loud music throughout the night...

**IT CAN AFFECT ANYONE.**

Help us to help you and REPORT Anti-Social behaviour to the Community Safety Team.

**REPORT ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR**

**WE DO NOT HAVE TO TOLERATE ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR.**

**WE ALL HAVE A RIGHT TO LIVE IN A SAFE AND SECURE COMMUNITY.**

**BUT WITH RIGHTS COME RESPONSIBILITIES.**

**WE ALL HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO TREAT OUR NEIGHBOURS AND OTHERS IN THE COMMUNITY RESPECTFULLY.**

**PEOPLE WHO COMMIT ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR NEED TO KNOW THAT THIS BEHAVIOUR WILL NOT BE TOLERATED AND THAT ACTION WILL BE TAKEN AGAINST THEM IF THEY CONTINUE.**

# WHAT CAN YOU DO ABOUT IT?

## BEFORE TAKING ACTION THINK ABOUT THE PROBLEM...

**D**o the people committing Anti-Social Behaviour realise they are causing a nuisance?

For example, young people congregating in large groups may be doing nothing wrong but they can look intimidating to some people; neighbours may not be aware that their behaviour is causing concern; an untidy garden could mean someone is unable to take care of it through illness or disability. Where possible, find out first.

## IF YOU DECIDE TO TALK TO THE PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR IT MAY HELP TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING:

- If your neighbour is, for example, playing loud music, have you asked them, at least once, to turn their music down?
- Stay **calm** and be as **polite** as possible at all times
- Explain clearly what you feel the problem is and how it is affecting you/your family
- Once you have had your say, let them respond. Try not to interrupt the person when they are speaking
- **Don't** descend to the level of being **abusive** or **personal**, even if they choose to – this just adds to the problem
- Leave the situation if it begins to get too heated to make any meaningful or reasonable progress

If problems still continue then contact the **Community Safety Team** on 0116 272 7677. It is a good idea to keep a simple 'diary' of the Anti-Social Behaviour with dates, times and details of the problems to help the Community Safety Team investigate.

# WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT IT?

## PREVENTION

Blaby Community Safety Partnership believes prevention is the most effective long term solution in tackling Anti-Social Behaviour. Consequently, Blaby Community Safety Partnership has established a Youth Projects Team which has had considerable success in tackling youth related anti-social behaviour head-on, by engaging directly with those responsible for it.

**BLABY COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP IS COMMITTED TO TACKLING ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR. THERE ARE A NUMBER OF TOOLS AVAILABLE TO HELP US DO THIS. THESE INCLUDE:**

## WARNING LETTER

The warning letter has proven to be one of Blaby Community Safety Partnership's most successful tools in tackling Anti-Social Behaviour. It is intended to alert the individual – or in the case of a young person, their parent or guardian – to the impact and **consequences** of their Anti-Social Behaviour.

**In the vast majority of cases, the warning letter has been sufficient to prevent future Anti-Social Behaviour.**

## ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR CONTRACT [ABC]

The ABC is a written agreement between a person who has committed repeated incidents of Anti-Social Behaviour, the council and/or the police. The contract is entered into voluntarily and clearly details the actions in which the perpetrator is no longer allowed to engage. In addition, a personalised support package is offered to help the individual keep to the conditions of their contract.

## ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR ORDER [ASBO]

ASBOs are civil orders which are intended to protect the public from Anti-Social Behaviour. An order will contain certain conditions prohibiting the offender from carrying out Anti-Social acts or from entering specific areas in which they have previously committed Anti-Social Behaviour. Usually an order will last for a two year period **and if the order is breached by the individual they could face a heavy fine or even imprisonment.**

## INJUNCTION

An Injunction is a civil action which prevents an individual from doing something. Generally, injunctions are required if there is a risk of violence, or if violence has been used. Similarly to an ASBO **if the terms of an injunction are breached, an individual could face a heavy fine or imprisonment.**

## POSSESSION

The Council have the ability to evict a Council tenant from their home if they continue to engage in Anti-Social Behaviour and break the conditions of their tenancy agreement. **This power is only used as a last resort.**

# USEFUL CONTACTS:

## Blaby District Council

If the Anti-Social Behaviour you are suffering relates to one specific area, it may be helpful to contact the relevant council department directly. Alternatively, you can contact the Community Safety Team who will refer you to the appropriate department

## HOUSING

If you are a council tenant and you are experiencing Anti-Social Behaviour then please contact your housing officer. In some instances the housing department will refer cases to the Community Safety Team. Council tenants are not only responsible for their own behaviour but also for the behaviour of any person that lives at their address or anyone who may visit them in their home.

Tel: **0116 275 0777**  
Email: [housing@blaby.gov.uk](mailto:housing@blaby.gov.uk)



## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

If you have concerns over Anti-Social Behaviour relating to noise nuisance, dog related matters, vehicle related issues or refuse, the Environmental Health department will investigate in accordance with the Environmental Protection Act 1990.

Tel: **0116 272 7555**  
Email: [environmental.health@blaby.gov.uk](mailto:environmental.health@blaby.gov.uk)

## THE COMMUNITY SAFETY TEAM

If you are experiencing Anti-Social Behaviour then contact your local Community Safety Team who can provide support and advice in looking to find a resolution to your concerns regarding Anti-Social Behaviour.

Tel: **0116 272 7677**

[community.safety@blaby.gov.uk](mailto:community.safety@blaby.gov.uk)

# WHO ELSE CAN HELP?

## THE EMERGENCY SERVICES

– if a serious crime is happening now, or if someone is in immediate danger  
Tel: **999**

## POLICE CONTROL

– if you require the police to attend any non-urgent incidents  
Tel: **0116 222 2222**

## CRIMESTOPPERS

– if you have any information about any crime, but do not wish to be identified  
Tel: **0800 555 111**

## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

–if you have concerns over noise nuisance, abandoned vehicles graffiti and fly-tipping  
Tel: **0116 272 7555**

## HOUSING [TENANCY SERVICES]

– any issues relating to council properties or tenants  
Tel: **0116 275 0777**

## PARENTLINE

– can offer you support and advice over the phone  
Tel: **01702 55 99 00**

## LEICESTER WITNESS COCOON

– a free and confidential service for people who feel vulnerable or at risk as a result of crime and anti-social behaviour  
Tel: **0116 255 3162**

## VICTIM SUPPORT

– provide confidential support and information to victims of crime and to witnesses attending local courts  
Tel: **0116 253 0101**

## CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

– this service helps people resolve their legal, financial and other problems by providing free information and advice  
Tel: **0870 751 0943**

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HELPLINE

– a confidential support and advice service  
Tel: **0116 255 0004**

National and Local Government's 'RESPECT AGENDA' partnership aims to address the **root causes** of anti-social behaviour, focusing on:

- **Supporting families**
- A **new** approach to the **most** challenging families
- Improving **behaviour** and **attendance** in **schools**
- **Activities** for children and young people
- **Strengthening communities**
- **Effective enforcement** and **community justice**

[www.respect.gov.uk](http://www.respect.gov.uk)



**TOGETHER**  
TACKLING  
ANTI-SOCIAL  
BEHAVIOUR