



**Braintree**  
District Council

# New Anti-Social Behaviour Website



## Introduction

The purpose of this briefing is to inform members and parish councils of the new Braintree District Council Anti-Social Behaviour website, providing advice and guidance that can be shared if contacted by residents raising relevant concerns.

In 2024, Braintree District Council reviewed their ASB service and have made a number of changes. This leaflet explains the updated guidance around Anti-Social Behaviour and the role of the Local Authority.

## Website Development

We have developed some dedicated ASB web pages on our website [www.braintree.gov.uk/community/antisocial-behaviour](http://www.braintree.gov.uk/community/antisocial-behaviour)

These pages focus on 7 key areas and how we seek to provide a victim centred approach:

- Clarification ASB Definition
- Approach to ASB
- Anti-social powers available
- Better reporting mechanism
- Victim portal
- Tools & advice
- Anti-social behaviour Case Review

## ASB Definition

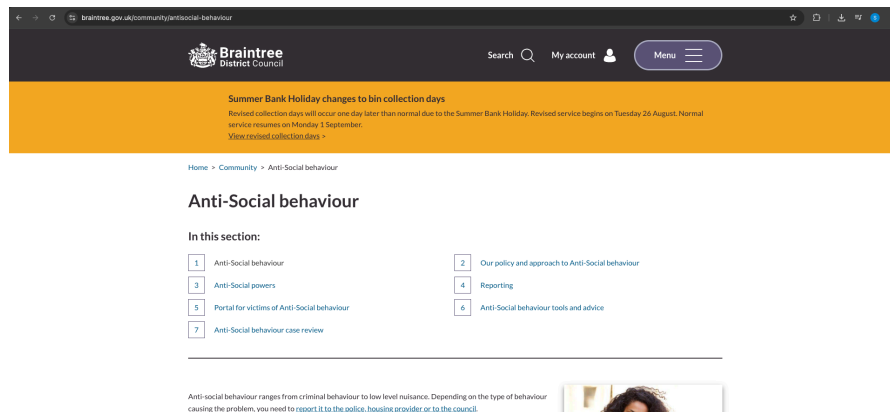
Anti-social behaviour is defined in the Antisocial Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 as:

- Conduct that has caused, or is likely to cause, harassment, alarm or distress to any person,
- Conduct capable of causing nuisance or annoyance to a person in relation to that person's occupation of residential premises, or
- Conduct capable of causing housing related nuisance or annoyance to any person.

## What is ASB

ASB can affect anyone and encompasses a wide range of behaviours, including but not limited to:

- Noisy neighbours (noise that is considered unreasonable including but not exclusively shouting, swearing)
- Playing of amplified music
- Fly Tipping and littering
- Dog fouling
- Graffiti
- Accumulation of Waste
- Abandoned vehicles
- Vehicle noise
- Noise in open spaces
- Dangerous Dogs



## What is NOT ASB

The below are examples of everyday behaviours and would not be considered anti-social:

- Children playing in the street or communal areas
- Young people only gathering socially
- Babies crying
- Normal use of domestic appliances
- Civil disputes between neighbours e.g. shared driveways, fences, hedges
- Being unable to park outside your home
- Occasional or one-off events i.e. birthday parties, barbeques, other celebrations
- Noise caused by everyday living i.e. walking around, loud conversations, doors opening and closing, lawn mower

## Types of Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

Anti-social behaviour (ASB) can be broadly categorised into three main types:

- **Personal ASB**
- **Nuisance ASB**
- **Environmental ASB**

Some behaviours may fall into more than one category.

### Personal ASB

Personal ASB involves incidents that deliberately target an individual or a specific group, rather than the wider community. These behaviours can cause distress, anxiety, or negatively impact someone's quality of life.

Examples include:

- Intimidation
- Harassment

### Nuisance ASB

Nuisance ASB affects the community rather than a specific individual. These incidents cause annoyance, inconvenience, or distress and can interfere with public interests such as health, safety, wellbeing, and overall quality of life.

Examples include:

- Drug or substance misuse
- Vehicle-related nuisance
- Animal-related problems

### Environmental ASB

Environmental ASB refers to behaviours that harm or degrade public spaces and the wider environment. This includes damage to property and the misuse of shared spaces.

Examples include:

Criminal damage or vandalism (e.g. graffiti, damage to bus shelters)

## Better reporting mechanism

The Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 powers allow the police, councils, social landlords and other agencies to deal quickly with issues as they arise, with agencies working together to ensure the best results for victims and the wider public.

Due to the powers afforded to agencies to take positive action the new Braintree District Council ASB website enables direct reporting to registered housing providers, Essex Police as quite often there are linked substantive criminal offences (damage, threats, abuse and harassment) and BDC for all other matters.

# Victim Centred approach

A victim-centred approach is crucial in any setting where individuals have experienced harm, especially in areas like anti-social behaviour, crime, or enforcement.

Even when two ASB cases involve the same type of behaviour, the impact on victims can vary significantly. For example, consider a tenant who plays loud music until 11 p.m. every night:

- One neighbour works night shifts and is only home on weekends. When they do hear the noise, it causes minimal disruption, as they have no early commitments the next day.
- The other neighbour is elderly and on medication for high blood pressure. The nightly noise disrupts their sleep, exacerbating their health condition and significantly affecting their wellbeing.

Although the behaviour is identical, the level of harm experienced is not. This highlights the importance of tailoring our response to the specific circumstances of each case.

There's a reason we often say, "no two ASB cases are the same." Effective ASB management requires a victim-centred approach that considers the individual impact, not just the behaviour itself.





A one-stop victim portal has been created providing direct links to external support agencies and services.

## Victim Portal

### Portal for victims of antisocial behaviour

Whether you have experienced or witnessed anti-social behaviour (ASB), there are a numbers of support services & agencies available.

Support services and agencies:

	<a href="#">ASB Help website</a>		<a href="#">Braintree Frontline</a>
	<a href="#">Citizens Advice</a>		<a href="#">Crime Stoppers</a>
	<a href="#">Essex Victim's Gateway</a>		<a href="#">Mind - Mid &amp; North East Essex</a>
	<a href="#">My Support Space</a>		<a href="#">Neighbourhood Watch</a>
	<a href="#">Ombudsman - Housing service</a>		<a href="#">Ombudsman - Local Government and Social care</a>
	<a href="#">RSCPA</a>		<a href="#">Samaritans</a>

## Tools & advice

Tools & advice drop downs provide further guidance on specific areas

Antisocial behaviour tools and advice

Preventing antisocial behaviour

Approaching a neighbour

Home CCTV systems

How should I record any noise nuisance?

## Anti-social behaviour Case Review

Responsibility for dealing with anti-social behaviour is shared between several agencies, particularly the police, council and housing providers.

The Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 includes measures designed to give victims a say on the way their case is dealt with.

Anti-Social behaviour case review

Background

Purpose

### Ask for an Anti-Social behaviour case review

You can ask us to carry out anti-social behaviour case review online.

Ask for a case review

To complete this form you will need:

- your name, address and contact details
- your email address
- details of your case including when you have reported antisocial behaviour

You can find more information by downloading and reading the [Essex ASB case review guidance](#).

Access to the new Braintree District Council ASB website can be found below:

[Anti-Social behaviour – Braintree District Council](#)

