

Air Pollution

Chemical and paint spray drift

Spray drift from chemicals and paint can damage property, affect neighbours and impact people's health.

The law

Council investigates spray drift from chemical and paint under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*. Some sites have a development approval with conditions. Council investigates complaints about these sites using the *Planning Act 2016*.

If the emission is unlawful, Council may issue a fine to the value of 15 penalty units (individual) or 75 penalty units (corporation), or prosecute.

How to reduce spray drift

- work indoors, where possible
- check weather conditions - don't spray on days with strong and gusty winds
- follow the manufacturer's guidelines
- use a brush on small jobs
- use accurate equipment that reduces overspray
- use a commercial spray booth, where possible

Complaints

In most cases, the best way to resolve an air pollution issue is through polite and productive communication between yourself and the person causing the spray drift nuisance. If you haven't already spoken with the person about the issue, we strongly recommend you try this approach first.

You could also download the Environmental Nuisance letter from our [website](#), and place it in their letterbox. If you have concerns about approaching or entering communication, or these measures have proven ineffective, you can lodge a complaint with Council by:

- ☎ **Phone:** (07) 5329 6500
- ✉ **Email:** mail@noosa.qld.gov.au
- 👤 👤 **Council Office:** 9 Pelican Street, Tewantin

You will need to provide:

- your name, address and phone number (kept confidential)
- details of the emission, including source address and the date and time it starts

To help you keep track of the details of the emissions, it is a good idea to fill out a daily log that you can submit with your complaint.

How Council handles complaints

As part of the investigation, Council will consider:

- whether the site has a development approval with a condition specific to chemical or paint emissions
- the amount being emitted
- the duration and rate of emission and the characteristics and qualities
- environmental sensitivities
- the degree of impact on neighbouring properties
- whether the person responsible has already taken reasonable action to manage light emissions.

Complaints not investigated by Council

- an environmentally relevant activity regulated by the [Department of Environment and Science](#) (DES) (e.g. chemical manufacturing)
- an environmentally relevant activity regulated by the [Department of Agriculture and Fisheries](#) (e.g. poultry farming)
- a state or local government premises or activity - [DES](#)