

Appendix 2: Responding to issues outside of the Anti-social Behaviour Policy

Defining Anti-social Behaviour

Anti-social behaviour refers to conduct that causes harassment, alarm or distress to others. Common examples include vandalism, public intoxication, or intimidating behaviour . However, many activities should not be deemed antisocial, such as children playing during the day.

There is no defined list of behaviours or activities that constitute of ASB. Many activities will only be seen as ASB (in the context of legal powers) if they substantially interfere with others' peaceful enjoyment and go beyond the tolerance levels of a reasonable person.

The key factors distinguishing antisocial behaviour are **its negative impacts on the community, intent to disturb others, and violation of social norms and laws**. Everyday activities may bother some people, but they are not aimed to disrupt communities deliberately. Context, intent, persistence and harm are all factors in determining what is ASB, and what may just be nuisance or irresponsible behaviour. There may also be issues, which some may consider ASB but which are criminal behaviours.

The table below identifies some issues of concern that are not addressed in the Anti-social Behaviour Policy. It is important to note that an issue – such as an incidence of irresponsible cycling – that would not in isolation warrant the use of ASB powers and tools, may become ASB if cyclist persisted in a behaviour that could be disturbing, threatening of damaging.

Issue	Response
irresponsible skateboarding and cycling	City of London Police and its dedicated Cyle Team act to prevent and address
irresponsible parking of dockless e-scooters and hire bikes	City Corporation does not have powers to prevent dockless cycle hire schemes from operating in the City City Corporation developing proposals to mitigate that included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City-wide no-parking zone outside of approved parking areas • Rapid response locations • Review warning, fining and banning procedures
Public urination/defecation	City Operations Street Enforcement Officers respond. Issues can be report using: Fault reporting - Introduction - My City (achieveservice.com) Or the City of London switchboard
Littering	City Operations respond. Issues can be report using:

	Fault reporting - Introduction - My City (achieveservice.com) Or the City of London switchboard
Drones	flying of drones and model aircraft are regulated under the Drone and Model Aircraft Code, the Air Navigation Order 2016 and Part 3 of the Air Traffic Management and Unmanned Aircraft Act 2021 Flying drones to spy on people or look in windows could result in a police investigation for harassment or voyeurism. Further details can be found on the City of London Police website at Drones City of London Police
Protests	The City of London Police will facilitate protests within the Square Mile with a focus on public safety, prevention of damage and minimising the effects of the protest on the wider community.
Drug use	The distribution, supply, possession, and use of controlled drugs are all criminal offences that are dealt with by the police.
Illegal filming	Filming in public is not against the law. Commercial filming is managed by the CoLC Film Team. Filming on housing estates should be reported to the relevant housing management.
Sex Work	laws related to sex work that criminalise certain activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soliciting/loitering • Brothel-keeping • Pimping • Kerb crawling • behaviour that outrages public decency and creates a public nuisance. The City of London police will respond to any incidents described above.
Unreasonable behaviour in relation to housing management	The City's Housing Service has policies to support tenants and staff that experience unreasonable behaviour

Byelaws

A report to the Police Authority Board (13 December 2024) concluded that "City byelaws now have limited practical application to tackling local crime and disorder. This is because these byelaws are largely historic, some dating back to 1898, and have since been superseded by other more appropriate statutory powers."

City byelaws on City walkways, the largest of which is the Barbican high walk, require offences to be dealt with by summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £20. That means only police officers can enforce City byelaws meaning enforcement is dependent on a policing presence.