

Anti-Social Behaviour Incident Types and Definitions in use between April 2006 and March 2011

Abandoned Vehicles (not Stolen or causing an Obstruction)

Reports of vehicles abandoned anywhere. This will include:

- a) Vehicles damaged in an RTC that are abandoned at the scene (not vehicles awaiting recovery).
- b) Cars known to be used as local "pool" cars and, at the time of the report, apparently abandoned
- c) 'Scrap' or 'end of life' vehicles.

A guiding principle here is whether or not the vehicle will be the responsibility of the local authority. If the local authority will not deal with the vehicle then it is probably not an 'abandoned vehicle'. This category does not relate to abandoned stolen vehicles as they amount to 'found property'. However, where the owner has deliberately failed to arrange collection, after being notified of the location of their abandoned stolen vehicle, and has no intention of recovering the vehicle then this will amount to an abandoned vehicle under this category.

Animal problems

This would cover any incident whereby animals were creating a nuisance or people's behaviour associated with the use of the animals is construed as anti-social, eg uncontrolled animals, stray dogs, dog bites (those not regarded as a notifiable crime), barking, fouling, and intimidation by animal (where this falls short of being a notifiable crime). However, this excludes animal-related problems occurring on the highway (eg farm animals being on the road), 'Wildlife' incidents and incidents such as dogs left in cars with insufficient ventilation.

Hoax calls to Emergency Services

This category covers false calls made to emergency services, those calls that convey information that is false and is known or believed to be false for the purpose of causing distress, anxiety or the wasteful misdirection of emergency services. In this context "Emergency Services" should be viewed in its widest sense and includes Coast Guards, Mountain Rescue, Mines Rescue, etc.

Certain calls, e.g. Hoax Bomb calls are notifiable crimes and, as such, are included in the police recorded crime figures rather than the ASB figures.

Inappropriate Sale / Use / Possession of Fireworks

This category includes inappropriate use of fireworks, unlawful sale or possession of fireworks and noise created by fireworks. Whether the firework originates from a private or public location is irrelevant.

Malicious / Nuisance Communications

This category covers incidents and non-notifiable crimes including obscene/nuisance/nasty phone calls, letters, e-mails, text messages, etc. Nuisance phone calls include complaints about intrusive cold calling such as late night calls from replacement window firms or insurance companies. This category also includes any series of calls from identifiable individuals where the frequency, rather than the content of the calls disrupts the efficiency of the organisation.

Noise

Nuisance caused by noise will include noise nuisance resulting from:

- a) Business or industry.
- b) Road works.
- c) Vehicle Alarms (where no notifiable crime is disclosed)
- d) Pubs and Clubs (eg the noise resulting from the overflow of people outside a pub or club which cause concern to a caller but which fall short of public order or other offences).
- e) Vehicles or other devices (including loud exhausts, engine revving, sound systems/boom boxes in cars, ice cream van 'jingles', and loud-speakers in public places).
- f) Complaints about noise from organised or impromptu parties or 'raves' (providing the complaint is solely about noise).

This category does not include audible alarms on domestic or business premises.

Rowdy and / or Nuisance Behaviour: Neighbours

This category covers reports of rowdy behaviour and general nuisance which fall short of a notifiable crime, including:

- a) Nuisance neighbours;
- b) Neighbourly disputes (e.g. over boundaries, parking, etc.); and
- c) Noisy neighbours (inc. noisy parties, playing loud music, etc.).

Rowdy and/or Nuisance Behaviour: Rowdy or Inconsiderate Behaviour

This category covers reports of rowdy behaviour and general nuisance in a public place or in any place to which the public have access (e.g. private clubs), or in any private place where the persons involved are present with permission. Incidents in this category would not amount to either a domestic incident or a notifiable Crime. This category includes:

- a) Shouting and swearing.
- b) Loutish, rowdy and noisy behaviour.
- c) General drunken behaviour.
- d) Setting fires not directed at persons or property (any action that constitutes criminal damage or arson would be included in the police recorded crime figures).
- e) Climbing on buildings, including scaffolding and also including "roof top chasing" (however if damage is caused then this will be included in the police recorded crime figures).
- f) Throwing stones or other missiles (if this results in damage or injury, then the incident will be included in the police recorded crime figures).
- g) Public order incidents that do not amount to a notifiable offence or where the circumstances do not require a notifiable crime report to be submitted.
- h) Nuisance caused by persons under the influence of substances that are not covered by the Misuse of Drugs Act or associated legislation (e.g. aerosols, paint thinner, glue etc).

