



CLOSURE ORDERS

Notice → court → protect residents

POLICE APPLICATION ROUTE • LIMITS SHOWN APPLY FROM 26 OCTOBER 2026



01

Check the premises

Public nuisance or related disorder, now or likely soon? A closure notice must be necessary to stop it.



02

Prepare and serve the notice

Inform residents and interested people; consult partners. Inspector: up to 48h. Superintendent: up to 72h.



A NOTICE CANNOT EXCLUDE THE OWNER OR RESIDENTS*



03

Apply to the magistrates' court

Unless cancelled, seek an order. The hearing must be within 48h of service: do not wait for 72h.



04

Show why an order is needed

Disorderly, offensive or criminal behaviour; serious public nuisance; or related disorder. The order must be necessary.



05

Manage the order and the risks

Initially up to 3 months; extensions up to 6 months total. Plan housing, safeguarding, access and review.

*Habitual residents. A court order CAN restrict their access. October guidance conflicts on hearing timing: confirm with force legal services.

Sources: 2014 Act ss76-82; 2026 Act s3; SI 2026/960 reg4. Before 26 Oct: police notice limits 24h / 48h.