



NOISE DAIRY SHEET

What is a Noise Diary Sheet?

The information you provide in this diary sheet is important to us for a number of reasons:

- It gives a clear understanding of what you are experiencing.
- It helps us identify any patterns for example certain days or certain times of the day which means we can visit and carry out monitoring at the most appropriate times.
- It can be used if escalated to environmental health as a statutory noise nuisance.
- The diary sheets may also be useful if you decide to take your own action

How do I complete the Noise Diary Sheet?

We hope that completing the diary sheet is quite straightforward – we simply want you to fill in the sheets provided with the date and time that the nuisance is happening / happened, a description of the nuisance. It is important that you fill in the start and time date. We encourage multiple entries a day. It is important we get a clear view of what you are experiencing.

An example has been provided overleaf to give you an idea of what we are looking for. If you happen to be away from home for any reason it may also be useful to note that in the diary. If you have difficulty in completing the diary sheets for any reason please contact us and we will try to find a suitable alternative to suit your circumstances.

What happens when I submit the Noise Diary Sheet?

Once we receive your completed diary sheet, we will look at the information to decide if the matter requires further investigation or not. You will be informed regarding this decision as soon as possible.

The Council can take action where there is evidence that your complaint amounts to a Statutory Nuisance. It is very difficult to explain exactly what is and what not a statutory nuisance is and it can depend on a number of factors including:

- The type of complaint – not all nuisances can be a Statutory Nuisance.
- The impact - an officer must decide if it is unreasonable or dangerous to health.
- How often it occurs – if an issue occurs only from time to time it may not be a Statutory Nuisance and it is often not possible to deal with short term issues.
- How long it lasts for - a nuisance is more likely to exist when the issue occurs for an extended period although intermittent issues can sometimes be unreasonable too.

What the Council cannot do

- We cannot treat all complaints as being a nuisance, the law does not give an absolute right to peace and quiet.
- If a person is unusually sensitive e.g. has a certain medical condition or has unusual working patterns, it will be difficult to establish a statutory nuisance.
- In some cases, the Council will not be able to establish a statutory nuisance. In these cases individuals can take their own action for nuisance via the Sheriffs Court.

Please Note: If the diary sheets are not returned within 1 month and we do not hear from you, it will assumed that your complaint is resolved and no further action will be taken.

Example

Date	Time	Description of noise: Barking/Howling/Growling/ Whining	Frequency Constant or Intermittent	Was the dog being reactive? i.e. postman, neighbour in the garden	Was the owner present
25/08/2020	8am to 8.30am	Barking in the garden	Constant	Nothing I could see to cause the barking	Yes, in the garden with the dog
26/08/2020	10pm to 10.10pm	Barking from house	Intermittent	Person knocking door	No
26/08/2020	12pm to 1pm	Barking from house	Frequent	Unsure	Unsure

