

Helpful numbers

National Alcohol Helpline
0800 917 8282

Confidential advice and information on all aspects of alcohol. Calls are free.

National Domestic Abuse Helpline
0808 2000 247

A confidential service for women experiencing domestic violence. Callers can get support, help and information. The helpline is staffed 24 hours a day by fully trained female helpline support workers and volunteers. All calls are confidential

Crimestoppers
0800 555 111

Call anonymously with information about a crime.

Victim Support
0845 450 3838

The national charity helping people affected by crime, it offers a free and confidential support to help people deal with what they have been through as a victim or witness.

For more information about the powers to tackle alcohol-related anti-social behaviour or to report an instance of this problem please contact:

Vale of White Horse District Council
Community Safety
Abbey House
Abingdon
Oxfordshire
OX14 3JE

01235 520202

community.safety@whitehorsedc.gov.uk

www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk

If the anti-social behaviour is serious enough to make you fear for your safety or the safety of others you should contact Thames Valley Police on 0845 8 505 505 or 999 if it is an emergency. It is an emergency if a crime is being committed, is about to be committed or if there is a serious risk of injury.

Tackling alcohol-related anti-social behaviour in Abingdon



Find out about new powers to fine people up to £500 if they continue to drink alcohol in public places in Abingdon after they have been asked to stop

The District Council has introduced new measures to tackle alcohol-related anti-social behaviour in Abingdon. The Abingdon Designated Public Places Order (DPPO) means that if you continue to drink when asked not to your alcohol may be taken away and disposed of.

What is a Designated Public Places Order?

Designated public places orders (DPPOs) help local authorities deal with the problems of alcohol related anti-social behaviour in public places. The order means that a police officer, police community support officer, or special constable has the power to ask someone to hand over their alcohol, including any unopened containers, if they are behaving or are likely to behave in an anti-social way.

Is this a ban on drinking alcohol?

The order is **not a total ban** on drinking alcohol in public places. It just makes it an offence to carry on drinking alcohol if a police officer asks you to stop. It is not intended to stop anyone from drinking sensibly, for example, if someone is drinking alcohol in a park with a picnic or outside a licensed premises, they will not be affected.

What powers do police have?

The action the officer takes will depend on how the person responds to their request:

If a person gives up their alcohol when asked to, and stops behaving anti-socially - no further action will be taken.

If a person refuses to stop drinking alcohol when asked - their alcohol may be taken away and disposed of by the officer.

If a person refuses to hand over their alcohol when asked to - they could be arrested and fined up to £500.

If a person hands over their alcohol but continues to behave anti-socially - they may be arrested and convicted of a public order offence.



These new powers will not affect you if you are drinking responsibly in a public place

Why has the Designated Public Places Order been introduced in Abingdon?

The order has been introduced to:

- ⇒ **Cut down on alcohol related anti-social behaviour in public places around the town**
- ⇒ **Show that anti-social drinking is not acceptable and will not be tolerated in Abingdon's public places**
- ⇒ **Help make Abingdon a place where residents, workers and visitors feel safe**

What area is covered by the Designated Public Places Order?

The area includes the whole of Abingdon town. This should make it easier for people to know which areas are covered by the order and where it will be enforced. In addition, by covering the whole town it is hoped this will prevent the problem moving to another area.