

## Local Nuisance – Odour

### What is a Odour Nuisance?

Odours are the properties of a substance that a person may be able to detect by smell.

Odours may be created by:

- Dirty or poorly maintained waste bins
- Uncovered compost heaps
- Rotting vegetation or food scrapes
- Insanitary conditions

### What do Council consider when investigating an odour nuisance?

1. Is the odour persistent over a period of time?
2. Does the odour adversely affect the amenity of the area and reduce the ability of people to enjoy the indoor and outdoor environment?
3. Is the odour adversely affecting the health of the community? (e.g. headaches or nausea)

### How can you reduce or mitigate odour whilst undertaking odour generating activities?

- Minimise waste on the premises
- Ensure composting and mulching is done correctly to avoid smells
- Clean waste bins regularly and get rid of any accumulated or smelly waste
- Be mindful when storing paints, chemicals and other products which may cause strong and offensive odours

### What is the law?

Under the *Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act 2016*, odour 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](mailto: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](mailto:epainfo@epa.sa.gov.au).