

ASB prevention advice for businesses.

## TOP TIPS

- Anti-social Behaviour (ASB) is defined as behaviour that causes, or is likely to cause, alarm, harassment, or distress to another person.
- Report all instances of ASB to the Police so the extent of an offender's behaviour is known. You may not be the only business suffering and collectively you will have evidence that will help an application for a CBO.
- Consider joining a Business Crime Reduction Partnership or Business Improvement District to share information about crime trends and prolific offenders in your area.
- Use your business's existing internal reporting mechanisms such as incident logs to record details of the alarm, harassment or distress caused to victims and the impact upon your business.
- If possible issue banning notices from your business to offenders. Speak to your local policing team or Business Crime Reduction Partnership about whether they can post these on your behalf.
- Keep CCTV or body worn camera footage showing the actions of offenders.

Criminal Behaviour Orders (CBO) were created by the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 and are used to target persistent offenders of anti-social behaviour who also commit criminal offences. They can be issued to adults and children over 10 years of age.

Upon conviction of any criminal offence an application can be made to the court by the Police via the Crown Prosecution Service for a CBO. The offence the individual is convicted of does not have to be related to the anti-social behaviour they cause. What does have to be shown is that the individual acted in a manner that caused alarm, harassment, or distress to another person.

If the Court is satisfied that a CBO is necessary to prevent further alarm, harassment or distress it will issue the order. This will contain prohibitions to protect the public which may include preventing the individual from entering specified areas, being with specific people, or acting in a specific manner. CBO's for an adult last for a minimum of two years and those for a child or young person last for 1-3 years.

A breach of a CBO is a criminal offence punishable by either a fine, prison sentence or both.



## Examples of Criminal Behaviour Orders

### Merseyside Shoplifter receives 2 year CBO

Merseyside Police obtained a two-year CBO against a shoplifter which prevented them from entering a specific shopping centre and entering any branches of several retailers within the Merseyside Area. The CBO was given for being “a repeat offender who caused a negative impact on the community”

### City of London Business Burglar receives 10 Year CBO

The City of London Police obtained a ten-year CBO against a prolific burglar who cost businesses almost £40,000. Prohibitions on the CBO included not to be able to enter the square mile of the City of London and not to tailgate any person into a building he doesn't have access to.

### Sussex man jailed for nine months for breach of his CBO

Sussex Police obtained a two-year CBO on a man for his persistent offending which included being drunk in public and anti social behaviour. His CBO had prohibitions including not consuming alcohol in a public place other than a licensed premises, not being drunk or in a state of drunkenness anywhere in Sussex, and not to behave in any way causing or likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to any person. When the male was found drunk and being abusive to members of the public this was a breach of his CBO and he was sentenced to 9 months in prison.

### Braintree Shoplifter receives five year CBO

Essex Police obtained a five-year CBO against a man who stole from a number of stores in the Braintree area. The CBO prevents him from entering seven named stores within the Braintree district including petrol stations, convenience stores, and supermarkets.

### Canterbury man receives two year CBO for Anti-Social Behaviour

Kent Police obtained a two-year CBO against a man who repeatedly threatened and swore at members of the public in Canterbury. A CBO was granted after his conviction for racially abusing a shop worker who refused to sell him alcohol. The CBO prevents him entering certain areas in the city.

Criminal Behaviour Orders can provide long term relief for communities, including business communities, from the debilitating impact of anti-social behaviour. The prohibitions within the CBO tackle the specific anti-social behaviour shown by the offender, or groups of offenders. The success of a CBO relies on partnership working by police, councils, businesses, individuals, and partner agencies not only to gather evidence to obtain the CBO but also in enforcing a CBO when one has been granted.

If your business is experiencing repeated ASB or crime the powers within the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 can be used to protect you. Contact your local police force for advice.