This category will also include other incidents falling short of notifiable crime that the public might regard as inappropriate use of public space, such as:

- a) Gatherings in public places.
- b) Impeding access to communal areas by congregating outside shops, etc.
- c) Complaints of impeding access to communal areas by numbers of people using skateboards, BMX bikes, etc.
- d) Playing football or other 'games' in inappropriate areas.
- e) Urinating in public.

Street Drinking

This covers unlicensed drinking in groups in public places and will include:

- a) Breaches of Designated Public Places Order. This relates specifically to circumstances that constitute a breach of a Designated Public Places Order.
- b) Reports of a person or persons drinking in a public place (not on licensed premises), where the caller perceives the circumstances to be anti-social.
- c) Unplanned street parties involving alcohol use. This could include spontaneous street parties which encroach onto the street.

Vehicle Nuisance / Inappropriate Use

This category is intended to capture motor vehicle (any type of motor vehicle, including motor cycles) related incidents that are **perceived** to be anti-social and nuisance caused by behaviour associated with vehicle usage that is not recorded as 'Crime'.

- a) Nuisance caused by vehicles being repaired on the highway.
- b) Vehicle parking related nuisance.
- c) Street cruising: parading up and down same street for no apparent reason to the annoyance and bother of other road users, residents, etc.
- d) Vehicle meetings, large numbers of vehicle in convoys and other associated behaviour, e.g. handbrake turns.
- e) Riding / driving on land other than on a road.
- f) Misuse of Go-Peds, motorised skateboards, electric pedal cycles and mini-motos.
- g) An unlicensed dealer exposing 2 or more vehicles for sale on the same road or within 500 metres of each other.
- h) Any other motor vehicle related nuisance.

Other Anti-Social Behaviour: Begging / Vagrancy

Every person found begging or asking for charitable donations in any public place, street, highway, court, or passage, or causing, procuring or encouraging any child or children to do so, is guilty of an offence. This category includes reports of vagrants sleeping in the open air, in shop doorways, communal corridors, car parks or insecure premises to which entry has not been forced, for example places of worship. This category also includes those people who, without authority, sell tickets outside underground or metro stations as well as ticket touts in circumstances that do not amount to a notifiable crime. This does not include licensed charitable collections.

Other Anti-Social Behaviour: Rowdy/Nuisance - Littering/Drugs Paraphernalia

This category includes reports of nuisance behaviour involving littering, such as:

- a) Depositing litter or rubbish
- b) Fly posting
- c) Dumping
- d) Drugs paraphernalia found discarded in any public place

This does not include fly tipping, depositing 'special waste' and other, more serious, offences which amount to notifiable crimes. Drugs paraphernalia will include examples such as needles, bongs etc found discarded in any public place and where no users of that matter are present or identified and where no notifiable crime is identified.

Other Anti-Social Behaviour: Prostitution Related Activity

This category includes loitering in a street or public place for the purpose of prostitution. It also includes other offences reported to the police, e.g. cards promoting prostitution left in telephone boxes and discarded condoms. This category is intended to capture reports in which the circumstances around prostitution related activity cause annoyance or other similar impact upon the public. For example it might include activities in or around a brothel which impact on local residents.

Other Anti-Social Behaviour: Trespass

This category covers incidents where people have entered land (including water) or premises without lawful authority or permission in circumstances that fall short of notifiable crime. Examples of incidents in this category would range from people taking unauthorised short cuts through a garden or building through to those setting up unauthorised camp-sites. It also includes people trespassing on railways, etc.