

## **Control of Pollution Act 1974**

### **Summary of the code of practice on noise from ice cream chimes etc.. 1982**

The code of practice gives guidance on methods of minimising annoyance or disturbance caused by the operation of loudspeakers fixed to ice-cream vans and similar vehicles used to convey and sell perishable commodities for human consumption to the public.

**It is an offence to sound your chimes before 12.00 noon or after 7.00 pm. It is also an offence to sound your chimes in such a way as to give reasonable cause for annoyance. A code of practice approved by the Government gives guidance on methods of minimising annoyance caused by your chimes. The main points of the code of practice are:**

#### **Do not sound chimes:**

- For longer than 4 seconds at a time.
- More often than once every 3 minutes.
- When the vehicle is stationary.
- Except when on approach to a selling point.
- When in sight of another ice cream van which is trading.
- When within 50 metres of schools (during school hours), hospitals and places of worship (on Sundays and other recognised days of worship).
- More often than once every 2 hours in the same length of street.
- Louder than 80dB(A) at 7.5 metres.
- As loudly in quiet areas or narrow streets as elsewhere.

**Remember: It is an offence to sound your chimes before 12.00 noon or after 7.00 pm.  
It is an offence to sound your chimes at any time in a way which gives reasonable cause for annoyance.**

A copy of the full code of practice on noise from ice cream chimes etc.. 1982 is available from the DEFRA website at <http://www.defra.gov.uk/publications/files/pb13704-ice-cream-vans.pdf>