

Noise control

- making a complaint

Whakahaere turituri

- te tuku kōamuamu

What is excessive noise?

He aha te turituri tuwhene rawa?

Excessive noise is any noise that unreasonably interferes with someone's peace, comfort, and convenience. It is subjective, but generally, it shouldn't disturb your neighbours.

The Resource Management Act 1991: This Act helps control unreasonable or excessive noise to protect the environment, including people. It aims to balance the right to make some noise with the need to prevent excessive noise.

Key sections of the Act:

- **Section 326:** Defines excessive noise, including vibration, as noise under someone's control.
- **Section 327:** Outlines the steps a noise enforcement officer takes when a complaint is made. The officer assesses the noise without needing a sound level meter and can issue a direction to stop the noise, effective for 72 hours.
- **Section 328:** Requires the noise maker to comply with the direction immediately. Non-compliance can lead to equipment seizure or other actions, with police presence if needed.

Making a complaint

Te tuku kōamuamu

To report excessive noise, contact Whakatāne District Council at:

- **Phone:** 07 306 0500 or 0800 306 0500
(Murupara)

Your details will be kept confidential, but anonymous complaints will not likely be acted upon. Note that barking dogs are not covered by this legislation; for those issues, speak with an Animal Control Officer.

Fines and penalties

Ngā Utu tautuku

- **Excessive noise:** Ignoring a direction to stop making excessive noise will result in a seizure and a possible fine of up to \$500.
- **Providing information:** Failing to provide requested information to an Enforcement Officer can result in a fine of up to \$300.
- **Equipment seizure fee:** If you have had your equipment seized due to excessive noise you will be required to pay a fee of \$180 for the return of your equipment.

Further information *Ngā Āpitihanga*

This brochure is published by the Whakatāne District Council and is intended to provide general information only. It is not intended as a legal document and may not be applicable to all circumstances. For further information, please contact the Whakatāne District Council.

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