

*These notes relate to the Antisocial Behaviour etc. (Scotland)  
Act 2004 (asp 8) which received Royal Assent on 26 July 2004*

# **ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR ETC. (SCOTLAND) ACT 2004**

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## **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

### **THE ACT**

#### **Part 3 – Dispersal of groups**

Part 3 makes provision for the dispersal by constables of groups of two or more persons whose presence or behaviour is causing or is likely to cause alarm or distress to any members of the public in any public place. Failure to comply with a direction to disperse will be a criminal offence. These powers can only be exercised within a particular locality authorised by a senior police officer. The senior police officer will only make such an authorisation in a locality within which antisocial behaviour is a significant, persistent and serious problem.