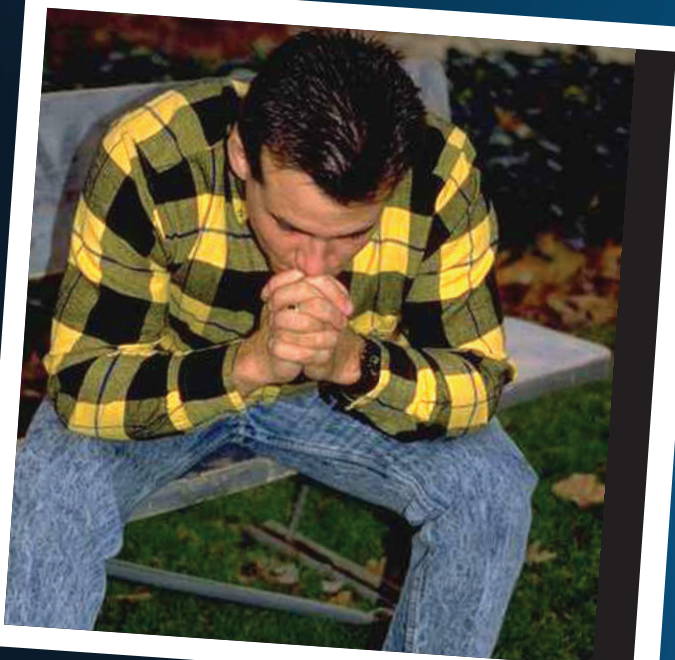


How long does an **ABC** last?

- An ABC usually lasts for 3 months at a time
- It will be reviewed regularly within the 3 months..
- If an individual is unable to change their behaviour the ABC can be stopped and other options considered.
- At the end of the 3 months the ABC will either be successfully completed or continued if further support is required.



What if I break my **ABC**?

- ABCs are voluntary, however, if an individual is unable to engage in the process, further measures will be considered by referring agencies.



the **moray** council



**SAFER  
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*Keeping our communities safe*

getting  
it right  
for every child  
in Moray

## Acceptable Behaviour Contracts

Safer Communities Office  
The Moray Council, Council Office  
High Street, Elgin, Moray  
IV30 1BX

**Telephone:**

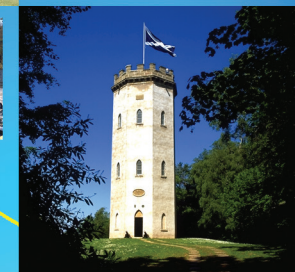
**01343 563623**

**Email:**

[antisocialbehaviour@moray.gov.uk](mailto:antisocialbehaviour@moray.gov.uk)



## Acceptable Behaviour Contracts in Moray





## What is an **ABC**?

An ABC stands for Acceptable Behaviour Contract. ABCs are part of the Antisocial Behaviour etc. (Scotland) Act 2004. They are, however, purely voluntary processes where support is offered in exchange for a change in behaviour.

The ABC process involves a written agreement between:

- 1) an individual involved in unacceptable behaviour  
and
- 2) one of the agencies who work together to combat unacceptable behaviour eg Safer Communities Office, Social Work, Education, Police, Community Wardens, Housing and so on.



## Why are **ABCs** used?

ABCs are used to help people change their unacceptable behaviours. When it is a young person (aged under 16) who is involved in unacceptable behaviour, an adult such as a parent or guardian or a representative from social services will also be involved. Examples of behaviour where ABCs can work include, but are not restricted to:

- Vandalism
- Verbal abuse
- Harassment of residents
- Noise nuisance
- Graffiti
- Racial Abuse
- Substance misuse
- Under age drinking
- Threatening Behaviour

## What does an **ABC** do?

- Says clearly to the individual, which of their specific behaviours is unacceptable
- Helps an individual recognise that their behaviour causes harm perhaps to people within their community or their family or friends and to themselves.
- Says clearly which behaviours must stop
- Helps an individual take responsibility for their actions
- Helps an individual look at making different choices
- Says clearly what kind of support an individual can expect to receive from the referring agency to help them complete their ABC.
- Successfully completing an ABC can help an individual avoid further formal consequences.

## Who can get an **ABC**?

- Anyone involved in unacceptable behaviour can have an ABC. There is no age restriction.
- When the ABC concerns young people under the age of 16, parents or guardians, as well as representatives from school and/or social work services will be involved.



## Who issues an **ABC**?

- Referral for an ABC can come from the Police, Community Wardens, Housing Agencies, Social Work and Education Departments. The person referring a young person or other individual for an ABC is known as the Referrer
- A trained Restorative Justice Facilitator will help the individual and the Referrer draw-up the contract. This is to help make sure that the contract is always fair and proportionate to the unacceptable behaviour.

