

The Wrekin Housing Group

POLICY No. /19 **ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR, HATE CRIME & HARASSMENT POLICY**

Policy Statement

1. The Wrekin Housing Group (Group) is committed to addressing all forms of Anti-social behaviour, hate crime and harassment. The Group recognises that everyone has the right to a decent quality of life, to feel safe; both at home and in their neighbourhoods and no one should live with the fear or anxiety that these types of behaviour can cause.

The Group is committed to working with tenants, leaseholders, employees and external partners in order to resolve issues of all types of Anti-social behaviour, utilising all appropriate measures of both support and intervention, taking enforcement action where relevant.

2. Definition of Anti-Social Behaviour

The Group will treat any conduct capable of causing a nuisance or annoyance, fear or anxiety to any of our tenants as Anti-social behaviour.

Examples of Anti-social behaviour are (but are not limited to):

- Noise nuisance – domestic noise (e.g. music, shouting, vehicles, pets)
- Intimidation and harassment
- Aggressive, abusive and threatening language and behaviour
- Hate behaviour that targets members of identified groups because of their perceived differences, e.g. physical attacks, verbal abuse, threatening behaviour
- Using homes for unlawful purposes, e.g., selling, growing, and cultivating drugs, prostitution, theft of gas, abstraction of electricity
- Vandalism and damage to property
- Violence against people and property or land
- Modern slavery
- Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

- Domestic Abuse (including psychological, physical, sexual, financial or emotional abuse) – **SEE DOMESTIC ABUSE POLICY**

3. Policy Approach

The Group approach to dealing with Anti-social behaviour is based on the principles contained within the Anti Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 and other relevant legislation in force, together with the terms and conditions of our Tenancy Agreements, as well as the relevant Home Office's definitions.

- The Group will record all issues/complaints made of Anti-social behaviour involving one or more of our tenants or leaseholders, where the tenant or leaseholder is either the perpetrator or the victim.
- The Group will respond appropriately, this can be offering advice or taking action proportionately, whilst taking a victim centred approach in all cases.
- The Group will, when relevant work with tenants, leaseholders, residents and partners to look to resolve issues of Anti-social behaviour.
- The Group will, when relevant look for long-term solutions to address all issues of Anti-social behaviour involving or affecting tenants and leaseholders.
- The Group, where relevant will take appropriate supportive action when employees are subjected to Anti-social behaviour.

4. Multi Agency Partnerships

The Group recognises that tackling the complex issue of Anti-social behaviour is not always the sole responsibility of the housing provider and we may engage with other agencies if required.

The Group therefore works with other agencies in the local Community Safety Partnership (CSP).

- The Group actively participates at all levels in the CSP to take a holistic view of preventing and tackling Anti-social behaviour in our local communities.
- The Group will play an active role in working with partners to ensure the effective use of the tools and powers introduced by the Anti Social Behaviour, Crime

and Policing Act 2014 and will fulfil its consultation requirements.

Detailed information on how we will work to achieve the aims of this Policy Statement can be found in the procedure statements.

Equalities Impact Assessment	The Policy sets out how the Group will deal with breaches of tenancy conditions due to Anti-social behaviour. It states clearly that the aim is to prevent Anti-social behaviour and to support complainants and perpetrators in order to resolve the issues. Legal action will be considered as a last resort, except in the most serious cases, for example, where there has been violence or threats of violence or drug related offences. The Group will comply with all relevant legislation that seeks to ensure that no individual or groups of people are disadvantaged by the adoption of this Policy.
Risk Assessment	The Group has a legal requirement to produce and publish a statement of policy and procedures on Anti-social behaviour. Failure to do so could result in regulatory action. Failure to implement the Policy would result in inconsistent service to tenants.
Legal Assessment	The policy complies with current legislation.
Consultation	Tenants Panel Community Safety Partnership Practitioners and other internal employees.
	<p><u>Supporting Policies</u></p> <p>The Anti-social behaviour Policy works alongside a number of other policies, corporate strategies and statutory obligations. The key ones are listed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equality and Diversity • Income Management • Services to Vulnerable People Policy • Tenant Involvement • Lettings Policy • Health and Safety • Asset Management and Estate Investment • Tenancy Management Intervention

	Procedures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Domestic Abuse Policy • Modern Slavery • Safeguarding Policy
Policy Category	Housing Management
Monitoring	Monitoring by local Teams and by reports as required via management.
EMG approval	11.7.2019
Implementation date	1.8.2019
Review Date	1.8.2022

