

Neighbourhood Noise Information Guide - Loud Parties

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 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.

What should I consider before agreeing to host a party?

If you plan to host a party it is strongly recommended that you contact the Police beforehand or register your event through their website www.police.wa.gov.au and obtain important information containing precautions you should take to minimise potential risks.

As the host, you have a duty of care for the safety and wellbeing of your guests and if the party gets out of hand you could be held responsible.

You should also inform your neighbours about the party and the time you expect to finish, to avoid causing a strained relationship.

Who should I contact if a party gets too loud?

If the noise is a one off event and you require assistance during the event, it is best to contact your local Police on 131 444. Police can issue warnings or serve notices to those responsible. If people fail to comply with the warnings or notices, Police are able to seize equipment responsible for making the offending noise, such as a stereo.

Alternatively, for regular events causing unreasonable noise, you should contact the City's Health Service and a Noise Officer will investigate and try to resolve the issue.

Although they are contactable on 9394 5000 during normal office hours, it is preferable to request assistance in writing, stating relevant details, including the duration and location of the noise source.

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.