

Summary of the code of practice on noise from ice cream chimes etc. in England 2013

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 at any time 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 12 seconds at a time.
- More often than once every 2 minutes.
- More than once when the vehicle is stationary at a selling point.
- Except on approach to or at a selling point.
- When in sight of another vehicle 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 L_{MAX} 80dB at 7.5 metres.
- As loudly in areas of low background noise 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. 2013 is available from:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/245699/pb14030-ice-cream-vans.pdf