

What is an ASBO Warning?

Where reported anti-social behaviour is deemed to be serious, there is a risk of harm to victims and/or an individual perpetrator has already demonstrated an unwillingness to adhere to statutory interventions (i.e. Supervision Orders) an ABC may be dispensed with and an Anti-Social Behaviour Order Warning served.

An ASBO warning is a strongly worded warning notice which is served on an anti-social behaviour perpetrator advising them of the incidents of anti-social behaviour known to have been engaged in and reiterating the consequences should the behaviour continue.

The warning given is that if the behaviour complained about continues, then the local authority (or the police/Registered Social Landlord/Housing Action Trust) will consider taking legal action in the form of an ASBO. It also spells out the consequences of breaching an ASBO should one be gained.

The warning, whilst not legally binding can also be used as evidence in other court hearings.

Whilst it is good practice to serve a warning prior to applying for an ASBO, it is not an absolute requirement and the relevant authority can, if circumstances dictate, (i.e. the need to protect vulnerable victims) apply for an ASBO at court without a formal warning being given.