



ASB powers: choose the right route

Leadership desk sheet | Current powers and the 26 October 2026 changeover

NOW / FROM 26 OCTOBER

Respect Orders start on 26 October. Existing injunctions and pre-commencement applications are saved. Do not treat them as new Respect Orders.

PERSON: RESPECT ORDER (18+)

From 26 October. County Court / High Court; civil proof of harassment, alarm or distress ASB and just-and-convenient test. Risk assessment required. Prohibitions / supervised requirements. Breach without reasonable excuse is criminal; activity requirements have a warning exception.

CHILD / HOUSING

From 26 October: youth injunction (10-17; youth court; maximum 12 months); adult housing injunction for housing-related nuisance or annoyance. Civil enforcement, not the Respect Order breach offence.

CRIMINAL BEHAVIOUR ORDER (CBO)

Prosecution applies after conviction. Court satisfied of qualifying behaviour and preventive benefit; criminal proof of behaviour. Adults: at least 2 years or indefinite. Under-18s: 1-3 years. Breach is criminal.

IMMEDIATE LOCAL HARM: DISPERSAL

Inspector authorisation; uniformed constable directs an individual. Individual exclusion: 48h now / 72h from 26 October. New review of each direction exceeding 48h by inspector or above after 48h as soon as reasonably practicable. Section 34 authorisation remains 48h in text checked.

COMMUNITY PROTECTION NOTICE (CPN)

Age 16+ or a body. Unreasonable persistent/continuing detrimental conduct. Written warning and sufficient time to comply first. Police / council / designated person issues proportionate requirements.

PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER (PSPO)

Council makes the order after required consultation. Persistent/continuing unreasonable detrimental effect; justified restrictions. Normally up to 3 years, renewable. CPN/PSPO FPN ceiling: £100 now / £500 from 26 October.

PREMISES: CLOSURE

Police notice: 24h / superintendent 48h now; 48h / superintendent 72h from 26 October. Notice cannot exclude habitual residents or owner. Magistrates: order up to 3 months, extendable to 6 total. Section 80(3) hearing deadline remains 48h in text checked. Seek legal confirmation of guidance discrepancies.

UNRESOLVED HARM: CASE REVIEW

Use the local ASB Case Review threshold and contact. From 26 October additional local policing body review and awareness duties. Name the case owner; track victim safety and repeat harm, not just order counts.

Sources (click): SI 2026/960 reg 4; 2026 Act ss1-6; 2014 Act; Sentencing Act ss330-342; October guidance. See article for source discrepancies.