



## Noise from Cockerel Crowing

We can investigate complaints alleging noise nuisance from cockerel crowing.

### Factors considered

In considering whether a Statutory Nuisance exists an Environmental Health Officer will consider the following factors:

- Source of noise
- Environment of noise
- Duration of crowing
- Time of day of crowing
- How often it occurs

### Practical measures to minimise crowing

Several measures can be used to minimise cockerel crowing:

1. Location of the cockerel - It is important to ensure that the cockerel is located as far away as practicable from neighbouring residential properties
2. Competition - Other cockerels in the area will cause them to compete with each other and may result in excess crowing.
3. Housing - Keep the coop as dark as possible to minimise early morning crowing as a cockerel will crow when light enters the coop. The coop ceiling can also be lowered to prevent the cockerel throwing back its head and crowing.

### Investigating complaints

If we receive a complaint about noise we are obliged by law to investigate it. This may include:

- Asking the complainants to note down all the times that they are being disturbed.
- Officers from this department undertaking visits to witness the disturbance.
- The use of noise recording equipment
- If we are satisfied that the noise constitutes a Statutory Nuisance under the Environmental Protection Act 1990, an Abatement Notice will be served requiring you to stop the disturbance, and if this is not complied with, you could face a maximum fine of £5000 (domestic premises), or £20,000 (commercial/ industrial premises).

### So you've had a complaint made against you...what next?

Contact your local Environmental Health Officer at:

**Environmental Protection Section, Environmental Services,  
Civic Centre, Queen Elizabeth Drive, Pershore, WR10 1PT**

**Telephone: 01386 565015 Fax: 01386 561826**

Email: [environmental.health@wychavon.gov.uk](mailto:environmental.health@wychavon.gov.uk)

Website: [www.wychavon.gov.uk/es](http://www.wychavon.gov.uk/es)