

Neighbourhood Noise Information Guide

The *Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997* specify allowable sound levels that should not be exceeded.

These sound levels vary dependant on the time of the day and the day of the week. Noise can be described as unwanted sound and may be considered “unreasonable” when it exceeds these sound levels.

Under the *Environmental Protection Act* it is an offence to create unreasonable noise. Regulations made under the Act allow for different maximum levels of noise at certain times depending on when it is most likely to be a nuisance.

For example loud noise late at night or very early in the morning is more likely to be unreasonable than noise during the day.

If you are concerned about unwanted noise, the first step is to locate the noise source. If a neighbour is creating the noise, all that may be required to resolve the matter is a friendly approach towards your neighbour. However, if you cannot resolve the matter or feel uncomfortable approaching your neighbour, please contact either:

- a. 24 hour Police Assistance 131 444 for one off events such as loud parties.
- b. The City of Armadale 9394 5000 for ongoing or regular events.

Musical Instruments, Radio and Stereo Music

How can I tell if music is too loud?

Music with a dominant bass component can create a noise disturbance and should therefore be kept to a minimum. As a guide, music that is clearly audible at the boundary of a property is likely to exceed the allowable sound levels. Radio and stereo music is required to comply with the allowable sound levels specified in the Regulations at all times.

Am I able to play a musical instrument in my home?

The playing of a single musical instrument on residential premises is permitted to exceed the allowable sound levels, providing the instrument is played in a reasonable manner and for no more than one (1) hour per day between the hours of:

- 7am and 7pm Monday to Saturday
- 9am and 7pm on Sunday and public holidays

Band practice in residential areas is prohibited and an alternative location should be used.

Do You Need Further Information?

Should you require any further information regarding neighbourhood noise, visit the City's website or contact one of the City's Environmental Health Officers.

Please note this information sheet is intended as a guide only.

Should you wish to view a copy of the relevant legislation, the *Environmental Protection (Noise) Regulations 1997*, visit the State Law Publishers web site www.slp.wa.gov.au.