

Cumbria County Council



Staff and Elected Member Information Sheet:

ASB – ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Definitions:

These are the definitions used in Cumbria that determine our approach to Anti Social Behaviour (ASB).

What is ASB?

“Any aggressive, intimidating or destructive activity that damages or destroys another person’s quality of life”

Who is “vulnerable” to anti social behaviour?

“A victim of anti social behaviour is vulnerable if the conduct in question causes an adverse impact on their quality of life; or they believe they are vulnerable; or they have suffered anti social behaviour or something similar before”

What does “adverse impact” include?

“The risk of harm; deterioration of their health, mental and/or emotional well being; or an inability to carry out normal day to day routine through fear and intimidation”

Examples of what ASB acts are?

- Malicious communications
- Hate incidents where abuse involves race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age or disability
- Inappropriate use of fireworks
- Rowdy, noisy behaviour in otherwise quiet neighbourhoods
- Night time noise from houses or gardens, especially between 11.00 pm and 7.00 am
- Threatening, drunken or 'yobbish' behaviour

What is the County Council’s role?

How do we, as an organisation, deal with ASB when it presents itself as an issue?

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998, as well as legislation appropriate to your department, has given us legal powers to protect and prevent harm coming to our communities. By working in partnership with others we can provide a holistic response to ASB across the county.

In the past differing approaches to recording complaints of antisocial behaviour and identifying repeat victims has seen too many people slip through the cracks; we must share information and work together to ensure this does not happen again.

Both the Council and the Constabulary particularly aim to help those who are at increased risk due to vulnerability or because of issues relating to their diversity. This includes differences in race, religion or belief, age, disability, gender identity and sexual orientation

How can we impact on ASB?

Protect – Be aware of safeguarding procedures.

Report details to the Police if a person is in immediate danger.

Make referrals in to partner agencies to ensure appropriate support is given.

Prevent – Help prevent future incidents by sharing information and working within Multi Agency Partnerships.

CSP’s – Community Safety Partnerships can help to develop long term solutions to ASB by working through a problem solving process and utilising crime prevention tools; working with offenders; and providing additional support to victims.

Reporting ASB to the Police - Cumbria Constabulary has a new process for dealing with ASB. Essentially, following a report to the Police, if that person is deemed vulnerable to anti social behaviour, they will make contact with them and conduct a risk assessment. The information gathered from the risk assessment will then help to determine what level of service needs to be provided to that victim.

For further information please contact:

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