


NHS GET HELP QUITTING AT HOME NOW >> **SMOKEFREE**

Weather for Barrow



Rain (AM and PM)
High 19°C, Low 15°C
See forecast in detail...

NORTH-WEST
Evening Mail
NORTH-WEST NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

North West Evening Mail

The House of **Villeroy & Boch** 1748



Signature BATHROOMS

- [Home](#)
- [News](#)
- [Have your say](#)
- [AFC](#)
- [Raiders](#)
- [Sport](#)
- [Pictures](#)
- [Videos](#)
- [Memories](#)
- [Contact us](#)
- [5-13](#)
- [Info](#)
- [Advertising](#)

- [Barrow](#)
- [Ulverston](#)
- [Lakes](#)
- [Dalton](#)
- [Millom](#)
- [W. Cumbria](#)
- [Action Desk](#)
- [Community press](#)
- [Letters](#)
- [Awards](#)
- [Columns](#)

 [Get the top news stories by RSS](#) | [What is RSS?](#)

Wednesday, 26 August 2009

- [North West Evening Mail](#)
- [News](#)

New powers to deal with domestic violence

cases

Last updated 13:06, Monday, 24 August 2009

COURTS will be given new powers to deal with the growing threat of domestic violence – as figures reveal a case is reported to Cumbria Police every two hours.

From next month courts can grant restraining orders against suspected stalkers or violent partners – even after they have been acquitted of an offence, if they are still believed to be a threat.

Courts have previously only been able to issue the orders in limited circumstances – where the defendant has been convicted of harassment or putting someone in fear of violence.

It has forced many accusers to go through civil courts to acquire an injunction.

Breaking the terms of a restraining order – which is designed to prevent people from interfering with a complainant and can ban them from visiting their home or workplace – is a criminal offence punishable by up to five years in prison.

Ministers believe the change will improve the level of protection for all victims of violence and harassment.

Cumbria's Detective Superintendent of the Public Protection Unit Andrew Slattery said: "Any move which improves outcomes for victims of abuse and harassment is welcomed by Cumbria Constabulary.

"The existing bail legislation ensures that victims are protected by law from abusers to the point of conviction and now the transition from bail conditions to restraining orders will be seamless.

"The criminal burden of proof is very high and some cases will inevitably result in acquittals. However, where a prosecution has failed the victim may now receive robust protection from further harassment or abuse.

"Cumbria Constabulary are committed to tackling domestic violence through partnership working and the courts and Crown Prosecution Service play a vital role in our combined efforts to protect victims from all forms of abuse."

The move was confirmed after figures released to Parliament revealed there were 4,515 incidents of domestic violence reported to Cumbria Constabulary in 2007/8 – 87 a week, 12 a day or the equivalent of one case every two hours. Of the total 1,577 arrests were made.

Home Office Minister Lord West said: "Domestic violence is a devastating crime which impacts across all communities. The additional powers announced today will also help victims in need of immediate protection and spare them the need to take separate civil action."

Separate figures showed that in 2008/9 Cumbrian offenders convicted of domestic violence or abuse waited an average of 25 weeks after sentencing before starting domestic abuse programmes aimed at preventing them from reoffending. The new powers will come into force on September 30.

SHARE THIS ARTICLE

-  [del.icio.us](#)
-  [Digg](#)
-  [Facebook](#)
-  [Newsvine](#)
-  [Reddit](#)
-  [Stumbleupon](#)
-  [Technorati](#)
-  [Twitter](#)

Have you seen..?

