

Compliance information sheet: light nuisance

A light nuisance can be caused by artificial light being emitted from a property or caused by natural or artificial light that is reflected from something on a property. A lighting nuisance could occur due to poorly directed lighting. Types of light that may cause a nuisance include security lights, spotlights and floodlights. An example could be a security light installed and positioned in such a way that the light shines directly neighbour's bedroom window.

Frequently asked questions

What are some ways to reduce light emissions?

- Turn off lights when not in use.
- Consider sensor switches for lights used for security purposes.
- Position lights as far as possible from neighbouring properties.
- Avoid placing the light near reflective surfaces.
- Do not use excessive lighting.
- Wherever possible, direct light downwards to illuminate the target area.
- Use lower wattage light globes.
- Install screening to keep the spilling of light to a minimum.

What can I do if I believe a neighbour's property is causing a lighting nuisance?

If you are experiencing nuisance lighting you could initially try to solve the problem by discussing it with whoever is responsible for the lighting nuisance. Your neighbour might not know that they are creating a lighting nuisance and may take care of the problem themselves. You can also learn more about resolving neighbourly disputes at www.canning.wa.gov.au/residents/living-here/health-services/resolving-disputes-with-neighbours

How can the City of Canning help?

If you believe that a lighting nuisance is being created from a property located within the City of Canning, you can submit a complaint through the City's 'Request-It' service at www.canning.wa.gov.au/request-it or you can call the City directly on 1300 422 664. The City's Compliance services will follow up on any complaints received in accordance with its Compliance and Enforcement Policy

When responding to a light nuisance complaint, the City will consider:

- The amount of light being emitted.
- The duration and rate of emission.
- The type of lighting (halogen, LED or other).
- The location of the lighting and where the light spills.
- The impact that the light has had or may have.
- The impact on any neighboring properties.

Disclaimer

This information sheet is provided as generalised information. While we aim to keep the content of this document current and accurate, we accept no responsibility or warranties for actions based on the information provided. The City of Canning encourages you to seek professional advice before acting on any information contained in this document. Please contact the City of Canning if you wish to comment on the forms provided and information contained within. Any reported errors will be amended.

CIS-01
Updated May 2021 (V1)