

NOISE FROM CONSTRUCTION SITES

There are generous allowances for noise from construction sites. The normal restrictions which apply to noise from other activities do not apply to noise from construction work between 7am to 7pm on any day that is not a Sunday or public holiday.

There are still restrictions on construction site noise though and you are required to:

- carry out the construction in accordance with section 6 of Australian Standard 2436 – 1981 “Guide to Noise Control on Construction, Maintenance and Demolition Sites”; and
- use equipment that is the quietest reasonably available e.g. use an electric cement mixer rather than a petrol one

WHAT ABOUT OTHER NOISE ON THE CONSTRUCTION SITE?

The allowances for noise from construction sites only apply to noise directly resulting from the construction itself. Noise from other sources such as music being played by workers is not exempt and the usual restrictions apply to these types of noise.

It is very common for the City to receive complaints about noise from workers’ stereos.

If workers want to play music while they are working then they should make sure that it isn’t a nuisance to neighbouring properties.



*** Don’t turn music up so it can be heard over loud equipment that is being used**

*** Don’t have a loud stereo blaring music across a large area –**

Neighbouring properties may not want to listen to the music. It is better to have the stereo at a lower volume close to where the work is being carried out and move it around the site as required.

WHAT IS REQUIRED BY AUSTRALIAN STANDARD 2436-1981?

Australian Standard 2436 -1981 contains information about how noise from building sites is required to be controlled. Most builders can get away without having a copy if they adhere to the following;

- Where a task can be done more than one way favour doing it the way that makes less noise
- Use the quietest reasonably available equipment
- Where possible maximise the distance between noisy equipment and affected neighbouring properties
- Where possible screen equipment from affected neighbouring properties e.g. behind a wall
- Maintain your equipment so it doesn’t make excess noise.

If you are a builder involved in larger projects or if you need to get approval to work outside of the normally permitted times (see below) then you should get a copy of the standard.

WHAT IF I NEED TO WORK OUTSIDE OF THE PERMITTED TIMES?

Noisy construction work can only be done outside of the permitted times if an approval has been granted by the City of Armadale. Approvals can only be granted for work outside the normally permitted times when there is a legitimate reason why it is necessary. An example of when approval may be given is if the works are near a busy road and doing the work early in the morning is likely to minimise disruption.

There are fees that apply and certain information that must be provided before approval can be granted. Applications must be submitted at least 7 days before the works commence. Contact the City’s Health Department on 9399 0111 for further information.