

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

- Definition
- Action you can take
- Action we can take
- Specialist Support

Definition

It is conduct that spoils another's enjoyment of life. Examples of anti-social behaviour are:

- Playing music too loudly in spite of requests to stop
- Making loud noise at unsociable times in spite of requests to stop
- Leaving mess and rubbish in communal areas
- Aggressive and threatening language and behaviour
- Actual violence against people and property
- Hate behaviour that targets members of identified groups
- Using your home to sell drugs, or for other unlawful purposes

Action You Can Take

- You should initially try to resolve the problem with the individual causing the nuisance, but we recognise that this may not be appropriate
- Report it to your housing officer as soon as possible. All reports of anti-social behaviour will be investigated.
- You can contact the local authority Environmental Health Department which can assist in some cases. For example, it can prosecute someone who plays loud music during unsociable hours.
- Make a record of events detailing what happened and when. This is vital if we need to take legal action.

Action We Can Take

- Try to set an example to residents by ensuring that we treat them with courtesy and respect
- Work with the police, local authorities, social services and other agencies to introduce measures that discourage anti-social behaviour
- Work at all times to maintain a clean and friendly environment, taking immediate steps to remove rubbish and graffiti
- Explain to applicants for housing the need to show tolerance, respect for the person and property of fellow residents, and respect for the environment
- Endeavour to house together people of similar interests and life styles

- Attempt to resolve disputes between residents at an early stage
- Advise and warn residents where there are indications of anti-social behaviour
- Take legal action where there is clear evidence of anti social behaviour. This could lead to the termination of the perpetrator's tenancy.
- Train staff in the anti-social behaviour procedure.

Specialist Support

It may be helpful for residents to contact specialist support agencies for advice. Agencies like Citizens Advice Bureau, Women's Aid and Victim Support can offer useful advice to victims of anti social behaviour or harassment.