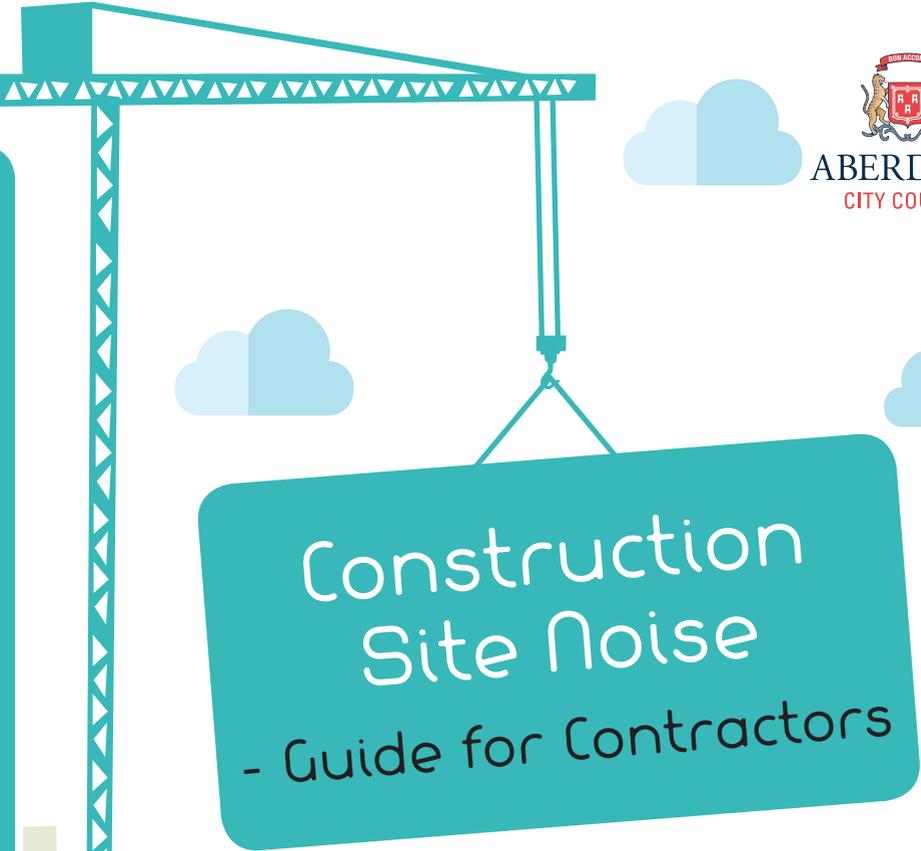




ABERDEEN  
CITY COUNCIL



Construction  
Site Noise  
- Guide for Contractors



# Introduction

Building and construction work are an essential part of the growth and development of Aberdeen. Construction activities can be noisy and may cause disturbance to people in their homes and businesses nearby.

This leaflet provides useful advice for contractors on how to minimise disruption and noise and avoid conflicts with local residents.

## Community Relations

If you are undertaking construction work in Aberdeen, it is recommended that you notify local residents of any work that will be carried out. This applies to all building work, demolition work, fit-outs and roadworks. The notifications should include:

- A clear and accurate description of the work to be carried out and the amount of disturbance anticipated.
- All steps that the contractor has taken to minimise disturbance.
- The time and duration of the work. This should be strictly adhered to so that credibility with local residents is maintained.
- A point of contact for enquiries or complaints

More information can be found in the BS 5228-1:2009+A1:2014 Codes of practice for noise and vibration control on construction and open sites.

## Common causes for complaint

There are a number of common complaints that may lead to conflict between contractors and neighbours and avoiding these will help maintain good relations with your neighbours. These include:

- Running generators unnecessarily.
- Siting generators or pumps near to noise-sensitive premises when they can be located in a more distant or shielded part of the site.
- Organising deliveries to arrive at the site before the start of the working day.
- Allowing vehicle engines to idle unnecessarily.

Occasionally, conflicts between contractors and neighbours can arise, in such cases, Environmental Health may intervene. In the first instance the situation is usually dealt with informally, to remedy the problem without using formal restrictions.

# Restrictions

If informal attempts at resolving complaints are not successful sections 60 and 61 of the Control of Pollution Act 1974 enable the Council to impose conditions on the way in which work is carried out on construction sites in order to limit the noise impact on the surrounding premises.

## Time restrictions

– the most common form of restriction to be placed upon a site is to restrict site operations to:

07:00 to 19:00 Monday to Friday

08:00 to 13:00 on Saturdays

No noise is to be audible at the site boundary out with these times. There may be more specific restrictions on particularly noisy operations, such as hammer piling.

Under normal circumstances, evening, night time and Sunday working will not be considered reasonable. There may be exceptions to this, for example, for reasons of public safety and/or Police requirements. In such cases contractors need to demonstrate that other Authorities require the work to take place at these times.

## Noise restrictions

– the likely significance of the noise levels affecting residential properties during accepted times must be identified and restricted to a maximum threshold level established through the application of an appropriate method described within Annex E of BS5228 1:2009+A1:2014 Codes of practice for noise and vibration control on construction and open sites.

## Plant and machinery restrictions

– certain items of plant or machinery may be considered inappropriate for the works being undertaken and therefore prohibited from use.





# Should you require further information, please contact:

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