

Local Nuisance – Noise

What is a Noise Nuisance?

Noise is generally any sound that a person doesn't want to hear, with the result that it becomes a nuisance to an individual.

Noise can be created by:

- Construction
- Air conditioning
- Compressors
- Domestic pool pumps
- Power tools and machinery

What do Council consider when investigating a noise nuisance?

1. Has the noise activity been generated outside allowed hours of operation?
2. Does the noise affect the amenity of the area and reduce the ability of people to enjoy the indoor and outdoor environment?
3. Is the noise adversely affecting the health of the community? (e.g. sleep deprivation or stress)

How can you reduce or mitigate noise whilst undertaking noise generating activities?

- Where practical, locate noisy appliances as far away as possible from neighbouring premises (especially areas like bedrooms)
- Consult and communicate with neighbours on the activity and duration
- Use power tools within allowed hours (domestic premises)
 - 8am and 8pm (Monday to Saturday)
 - 9am to 8pm on Sundays and public holidays
- Construction noise
 - 7am to 7pm (Monday to Saturday)

What is the law?

Under the *Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act 2016*, noise may be a local nuisance where it has an "adverse effect on an amenity value of an area...and unreasonably interferes with or is likely to unreasonably interfere with the enjoyment of the area by persons occupying a place within...the area".

How to report a Local Nuisance?

Speak to Person

Initially you should try and discuss your concerns with the people (e.g. neighbours) from where the nuisance is coming from as they may not even be aware of the effect they are having on others. This is often the quickest way to find a solution.

Contact the Body Corporate

If the nuisance is coming from premises which is subject to the rules and regulations of a Body Corporate or Strata Group, you will need to contact the Body Corporate or Strata Group directly to seek a resolution as the nuisance is likely to be a breach of their rules and regulations.

Reporting a Nuisance during Business Hours

Between Monday to Friday 8.30am to 5pm. Please contact the Council on 8203 7203 or email city@cityofadelaide.com.au with as much information as possible.

Reporting a Nuisance After Hours

To report a nuisance outside of Monday to Friday 8.30am to 5pm, please contact SA Police on 131 444 if you require action at that time. Alternatively please contact Council during business hours to report the nuisance.

If the Nuisance is Serious

If the nuisance has the potential for serious or material environmental harm you should contact the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) directly on 8204 2004 24/7 or email: epainfo@epa.sa.gov.au.