

## Rhyl Safer Neighbourhood Team

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# ASB

## Anti Social Behaviour



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## What is ASB?

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The term anti-social behaviour covers a wide range of unacceptable activity that blights the lives of many people on a daily basis. It often leaves victims feeling helpless, desperate and with a seriously reduced quality of life.

Terms such as 'nuisance', 'disorder' and 'harassment' are also often used to describe this type of behaviour.

**ASB is defined as:**

*'Acting in a manner that caused or was likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to one or more persons not of the same household as (the defendant).'*



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## Categories of ASB

**Personal** – ASB is perceived to be targeted at an individual or group rather than the community at large.

**Nuisance** – ASB is causing trouble, annoyance or suffering to the community at large rather than an individual or group.

**Environmental** – The incident is not aimed at an individual or group but targets the wider environment, e.g. public spaces/buildings.



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## Examples of ASB

Fireworks Misuse

Prostitution related activity

Rowdy or Inconsiderate Behaviour

Littering/Dumping of Rubbish

Drug abuse

Street Drinking

Abandoned Vehicles

Animal Problems

Rowdy/Nuisance Neighbours

Begging/Vagrancy

Vandalism/Graffiti

Vehicle Nuisance/inappropriate use

Noise

Trespass

Nuisance Calls



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## Who can deal with ASB?

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Police are often seen as a lead in tackling Anti-Social Behaviour

However....

Local authorities and other community safety partner agencies, such as Fire & Rescue and social housing landlords, all have a responsibility to deal with anti-social behaviour and to help people who are suffering from it.



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## Police View on ASB

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ASB is a key driver for public confidence in the police. Failure to tackle ASB leads to increased crime, especially violence with injury and criminal damage.



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## How ASB is identified

Street Surveys

Incidents reported to Police

Information received from local authority and other agencies

Police Patrols



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## How is ASB tackled?

Regular patrols by Police Community Support Officers of the Safer Neighbourhood team supported by Police Constables to areas identified as ASB hotspots.

Utilising powers under the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime & Disorder Act 2014. e.g. CBO's and Dispersal Notices.

Utilise any other legislation appropriate to the incident. e.g. Public Order Act 1986.

Prosecute perpetrators of criminality linked to ASB/Yellow Cards

Mediation

Use of private sector radio communications

Use of local authority CCTV

Problem solving monthly multi agency ASB meeting



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## ASB, Crime & Disorder Act 2014

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Introduced in March 2014 and went live on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2014.  
Designed to focus more on the victim, the old powers were inflexible and the need for more partnership working.

### Powers:

#### Injunctions:

Criminal Behaviour Orders (CBO)

Dispersal Powers

Community Protection Notice (CPN)

Public Space Protection Order (PSPO)

Closure Powers

Absolute ground for possession



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## ASB, Crime & Disorder Act 2014

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### Injunctions:

Civil power to stop a person's ASB escalating and set a clear standard of behaviour. Can include prohibitions and positive requirements. For perpetrators aged 10 or over.

#### Who can apply?

Various Agencies

#### Grounds

Non-housing related ASB – likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress.

Housing related ASB – capable of causing nuisance or annoyance.

#### Typical uses

Drug/alcohol related ASB, harassment, noise, vandalism, aggressive begging, etc.



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## ASB, Crime & Disorder Act 2014

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### Criminal Behaviour Orders (CBO)

Court order to tackle ASB which is applied following a conviction for any criminal offence. Can include prohibitions and positive requirements.

#### Who can apply?

CPS

#### Grounds

Help prevent harassment, alarm or distress if perpetrator committed a criminal offence and caused harassment, alarm or distress.

#### Typical uses

Harassment, hate crime, drunk and rowdy behaviour, etc.



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## ASB, Crime & Disorder Act 2014

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### Dispersal Powers

Power to direct a person to leave a specific location for up to 48 hours if authorised by a police inspector or above.

#### Who can apply?

Police (including PCSO's in some forces)

#### Grounds

Committing (or likely to commit) harassment, alarm or distress or crime and disorder in a public place.

#### Typical uses

Alcohol/drug-related ASB, lighting fires, illegal raves, etc.



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## ASB, Crime & Disorder Act 2014

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### Public Space Protection Order (PSPO)

Order designed to protect public spaces from persistently anti-social individuals or groups. Can include reasonable restrictions and requirements.

#### Who can apply?

Council

#### Grounds

Unreasonable behaviour which is (or likely to be) persistent or continuing and has (or likely to have) a detrimental effect on the local community's quality of life.

#### Typical uses

Dog fouling, alcohol/drug-related ASB, etc.



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## ASB, Crime & Disorder Act 2014

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### Closure Powers

Power to close premises for up to 48 hours out of court (closure notice) or up to 6 months via the court (closure order).

#### Who can apply?

Police & Council

#### Grounds

Premises used (or likely to be used) to cause nuisance or disorder.

#### Typical uses

Premises where ASB is causing nuisance or disorder such as noisy premises, environmental pollution, drug/alcohol-related, etc.



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## ASB, Crime & Disorder Act 2014

### Absolute ground for possession

Power which offers protection and faster relief to victims by quickly evicting the most anti-social tenants.

#### Who can apply?

Social Landlords (Councils & Housing Associations) & Private Landlords

#### Grounds

The tenant, a household member, or a person visiting has been convicted for a serious offence or has breached certain ASB interventions.

#### Typical uses

Drug dealing



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## Problem Solving

North Wales Police uses the SARA model and the 3 principle method when trying to resolve a particular issue.



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## ASB Reduction Initiative

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Summer 2015 numerous reports of youths causing ASB in the area of East Rhyl.

Rhyl SNT put in a bid to the High Sheriff to put in some youth provision for the school summer holiday.

Working in partnership with Rhyl Rugby Club & Rhyl FC, free coaching sessions organised around the times when ASB occurred the previous year.

Up to 40 youths from the area attended the sessions:

No reports of youth related ASB was reported to North Wales Police during the summer period.



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