










Powers to Tackle Anti-Social Behaviour

Firework Misuse

-  Offences relate to throwing, possession and controlling fireworks at the time of their use. These are matters dealt with by the police and should be reported to them in the first instance.
-  Throwing fireworks in the street is a criminal offence.
-  A fine and/or prison sentence can be given for the misuse of fireworks.
-  A penalty notice for disorder can be issued to persons over the age of 16.
-  Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABCs), dispersal orders and anti-social behaviour orders (ASBOs) can also be used to target those who misuse fireworks.
-  It is illegal to sell fireworks without being registered with the local authority. This can result in prosecution and/or a fine.
-  Fireworks must be stored in the correct manner in premises licensed to sell them. The local authority has various controls over safety and quantity issues when it comes to the storage of fireworks.
-  Premises wishing to sell fireworks all year round must have a special license to do so. Ordinarily they are permitted to sell fireworks during the 3-week period around Guy Fawkes Night and during a few other exemption periods. Selling fireworks outside of these designated times of the year can result in prosecution and/or a fine.
-  Sales of fireworks to under 18's are restricted. It is a criminal offence to sell certain fireworks to those under the age of 18.

