

# Reporting Antisocial Behaviour in Orkney

Orkney's Antisocial Behaviour Strategy aims to:

Improve the quality of life and create a safer environment for our communities and visitors.

## What is Antisocial Behaviour?

Antisocial Behaviour is defined as follows:

“A person engages in antisocial behaviour if he/she acts in a manner that causes, or is likely to cause alarm or distress; or pursues a course of conduct that causes, or is likely to cause alarm or distress, to at least one person who is not of the same household as them”.

## Examples of Antisocial Behaviour

Examples of antisocial behaviour are noisy neighbours, loud music, rowdy or threatening behaviour, barking dogs, dog fouling, littering, fly-tipping, abandoned vehicles, graffiti, vandalism, substance misuse and dealing and street drinking. This is not an exhaustive list but identifies the range of activities that can be interpreted as antisocial behaviour.

## Reporting Antisocial Behaviour

All reports of antisocial behaviour will be investigated and action will be taken on a graduating basis in proportion to the seriousness of the activity. In serious or persistent cases, enforcement action will be taken to resolve the problem.

## Orkney Islands Council Environmental Health

Incidents of antisocial behaviour may be reported directly to Environmental Health who will investigate and consult with other relevant agencies in their co-ordinating role. This includes complaints of antisocial behaviour involving owner occupiers and private tenants. Incidents such as noise, abandoned vehicles, dog fouling, graffiti, littering and fly tipping may be dealt with by applying specific legislation.

## Housing Services

Complaints of antisocial behaviour linked to local authority housing are dealt with through OIC Housing Services, who investigate complaints and initiate action as appropriate to resolve the matter.

## **Orkney Housing Association Ltd (OHAL)**

OHAL is a Registered Social Landlord and will investigate complaints and initiate action as appropriate where there is antisocial behaviour involving their tenants.

## **Police Scotland**

Incidents of antisocial behaviour may be reported to and investigated by the police. Antisocial behaviour that is considered to be criminal should be reported directly to the police. Incidents of antisocial behaviour may be reported to and investigated by the police. Antisocial behaviour that is considered to be criminal should be reported directly to the police.

## **Measures**

There are a number of measures partners may use to deal with antisocial behaviour. These include writing to, or meeting with the alleged offender, offering mediation where appropriate, asking the offender to sign up to a voluntary agreement called an Acceptable Behaviour Contract and applying to the Sheriff for an Antisocial Behaviour Order. Tenants of Council, OHAL and privately rented properties may face eviction from their tenancies. A Noise Abatement Notice may be served where a statutory noise nuisance exists and Fixed Penalty Notices may be issued for fly-tipping, littering & dog fouling. For further information on these measures, contact Environmental Health at Orkney Islands Council.

## **To report Antisocial Behaviour, contact:**

### **Orkney Islands Council**

Kirkwall, KW15 1NY  
01856873535  
customerservice@orkney.gov.uk  
env-health@orkney.gov.uk  
housing@orkney.gov.uk  
[www.orkney.gov.uk](http://www.orkney.gov.uk)

### **Orkney Housing Association Ltd (OHAL)**

01856 875253  
enquiries@ohal.org.uk

### **Police**

101 (or 999 in an emergency)  
[www.scotland.police.uk](http://www.scotland.police.uk)