Anti-Social Behaviour

Unfortunately far too many people tell us that anti-social behaviour concerns them. This ranges from noisy neighbours, litter, fly-tipping, groups hanging around, vandalism, graffiti or criminal damage. All these can have a real impact on people's quality of life and can weaken communities. It is often thought that the perception of high levels of ASB is a sign of lack of community spirit and that neighbours do not look out for one another.

The NAG's role is to react to your problems and enable those partner agencies - who deal with ASB - to act fast, effectively and to the lasting satisfaction of the community.

We know that too many people choose not to report anti-social behaviour, because they don't believe their complaint will be taken seriously, or that anything will happen if they do. Nothing could be further from the truth - every issue that is reported will be fully investigated.

By playing an active role and reporting anti-social behaviour, you can help make your community a safer place.

Nervous about gangs? - hardly a day goes by these days without us reading about some instance of anti-social behaviour caused by groups of teenagers congregating in a particular area. However, it's important that we don't tar all teenagers with the same brush!

Many groups of teenagers who might congregate around an area close to where you live often do so because there's simply no other suitable place to go and hang out. And, in the vast majority of instances, they're not going to cause trouble or even be remotely interested in your presence.

However, there will be the odd group who will be out to cause either mischief or to be abusive to passers-by and, in certain instances, the situation could even get out of hand.

Because of the many different circumstances, you should not try to tackle the problem of teenage anti-social behaviour yourself. Even if a gang is verbally abusive towards you, simply avoid acknowledging the behaviour and call the police. Obviously, if they inflict any kind of physical assault on you, you should call the police immediately. The important thing is **not to try to tackle the problem yourself.**

Reporting anti-social behaviour - has never been easier.

Telephone **0845 8 505 505** or if you feel threatened **999**.

Speak to your Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) about behaviour in your area. They walk the streets and have powers to stop anti-social behaviour.

Speak to the Council - SaferMk or Community Wardens - who you can speak to about your concerns.

Contact Crimestoppers - *see article opposite*

Residential Parking

There is a limited amount that we can do about the tight building standards for car parking facilities that many of us experience. However, we are always looking for new and innovative ways in which to ease our parking problems and welcome any comments.

We can all help the situation by not parking on footpaths, grass verges, across driveways, on bends and across junctions. All these actions are illegal and the Police will deal with these offences.

The Footpath & Verge Parking Prohibition By law that has been introduced across Milton Keynes does not yet apply to any of our streets. However, we constantly review the situation and will, if necessary, apply for sanctions. Those streets that are the subject of frequent complaints will be canvassed to get residents opinions on parking in their area.

Are you fed up with parking in your street? If so, let us know.

Win £10

Find all the listed words in our Wordsearch grid. Words run in straight lines in any direction.

E	S	I	O	N	H	S	I	R	A	P
C	N	E	T	S	A	W	Y	R	S	
T	C	V	E	P	A	R	T	Y	B	O
I	O	A	I	A	E	C	I	L	O	P
T	U	N	L	R	G	A	N	L	V	L
I	N	D	L	K	O	I	U	I	E	E
F	C	A	E	I	B	N	M	T	R	A
F	I	L	G	N	R	E	M	T	M	S
A	L	I	A	G	S	I	O	E	I	A
R	P	S	L	S	E	R	C	R	N	N
G	K	M	R	E	F	A	S	M		T

ASBO	Graffiti	Noise	Police
Bin	Illegal	Parish	SaferMK
Community	Litter	Parking	Vandalism
Council	Mess	Party	Vermin
Environment	NAG	Pleasant	Waste

Finally, rearrange the remaining 11 letters to reveal how you can help your community.

Post your answer (with your name & contact details) in the box at the NAG stall at the Community Fete on 10th July 2010. The winning entry will be drawn at the close of the Fete.

Did you know?

...At the last count there were 38 different types of Anti-Social Behaviour?

After 9pm, if you are under 16 and your behaviour isn't being controlled by an adult,

the police can take you back to the place where you live.

What your NAG have done:-

- More **Litter & Dog bins** installed.
- **Schools Liaison** Officer appointed – all ages – currently working with Oakgrove School ECO Group.
- **EVA Findings** actioned directly with responsible agency.
- Close working with **Housing Associations.**
- **Crime Stats** by Quarter - published on website.
- **More residents recruited** to the NAG.
- **Hot Spots** – Litter Picking.
- **Small Graffiti Kits** purchased for immediate clean up of small scale tags.
- **Poster Campaigns** – Litter / Parking / ASB – via Newsletters, website, notice boards and, selectively, in Schools.
- **Parking Assessment** by Street Process and Questionnaire established.
- ***Bothered by Noise Leaflet*** - delivered to every Household.
- **A – Z Handbook** placed on website to aid swifter responses to problems.
- More **Drinking Control Area** signs to be installed.

Sending a clear message to criminals!

Crimestoppers, in partnership with SaferMK, is offering a cash reward for anonymous tip offs which lead to an arrest and charge.

At no time will you be asked for your name. Even claiming the reward is done completely anonymously using a code word. Calls from any line, including mobile phones, are routed via a secure system abroad so no number is ever recorded. People can also give details online on the Crimestoppers website. There is no fear of retribution or involvement in the criminal justice system because nobody will know the source of the information.

Help us to fight crime and still have peace of mind that you're not putting yourself or your families at any risk. We all need to work together to keep Milton Keynes safe and we urge more people to come forward and tell us what they know.

Act now - Call 0800 555 111

Residents are being warned to be on their guard against rogue traders working in Milton Keynes.

Honest and reputable traders do not have time to go door-knocking, so if you are cold called, politely tell them to leave, then tell trading standards.

Please visit www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/trading-standards or www.safermk.co.uk,or call Consumer Direct on 08454 04 05 06

THOSE IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS	
For all Emergencies	999
Thames Valley Police	0845 8 505 505
Bucks & MK Fire	01296 744400
Crimestoppers	0800 555 111
Milton Keynes Council - Environmental	01908 252270
Milton Keynes Council - Out of Hours	01908 226699
Anti-Social Behaviour Team (0900 - 1700hrs)	01908 691691
Kents Hill & Monkston Parish Council	07926 512523
Safer Communities Helpline	01908 252400
MK Community Mediation Service	01908 200828