

What is anti-social behaviour?

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 defines anti-social behaviour as acting in a manner that has “caused or was likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to one or more persons not of the same household” as the perpetrator.

Anti-social behaviour covers a wide range of unacceptable activity that causes harm to an individual, to their community or to their environment.

Examples of anti-social behaviour include: nuisance, neighbour disputes, vandalism, graffiti and street drinking.

Horsham District Council's Community Safety team has two anti-social behaviour caseworkers, who are based at Horsham Police Station.



Horsham
District
Council

What the anti-social behaviour team will do?

- Where a report of anti-social behaviour is made by a member of the public, we will speak to the complainant and identify an appropriate response using the range of tools available.
- We will work with other council departments and partner agencies who may be better placed to use their powers to address the issues being raised.
- Where individuals who are acting anti-socially are identified we will use a staged process for dealing with them.
- We will deliver 1:1 support to young people coming to the attention of the Police with the aim of reducing anti-social behaviour in the District.
- We will take a lead on co-ordinating multi-agency meetings for anti-social behaviour issues that are affecting specific places within the District.
- We will use a case management tool called E-CINS which can be accessed by the Police and other agencies and use this as a way of sharing information and logging actions in relation to specific anti-social behaviour cases.
- We will run monthly multi-agency anti-social behaviour action group meetings where anti-social behaviour cases are discussed and actions agreed.
- We will attend weekly police intelligence meetings and put forward 'hotspot' areas and individuals of concern.
- Where a report of dog on dog violence is made by a member of the public, we will speak to the complainant and use a staged process for dealing with the owner of the alleged violent dog.

What we will not do?

- Deal with any criminal matters or domestic abuse incidents.
- Deal with complaints about inconsiderate parking.
- Deal with complaints about dog waste, dog on human violence, lost or found dogs, or noise complaints.
- Get involved in disputes between parties concerning ownership, access or boundaries.
- Get involved in disputes which are generated through lifestyle differences such as:
 - Day to day living noise between domestic dwellings;
 - Children playing in and around the vicinity of their own home;
 - Cooking smells;
 - Disputes between children;
 - Talking too loudly; or
 - Personal disagreements associated with social media and phone communication devices, groups of young people socialising in a lawful manner in a public place.

However, where it might be possible for another council department such as Environmental Health or a partner agency to take action then we will consult with them and make referrals where appropriate.

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