

## Draft Noise Guide for Local Government: Public consultation preliminary summary December 2021

The NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) held a public consultation on the draft *Noise Guide for Local Government* between 2 August and 27 September 2021.

### Why did we hold the consultation?

The overall process for revising the *Noise Guide for Local Government* is shown below.

We held the public consultation so that community members, industry and government stakeholders could give us feedback on the draft *Noise Guide for Local Government*.

We are now considering the feedback we've received. We'll seek clarification or carry out further consultation, as appropriate, before finalising the guide.

### Overall process

- Internal review
- Government stakeholder working group
- Develop draft guide
- Public consultation
- Practitioner and government forum
- Consider feedback and finalise guide
- Publish revised *Noise Guide for Local Government* package

### How did we engage stakeholders?

We used many methods to engage with our stakeholders, including:

- notification emails
- letters
- presentations
- website

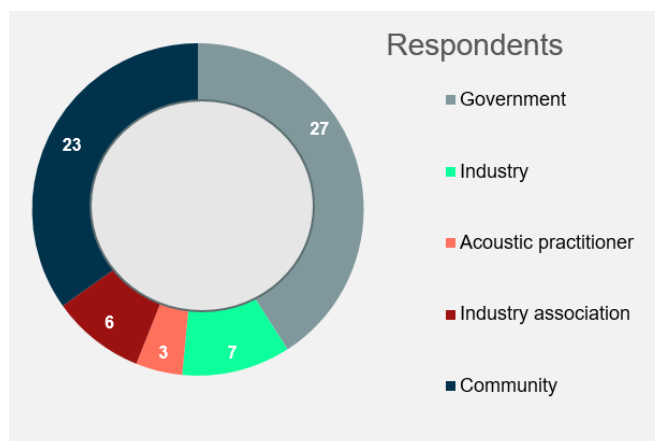
- social media
- face-to-face discussions
- web surveys.

### Statistics

- More than 2,500 visitors to consultation website
- 31 online survey responses
- 35 written submissions
- Presentations to more than 50 industry professionals
- More than 150 stakeholders notified

### Who did we hear from?

We heard from several kinds of stakeholders, from across NSW.



### What did we hear?

Our stakeholders gave us feedback on a wide range of topics, including:

- the Guide's 3-part structure, and its layout and readability
- fact sheets and case studies – for example, their level of detail.

Some feedback related to **offensive noise**. Stakeholders commented on:

- evidence gathered to determine offensiveness. (It was suggested that complainants gather sufficient evidence to support the complaint.)
- the role of NSW Police regarding offensive noise – this needs to be clearer in the Guide
- the need for greater support from local councils and police to respond to noise issues
- non-regulatory options
- music and outdoor entertainment venues
- existing use rights and land-use conflicts
- keeping of animals
- responding to after-hours noise
- motor vehicles
- garbage collection
- strata issues
- rifle ranges
- consultants and acoustic reports.

Some stakeholders asked for **further guidance or case studies** on noise from:

- drones
- gyms
- golf courses
- motor sport events.

## What are the next steps?

We are reviewing in detail every submission we received.

We will prepare a submissions report that will address both the comments made and how the EPA will consider and address them when finalising the *Noise Guide for Local Government*.

If you have any questions, or want to learn more about this initiative, contact us by:

**Phone** 131 555

**Email** [epa.nglg@epa.nsw.gov.au](mailto:epa.nglg@epa.nsw.gov.au).

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