

WEST MOORS TOWN COUNCIL



ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR POLICY

Adopted by the Council: 30th November 2023

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR POLICY

1. STATEMENT

This policy addresses how we will approach anti-social behaviour (ASB) due to the Anti-social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014. This Act provides agencies including Local Authorities (Unitary or District) with enforcement powers in addressing anti-social behaviour.

The Act replaced Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (known as ASBOs) which was the primary civil order in the UK since 1998, with Criminal Behaviour Orders. Previously there had been 19 different powers, but these were reduced to a base of six. They are: Civil Injunction, Criminal Behaviour Order, Dispersal powers, Community Protection Notices, Public Space Protection Order and Closure of Premises.

Under the Local Government Act 1997 Sec 31, West Moors Town Council only have the power to spend money on Crime Detection and Prevention measures.

We do also have a range of responsibilities to deal with or direct to the relevant department to deal with, 'environmental' ASB such as;

[Nuisance Noise - Dorset Police](#)

[Noise nuisance - Dorset Council](#)

[Graffiti - West Moors Town Council- Contact Us](#)

[Request Street Cleaning from litter - Dorset Council](#)

[Fly-tipping - Dorset Waste Services](#)

[Nuisance parking and abandoned cars - Dorset Police website](#)

[Report an abandoned vehicle in Dorset- Dorset Council website](#)

These responsibilities arise from a number of Acts and local byelaws, in particular from the [Environmental Protection Act 1990](#)

2. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this ASB policy is to improve co-ordination and encourage a consistent, clear approach to dealing with issues that arise from ASB, to ensure resident satisfaction and safety.

This policy also seeks to manage the expectations of complainants, cases may develop over a period of time (causing frustration) and some complainants may have unreasonable or unrealistic expectations of what can be done under the circumstances.

Residents are entitled to feel safe in their environment and where appropriate the Council will endeavour to act quickly and efficiently to tackle incidents of ASB.

This document does not say how the Council will deal with ASB on a day-to-day basis, but West Moors Town Council has consulted directly with the Local Police (Aug 2023), for advice on how to tackle ASB, and they state that there have been

few reports of ASB in West Moors, as in, there is no record to flag the need for much action, but as a Local Authority who engage regularly with the public and local organisations and Community groups, we know this not to be the case. Therefore, it is evident that occurrences of such behaviour are not being reported. Please see Appendix A for how to report incidents of ASB.

3. PREVENTATIVE MEASURES EMPLOYED BY WMTC

3.1 CCTV

West Moors Town Council currently own and manage CCTV cameras located in the Council office and around Fryer Field and the Youth Club.

3.2 ANTI CLIMB DETERRENTS

Anti climb paint and anti climb spikes are used in various locations at Fryer Field as a deterrent to stop climbing on rooftops, containers and to protect CCTV cameras. Warning signs are in place.

3.3 VERBAL WARNINGS

Council officers, Council members and the Council Contract Groundsman, have regularly given verbal warnings to perpetrators if they witness the ASB in progress. The more firm but fair warnings they receive, is intended to discouraged repetition of these acts.

WMTC report all incidents online to the Police.

WMTC have an internal log that is filled in following each verbal warning given.

4. PARTNERSHIP WORKING

Dorset Police

Dorset Council

West Moors Town Council office staff (10am-2pm, Mon, Tues, Thurs and Fri)

West Moors Councillors

West Moors Youth and Community Club

West Moors residents

Partnership working is crucial to resolving ASB cases, which can involve many different dynamics, reasons and motivations behind the behaviour, and for it to be properly addressed, it must be understood.

Frequently, cases will involve issues such as mental health, substance misuse, homelessness, domestic abuse, family breakdown, unemployment, poor housing standards, prejudice and many others that require support and or advice from professionals in the particular area.

West Moors Town Council has fostered good working relationships with our Local PCSO's, Local Youth Club and Local Skate Park User Groups, which ensures better monitoring of our facilities.

7. COUNCIL DOCUMENTS AND PROCEDURES

- (a) Protocol 38 – Equality and Diversity Policy
- (b) Protocol 35 – Crime and Disorder Policy
- (c) Protocol 3 – WMTC CCTV Code of Practice

8. REVIEW

This Policy will be reviewed as required when there is a legislation, organisation or asset owned/services provided change.

Appendix A

HOW TO REPORT ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Online: www.dorset.police.uk/contact/af/contact-us-beta/contact-us

Call: 101 for Non-emergency issues or concerns, after the incident, or call 999 if there is ever an ***immediate threat, risk or harm*** or a crime in progress. If Police response isn't required, residents can also report directly to Dorset Council ASB Community Safety Team via their online tool: [Dorset Council Anti Social Behaviour Team](#)
Email: asb@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk
Tel: 01305 762439

Appendix B

For a complainant/victim, a diary sheet can help assess the impact of the perpetrator's behaviour on them. If anti-social behaviour is regularly or repetitively affecting you or someone you know, The Town Council works in partnership with the Community Safety Team, so please contact us and we will liaise with them to determine the best course of action, and they may ask for a form of diary to be completed to show when such incidents occur and the frequency.