

INFORMATION ITEM

REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
RESOURCES DIRECTORATE	ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE	9 MARCH 2021	10

UPDATED ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR GUIDANCE

PUBLIC ITEM

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

The Government published strengthened guidance for local agencies including councils around anti-social behaviour. The guidance was published on 29 January 2021.

The guidance relates to the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, which provides police and councils with a range of tools and powers to respond quickly to anti-social behaviour (ASB) and ensure victims have a say in the way that complaints are dealt with.

A key part of this is the Anti-Social Behaviour Case Review (also known as the Community Trigger), which gives victims of persistent anti-social behaviour the ability to demand a formal case review where the local threshold is met.

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG)

LINK TO INFORMATION

[Anti-Social Behaviour Powers - Statutory guidance for frontline professionals- Revised January 2021](#)

WHY IS THIS INFORMATION BEING GIVEN TO THE COMMITTEE?

The Committee is the designated crime and disorder committee under the Police and Justice Act 2006.

FURTHER INFORMATION

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Updated Anti-Social Behaviour Guidance

The government has published strengthened guidance for local agencies around anti-social behaviour to ensure that victims have their voices heard.

The [guidance](#) relates to the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, which provides police and local authorities with a range of tools and powers to respond quickly to anti-social behaviour (ASB) and ensure victims have a say in the way that complaints are dealt with.

A key part of this is the Anti-Social Behaviour Case Review (also known as the Community Trigger), which gives victims of persistent anti-social behaviour the ability to demand a formal case review where the local threshold is met - an important safety net in ensuring that victims are fully supported.

The strengthened guidance builds on previous updates to make sure there is a greater focus on the impact of anti-social behaviour on victims. It provides greater clarity on the process of the Anti-Social Behaviour Case Review, highlighting that relevant bodies should always consider inviting the victim or, if more appropriate, their representative to case review meetings to help the panel understand their perspective. It also explains that local areas can have independent chairs at review meetings to provide an external view on the case.

The updated guidance stresses that victims must be front and centre of the approach police and local agencies take when tackling anti-social behaviour.

The updated guidance also highlights existing requirements on local agencies including that:

- local areas must carry out a review of the response to anti-social behaviour complaints if an application is made and the locally defined threshold for a review is met
- they must respond to the victim at particular milestones in the process, including with the outcome of the review
- they must publish specified information at least every 12 months about the Community Trigger, including the number of reviews that have been carried out
- they must publish details of the Community Trigger procedure in their area to ensure that victims are aware that they can apply in appropriate circumstances

In addition to the guidance for local agencies, there is further information available on the [Community Trigger webpage on GOV.UK](#).

‘Anti-social behaviour’ is a broad term which includes behaviour which has caused or is likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to a member or members of the public.

Information about the specified number of Community Trigger case reviews comprises a part of the annual report made to this committee on the discharge of community safety duties.