



THE LONDON BOROUGH
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NOISY WORKS

CONTROL OF POLLUTION ACT 1974

The Council recognises the necessity to develop new buildings and maintain or alter existing ones. Some level of environmental disturbance is often unavoidable when carrying out these works, however the Council has a duty to ensure residents and businesses are protected as far as possible from the disturbance these works cause.

What are my duties when carrying out works?

Development works are inherently disruptive; but in most instances work can be undertaken in such a way as to reduce the amount of disturbance that is caused to local residences.

All reasonable precautions and best available working practices should be employed to control the amount of disturbance caused by site activities in general. Some basic requirements are given below:

Where residential dwellings are likely to be affected by noise, the hours of noisy works must be restricted to:-

Monday to Friday: 8am to 6pm

Saturday: 8am to 1pm

Sunday and bank holidays: no noisy activities on site

Instructions should be given to ensure that vehicles and plant arriving at and leaving the site comply with the stated hours of work.

- Noisy plant and equipment must be sited as far as possible from noise-sensitive buildings. Barriers (e.g. site huts, buildings, fences) or purpose-built acoustic screens should be used to reduce the noise reaching sensitive buildings where practicable.
- Avoid the use of percussive and impact tools wherever possible.
- Vehicles and mechanical plant should be fitted with effective exhaust silencers and maintained in good and efficient working order.
- Machines in intermittent use should be shut down or throttled down to a minimum when not in use.
- Consider the sensitivity of the area when choosing the piling method. Sheet piling should, where practicable be carried out using a hydraulic or vibratory method.
- Damp down areas where necessary to minimise dust generation.

Disposal of Waste.

- Burning of construction/demolition/household waste materials is an offence under the Environmental Protection Act 1990. Burning of such waste could result in prosecution action, there is no obligation for this Division to issue a warning initially.
- This type of waste is classed as "controlled waste" and must be disposed of properly i.e. a skip, at a licensed site or by use of a waste carrier licensed by the Environment Agency.
- You are permitted to burn green, garden waste that has grown on the site only. Please note; you must still ensure that the fire does not cause a nuisance to neighbours through smoke and/or ash as enforcement action can also be taken against this.

What will happen if I ignore these criteria?

If noisy works are undertaken outside of the permitted hours without prior agreement, or are not performed using the best practicable means to minimise environmental disturbance the Council may serve a notice under the Control of Pollution Act 1974 to prohibit or control the works in accordance with appropriate criteria. Breaching this notice can result in the issuing of a substantial fine.

Public Protection, Civic Centre, N112, Stockwell Close, Bromley, BR1 3UH
Tel No: 0300 303 8657



The Government Standard