

How is an ASBO is obtained?

An application for an ASBO is invariably considered to be a last resort where early interventions (ABC's) and warnings have failed to change behaviour.

Where an ASBO is deemed necessary, an application is prepared detailing both the behaviours given cause for concern and all interventions used to date to divert the named perpetrator from engaging in anti-social behaviour. This could include the use of interventions and warnings as referred to above and referrals to diversionary activities and/or programmes of support. Where applications relate to juveniles or vulnerable adults, depending on the severity or persistence of the behaviour it may also be necessary to evidence any educational welfare assessments, Section 17 reports or Disability Discrimination Act reports to ascertain an individual's capacity to understand and adhere to any subsequently agreed order.

Once applications are approved by Legal and Democratic Services, all applications are presented to a multi-agency 'ASB Panel' for authority to proceed to court; this involves members from West Yorkshire Police, the Anti-Social Behaviour Unit, Youth Services, Youth Offending Service, Adult & Children's Social Care and the relevant housing authority. Due to the nature of the individual case, there may also be involvement from specialist agencies such as health service or drug treatment agencies. The need to consult on ASBO applications is a LEGAL REQUIREMENT.

Where it is agreed that perpetrators of ASB need an element of support in order to comply with the terms of their ASBO, the Anti-Social Behaviour Unit will continue to work in partnership with numerous agencies to ensure support is available to address issues including parenting, youth provision, alcohol and drug misuse.

In addition there are orders that can be attached to an ASBO that can compliment them well depending on the individual. These are:

Parenting Orders – particularly useful where there has been a breakdown in relationship between parent and child, or there are issues relating to parenting skills that have contributed to a child's anti-social behaviour. These orders require the parent and child to attend specific sessions to address issues around parenting and parent/child relationship.

Individual Support Orders – these are for use with juveniles and require them to attend specific activities that help them address offending and anti-social behaviour.

Intervention Orders – these are used where the anti-social behaviour is underpinned by issues of alcohol or substance misuse. These orders require the defendant to attend sessions and planned treatment to address drug, alcohol or substance misuse.