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# Noise from Building Sites



In 2004-2005 10% of all the noise complaints received by Borough and District Councils in Northumberland concerned noise from building sites. Noise from building sites can be very intrusive and prevent people enjoying their homes and gardens, even on smaller developments.

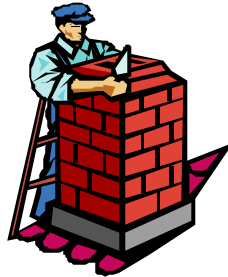


Whilst noise from building sites is inevitable this type of noise can be a major problem, especially when the noise occurs at night, over the weekend or during bank holidays. CMBC therefore limits the impacts of noisy work from building sites by applying standard hours.

## Standard Working Hours

Monday - Friday = 08:00 - 18:00  
Saturday = 08:00 - 13:00

With **NO NOISY WORK** on a Sunday or a Bank Holiday. Noisy work can be defined as "work generating noise that can be heard at or beyond the boundary of the property.



If these hours are breached then the Council may serve a notice under the Control of Pollution Act 1974 enforcing these hours. Failure to adhere to the terms of this notice may result in you being prosecuted and on summary conviction will be liable to a fine not exceeding £5000 for the breach together with a further fine of £50 for each day on which the offence continues after conviction.

## What can I do?

1. Follow the above standard hours as enforced by the council.
2. Follow the Considerate Constructors Guidelines, detailed overleaf.

This leaflet is available in large print

# Considerate Constructors Guidelines



<p><b>DUST:</b> It is very important that you keep dust generating activities to a minimum. Work such as cutting paving slabs with a Stihl saw can be a significant cause of nuisance to locals. If you have to undertake dusty work then it should be contained and away from sensitive locations.</p>	<p><b>CLEANLINESS:</b> Keep the site and surrounding area clean and in a good condition. Don't allow waste materials to build-up on site and store any waste materials in a designated area.</p>	<p><b>SAFE:</b> Safety is one of the key considerations for building sites. Workers should be aware of their responsibilities with regard to safety and the general public. Particular care must be applied around site vehicles.</p>
	<p><b>GOOD NEIGHBOUR:</b> Provide information about the work to people near the site.</p>	<p><b>RESPECTFUL:</b> All workers on site should respect the local area and people living there. This should include appropriate clothing and no offensive comments. Make sure your workforce are able to talk and explain things to the public</p>
<p><b>SMOKE:</b> Bonfires are a major source of public nuisance and should not be used to dispose of building waste. All waste should be disposed of by a regulated waste handler. If the Council receives a complaint about smoke it will investigate and if you are found to have given off dark smoke then you may be liable to a fine up to £20,000.</p>	<p><b>NOISE:</b> Keep all noisy work to within the Standard Working Hours, detailed overleaf. Where possible arrange for all deliveries to be made after 08:00 with no deliveries at the weekend. Every effort should be made to keep equipment well maintained and to ensure noise reduction measures are in place.</p>	<p>Compliance with these guidelines is purely voluntary, however the Council does encourage all builders to follow them to avoid creating any nuisances as well as avoiding possible legal action.</p>
<p><b>CONSIDERATE:</b> Think about the needs of the people surrounding the site when planning to work to minimise disruption.</p>	<p><b>RESPONSIBLE:</b> Ensure that everyone associated with the site understands implements and complies with these guidelines</p>	