

Environmental Protection

How to be a quiet neighbour

There are lots of simple ways to avoid disturbing your neighbours.

Loud music

- Turn down the volume and bass so your neighbours can't hear your music.
- Never play your music in the garden or on your balcony.
- Late at night, turn the volume down or use headphones.
- Move speakers away from neighbour's walls and raise them off the floor.

People noise – banging, slamming doors, shouting

- Close doors quietly.
- Only use your washing machine or vacuum cleaner during the day.
- Laminate flooring and bare floorboards in flats can sometimes cause noise problems. Place rugs in the areas where you walk and avoid wearing shoes indoors.
- Try not to shout or talk loudly, especially late at night.
- If you have stairs, avoid running up and down them.
- Don't let children run around late at night.

DIY noise

- Warn your neighbours about noisy work in advance.
- Carry out noisy work between 10am and 6pm. If you need to carry out noisy work outside these hours, speak to your neighbours first.
- Complete the work quickly and don't let it drag on for months.

Barking dogs

- For information on how to control barking and howling, download our barking dog advice sheet, www.luton.gov.uk/barkingdogs
- Contact our Dog Wardens for advice. Call (01582) 51 03 30.

Parties

- Invite all your neighbours, but if they can't join in the fun, let them know the date of your party and when it will start and finish well in advance.
- Please remember that telling your neighbours about the party doesn't allow you to cause a noise nuisance.
- Keep windows and doors closed. Turn off your heating before your guests arrive to stop your house or flat getting too warm.
- Keep music indoors and only use your garden as a quiet chill-out area.
- As guests leave, ask them to keep the noise down. Loud voices, slamming doors and car horns can be very disturbing.
- Rather than have a house party, hire a room in a hotel, pub or nightclub.

Burglar alarms

- Register your alarm online at www.luton.gov.uk/burglaralarms
- Has your alarm got a 20 minute cut-off facility? Try contacting the manufacturer for information or have the alarm inspected.
- Have your alarm serviced once a year.

How to contact us:

(01582) 51 03 30 Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm, except Wednesday, 10am to 6pm

Website / email www.luton.gov.uk/noise, environmentalhealth@luton.gov.uk