

- **Premises Closure Order** – An order by the court to close a premises quickly where it is being used, or likely to be used, to commit nuisance or disorder. Can be imposed for up to 6 months.
- **Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO)** – Local Authorities can issue a PSPO in order to stop individuals or groups from causing ASB in a public space. Breach of conditions is a criminal offence and a fixed penalty notice can be issued.
- **Dispersal orders** – set up to move groups of people away from specific areas for up to 48 hours if they are believed to be causing, or likely to cause, a nuisance to others. Young people aged 16 or under can be escorted home.

How to contact your local council

- Ashford **01233 331111**
- Canterbury **01227 862000**
- Dartford **01322 343434**
- Dover **01304 821199**
- Gravesham **01474 564422**
- Maidstone **01622 602000**
- Medway **01634 306000**
- Sevenoaks **01732 227000**
- Shepway **01303 853000**
- Swale **01795 417850**
- Thanet **01843 577000**
- Tonbridge and Malling **01732 844522**
- Tunbridge Wells **01892 526121**

Other useful contacts

- Reporting untaxed vehicles **www.gov.uk/report-untaxed-vehicle**
- Local Victim Support **0845 3899 528** or **www.victimsupport.org.uk**
- Free phone 24hr National Domestic Violence Helpline **0808 2000 247**

Contact us

Report a crime:



To report a non urgent crime visit **www.kent.police.uk/report**



Talk to us on LiveChat – available 24/7: **www.kent.police.uk/contact**



In an emergency, if crime is in progress or life is in danger, call **999**



If you have a hearing or speech impairment, use our textphone service 18000. Or text us on 999 if you've pre-registered with the emergency SMS service.



For news and advice visit **www.kent.police.uk**

News, information and advice:



Find your answer online. Browse the national Ask the Police question finder **www.askthe.police.uk**



Email your local policing team. Visit **www.kent.police.uk/yourarea**



Follow us on X @kent_police or find your local account at **www.kent.police.uk/yourarea**



Find us on **Facebook**



Follow us on Instagram @kentpoliceuk

For details of all the ways to contact us, visit **www.kent.police.uk/contact**

If you would like a copy of this leaflet in large print, another format or language email us at **communications@kent.police.uk**

Anti-social behaviour



Your guide to dealing with nuisance behaviour



Kent Police

Anti-social behaviour is any behaviour that causes harassment, alarm or distress and affects other people's quality of life.

Your **local council** deals with:

- **noise nuisance** – by asking you to keep a log of incidents, sound equipment can be seized from persistent offenders
- **drinking in designated public areas** by setting up Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO) to stop offenders
- **dog fouling** and can fine anyone not clearing up after their dog
- **abandoned vehicles** by arranging for them to be removed
- **vehicles parked on yellow lines or school markings, in permit-only areas, bus lanes or disabled bays** and can fine drivers contravening parking regulations
- **littering, fly-tipping and illegal waste carriers** and can arrange for rubbish to be cleared away
- **graffiti and fly-posting** and can arrange for its removal.

The **DVLA** deals with:

- **untaxed vehicles** and works with councils and the police to remove untaxed vehicles from the streets.

Kent Fire and Rescue Service deals with:

- **fires in progress** – to report a fire in progress call 999, however if you know the details of someone who has deliberately caused a fire, report it to the police by visiting **www.kent.police.uk/report** or call Kent Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Kent Police deals with:

- **rowdy, drunken or violent behaviour** and anyone likely to cause danger to themselves or others
- **alcohol offences** including people who are drunk, drinking in public, drinking underage or supplying/selling alcohol to minors – they can also seize and dispose of alcohol
- **dangerous dogs**
- **nuisance and off-road vehicles** in partnership with other agencies, and will ask you to make a log of incidents, including registration numbers and descriptions of people or vehicles involved
- **fly-tipping in progress**
- **graffiti in progress**
- **criminal damage or vandalism**
- **dangerous or obstructive parking**, and parking that prevents access for emergency vehicles
- **threatening behaviour, intimidation or harassment**, including domestic abuse, and works with other agencies to ensure victims and offenders can access support services
- **drug-related crimes** including drug use and supply, and works with agencies that can rehabilitate drug users and integrate them back into the community
- **lewd or indecent behaviour** and can take enforcement action against those involved
- **begging** by moving people on or signposting them to organisations who offer help and support
- **prostitution and kerb-crawling**
- **anyone using fireworks in public in a dangerous or intimidating way**
- **anyone making hoax calls to the emergency services** which slows down the response to genuine calls for help.

What action can be taken?

There are a number of powers and tools available to deal with anti-social behaviour:

- **Community Resolution** – an opportunity for victims and offenders to discuss an offence, the affect it has had on others, and agree a resolution to repair the harm caused.
- **Acceptable Behaviour Agreements (ABAs)** – agreements signed by those causing anti-social behaviour. If an individual breaches the terms of their ABA it could be used as evidence in other official orders such as Criminal Behaviour Order or a Civil Injunction.
- **Community Protection Notices (CPN)** – Police, Local Authorities or Housing (if designated) can issue notices to stop a person, aged 16 or over, business or organisation committing Anti-social behaviour. Conditions and requirements can be imposed and failing to comply with a CPN is a criminal offence which can be dealt with by fine or fixed penalty notice.
- **Criminal Behaviour Order (CBO)** – court orders to stop persistent nuisance behaviour for anyone aged 10 and over. Can include prohibitions and positive requirements to promote behaviour change. Breaching a CBO is a criminal offence and could lead to up to five years in prison, a fine of up to £5,000 or other penalties.
- **Civil Injunction** – Civil powers to stop or preventing individuals engaging in anti-social behaviour quickly which includes prohibitions and positive requirements. Breach of a civil injunction can carry a power of arrest and can result in contempt of court proceedings.
- **Noise nuisance enforcement** – environmental health departments can issue warning notices to licensed or residential properties to stop nuisance noise. If ignored, further action can be taken including fines, court action and the closure of premises.