

# 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 and 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.

## Construction Noise

### **Are there any restrictions that apply to noise from construction sites?**

Construction work is permitted between the hours of 7am to 7pm from Monday to Saturday inclusive, without the usual restrictions that apply to other noise sources. Noise from construction work is not permitted on Sundays or public holidays.

There are still some restrictions that apply to noise from construction work and you are required to:

- a. Carry out the construction in accordance with Section 6 of *Australian Standard 2436 – 1981 Guide to Noise Control on Construction, Maintenance and Demolition Sites*.
- b. Use equipment that is the quietest reasonably available, for example use an electric cement mixer rather than a petrol one, and in a manner that minimises any impacts due to noise.

### **What does the law state, in relation to noise that is not directly associated with construction activities?**

The allowances for noise from construction sites only apply to noise directly resulting from the construction itself. Noise from other sources such as music being played by workers is not exempt and the usual restrictions apply to these types of noise.

It is very common for the City to receive complaints about noise from workers' stereos. If workers want to play music while they are working then they should make sure that it isn't a nuisance to neighbouring properties.

## Neighbourhood Noise Information Guide (*continued*)

### **What if it is necessary to work outside the permitted times?**

Noisy construction work can only be done outside of the permitted times if an approval has been granted by the City of Armadale. Approval can only be granted for work outside the normally permitted times when there is a legitimate reason why it is necessary. An example of when approval may be given is if the works are near a busy road and doing the work early in the morning is likely to minimise disruption.

### **Are there any fees payable to gain approval to work outside permitted times?**

There are fees that apply and certain information that must be provided before approval can be granted. Applications must be submitted at least seven (7) days before the works commence. Contact the City's Health Department on 9394 5000 for further information

### **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 website [www.slp.wa.gov.au](http://www.slp.wa.gov.au).

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