- [Evening Mail Drugs Survey](#)

[Have your say](#)

- [The academy - have your say](#)
- [Who is to blame for Susan Boyle ending up needing treatment?](#)
- [Look at what The Secret Millionaire missed in Barrow](#)
- [Is dog fouling a problem in your community?](#)
- [Should Furness College nursery stay open?](#)

- [Should more be done to stop children smoking?](#)
- [Is the smoking ban killing pubs?](#)
- [Is childcare becoming too expensive?](#)

Slideshows

- [RNLi put on all-action gala](#)
- [Barrow Dads Group's annual fun day](#)
- [National kitesurfing: Walney](#)
- [Ulverston Golf Club rolls back the years](#)
- [Cumbria Steam Gathering in Flookburgh](#)
- [Coniston Country Fair](#)
- [Ambleside Flower and Craft Show](#)
- [Prince praises 'fantastic' rescue teams](#)
- [Red arrows star at Windermere air show](#)
- [Evening Mail Family Fun Day](#)
- [Coniston Water Festival](#)
- [Kirkby Gala](#)
- [Ulverston Carnival](#)
- [Barrow Carnival](#)
- [Walney Carnival](#)
- [Dalton Carnival](#)
- [Askam Carnival](#)
- [Muncaster Castle's Medieval Weekend of Living History](#)

Book your newspaper & online advertisements here

click in 2 .co.uk

property
motors
jobs
find it
travel
date
shop
compare

Visit our new websites for...

- [Askam](#)
- [Broughton](#)
- [Coniston](#)
- [Dalton](#)
- [Grange](#)
- [Millom](#)
- [Ulverston](#)
- [Windermere](#)



Follow us on Facebook

facebook



Name:
North West
Eveningmail

Vote

Do you think
Marks and
Spencer is too
posh for
Barrow?

Yes

No

[Show Result](#)

Quick links

- [Advertise with us](#)
- [Family Notices](#)
- [Obituaries](#)
- [Reader Travel](#)
- [Property](#)
- [Weddings](#)
- [Pinpoint leaflets](#)
- [Subscriptions](#)
- [Jobs](#)
- [Find It in Furness](#)
- [Dating](#)

- [CV Link](#)
- [Online shop](#)
- [CN Research](#)
- [Promotions](#)
- [Classifieds](#)
- [Business Awards](#)



The energy to lead in the UK

As a leading UK energy company we are dedicated to maintaining secure, sustainable and affordable electricity supplies.



Find out more about us by clicking here

- [Most read today](#) |
- [This week](#)

- [Weather warning after Cumbria hit by hurricane](#)
- [Boy, 15, denies sex assault on girl, nine](#)
- [Daredevil Millom runner slammed for Solway crossing](#)
- [Barrow man remanded on sex charges](#)
- [Town centre pub reopens after £400,000 revamp](#)
- [Beggars target pensioner](#)
- [AFC bid for two strikers](#)
- [history in the making](#)
- [Learn how to deal with stress at work](#)
- [Report: £35 billion 'black hole' in defence budget](#)

VHS
www.bbcshop.com

MICHAEL PALIN
THE DEFINITIVE COLLECTIONS ON DVD
& CD NOW AVAILABLE TO PRE-ORDER

123
InkCartridges

Free Delivery
UK & EU

Local Guides

- All Regions
- Ambleside
- Askam In Furness
- Barrow In Furness
- Broughton In Furness
- Coniston
- Dalton In Furness



[More of the Evening Mail's latest videos](#)

Netherlands National Circus visits Barrow Park

Rydal Sheepdog Trials and Hound Show

- [More videos](#)

Lakeland Country Fair

- [More videos](#)

Lakeland Country Fair.

Sea View charity horse ride

- [More videos](#)

Riders from Sea View raise money on their charity ride. center>

Models DVD trailer

- [More videos](#)

- [Click here to order your copy](#)

- [News & Star](#)
- [Cumberland News](#)
- [Times & Star](#)
- [Whitehaven News](#)
- [Hexham Courant](#)
- [Eskdale & Liddesdale Advertiser](#)
- [Cumbria Life](#)
- [clickin2](#)
- [Property](#)
- [Motors](#)
- [Jobs](#)
- [Date](#)
- [Compare](#)
- [Shop](#)
- [Find it](#)
- [Travel](#)
- [CN Group](#)

- [More videos](#)