

# Is your Cockerel Crowing too much??

**Carmarthenshire County Council receive numerous complaints each year regarding noise arising from cockerels crowing.**

We understand that crowing is a natural and instinctive thing for cockerels to do, yet if it occurs during early hours of the morning or for prolonged periods of time over the day then the crowing could cause a disturbance to you neighbours and constitute a Statutory Noise Nuisance as defined by section 79 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990. This can

particularly be the case if the cockerel is kept in a built up residential area, whereby the complainants are living within close proximity to the cockerel.

The aim of this leaflet is to provide practical steps to try and minimise your cockerel crowing

## Being told your cockerel is crowing too much:

We appreciate you may be annoyed and/or upset when you initially hear that a complaint has been made in relation to your cockerel crowing too much. You may be made aware of the complaint by your neighbour and/or by the Local Authority.

This may be the first time you are made aware that your cockerel is crowing too much, try and remain calm should this happen. Try and see the situation from their point of view.

## Steps to take to try and minimise the crowing....

- Firstly, have a think about whether or not you need the cockerel. It is often a misconception that a cockerel is needed for hens to lay eggs, yet this is not the case.
- Ensure the cockerel is located as far away from the neighbours as possible
- Keep the coop as dark as possible to minimise early morning crowing
- Lower the ceiling height of the coop to prevent cockerel throwing its head back and crowing
- Sound proofing the coop that houses the cockerel
- Having more than one cockerel can cause them to compete with each other and crow more
- Keep the cockerel in the coop during the night and until a reasonable hour during the morning, such as 7:30am on weekdays and 8:00am on weekends.

Be mindful that in some cases, the location of where the cockerel is kept could be so unsuitable (ie within such close proximity to residential properties) that none of the above measures will be sufficient to reduce the noise from the cockerels, should this be the case and your cockerel is causing a disturbance to your neighbours then rehousing your cockerel should be considered.

Should you require more information or advice on this matter then please contact us at the Environmental Protection Division on:

☎ **01267 234567**

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