Anti-Social Behaviour

- What it means
- How it affects you
- How to tackle it

Corby Borough Council

Kettering Borough Council

police
WHAT IS ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

It is behaviour that interferes with other people’s rights to the use and the enjoyment of their home or community.

Anti-social behaviour covers a wide range of issues, from neighbouring disputes and verbal harassment through to criminal damage.

We believe that every individual has the right to live in safer communities, free from crime and the fear of crime.

To be really successful we will need your help.

This leaflet gives information that can help you, and us, get anti-social behaviour under control.
If you have established that the problem is anti-social behaviour, what action can be taken to address the problem and resolve the issue?

In the first instance the best person to tackle the problem is you. Your assistance in recording and monitoring the behaviour is essential if we are to move forward with a complaint.

Always keep a log of all the acts of anti-social behaviour, including times, dates, and the nature of the incidents. This is the best way to record evidence to support any further action if needed.

If the behaviour is persistent, you should seek further help.

**THE POLICE**

- If the matter is an emergency, and you require the immediate assistance of a police officer, then dial 999.
- If you know that the person causing the problems has been persistently causing a nuisance to several local residents then contact the Anti Social Behaviour Unit.

**BOROUGH COUNCIL**

- If you know that the person who is causing the problems is a Council tenant, then contact the Housing department of the relevant Local Authority.
- If your complaint involves persistent noise nuisance, air pollution or public health issues then contact the Environmental Health Department.
- If you are unsure who to report your problem to then contact your local Community Safety Department.

Once you have reported your problem, you should be given the name of a member of staff to act as a point of contact, or given a reference number. *All the agencies above work in partnership together, and communicate on a regular basis so there is no need to report the problem to more than one of these.*
This depends on what you are reporting, and how prepared you are to provide information to the agency that you are reporting to. It is more difficult for agencies to take action in the case of anonymous reports, as there is likely to be little evidence of the complaint.

What action is taken depends on the seriousness of the complaint, but all options will be discussed. These can include:

**DIARY FORMS OR MONITORING SHEETS**

If you wish to pursue formal action as a result of your complaint, it is most likely that you will be asked to contribute to a preliminary investigation by filling in some forms for a few weeks. These are just a way for the agency that you are reporting to, to gather information about the issues that you are experiencing. These are a very important part of the investigation process and will help the person dealing with your complaint to decide with you on how best to tackle the problem.

**JOIN NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

By making sure that most people in your neighbourhood are signed up to a safer way of living, you can work towards having a closer community, who together, can stand up to inappropriate behaviour in your area. You may even find that joining neighbourhood watch results in a reduction in your house insurance!
MEDIATION

If you are experiencing ongoing problems with a known individual which you have been unable to resolve between yourselves, you may be asked to participate in mediation. This is where a trained professional speaks to both parties individually, and then, if appropriate, together, to try and improve communication, and solve the problems that have been created. This is a free and voluntary scheme.

WARNING LETTERS

It may be that a letter from one of the agencies is all that it takes to resolve the problem. These letters do not state who has made the complaint, but warn the person carrying out the nuisance of the possible consequences if the nuisance does not stop. They may also receive a visit from one or more of the agencies involved.

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR UNIT

Complaints can be brought to the attention of the unit direct or referred by a member of the partnership and once all other avenues have been explored a multi-agency approach is then adopted. The unit works in tandem with the Anti-Social Behaviour Partnership, which is made up of representatives from the Police, Local Authorities, Registered and Social Landlords, Social Care and Health, Education Welfare, the Probation Service and the Youth Offending Team.

The Anti-Social Behaviour Partnership meet on a monthly basis to discuss issues that affect the community and also works with the offending parties to address any problems that may be causing the behaviour.
WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A COMPLAINT IS REFERRED TO THE UNIT

ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR CONTACTS (ABC’s)
A voluntary agreement between the offender, the Police and the Council, not to behave in a way that causes a nuisance to others. By agreeing to these contracts, the offenders accept that their behaviour will be closely monitored.

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR ORDERS (ASBO’S)
These are a more formal court order used to protect local people from persistent offenders of anti social behaviour. They can be used to stop a person from acting in a certain way, from doing certain things, or from going to certain places. They are valid for a minimum of two years, an offender can receive up to five years imprisonment for a breach of the order.

EVICTION
If an offender is a council or housing association tenant, then they may face eviction by the courts if they do not take steps to address their anti social behaviour.
USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

POLICE
Police Emergency 999
Local Police Station 01536 400400
Anti Social Behaviour Unit 01536 444608
Open from 9am - 4.30pm (Mon-Fri)

HOUSING
Corby Borough Council
Housing Department 01536 463164
01536 463166

Kettering Borough Council
Housing Department 01536 534362

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
Corby Borough Council
Environmental Health 01536 464052

Kettering Borough Council
Environmental Health 01536 534307

COMMUNITY SAFETY
Corby Borough Council Community Safety
01536 464672

Kettering Borough Council Community Safety
01536 534378