

# Paint and Chemical Spray Drift

## *Environmental Protection Act 1994*

Spray drift from painting and chemical spraying can cause a nuisance to neighbours and interfere with their day-to-day activities. If severe enough, it can also damage property and impact people's health. If your neighbours have concerns, Council encourages you to talk with them and look for a way to resolve the problem. Solutions can often be found that satisfy both parties.

### **Consequences of Causing a Nuisance**

Under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*, Council is responsible for investigating environmental nuisances arising from residential and commercial properties.

If spray drift is determined by Council Officers to be a nuisance, Council may direct the offender to remedy the problem. If the direction is not complied with, Council may issue a fine

### **Investigating Nuisances**

When investigating an environmental nuisance relating to spray paint or chemical overspray, Council will consider:

- the amount of spray or pollutant being emitted
- the duration and rate of the emission and its characteristics and qualities
- the sensitivity of the environment into which the drift is being emitted and the impact it may have
- zoning under the Townsville City Plan

Council will not allow continuous spray painting of large pieces of equipment and/or cars in residential areas or spray painting in the open where overspray and odour may become a nuisance to surrounding residents.

### **Reducing Spray Drift**

Below are some tips for reducing the likelihood of causing a nuisance.

- Consider weather conditions before starting jobs such as spray painting and chemical spraying.
- Use accurate spraying equipment to help reduce overspray.
- Erect a physical barrier such as sheets or hessian.
- Follow the manufacturer's guidelines.
- Work indoors, if possible.
- Consider an alternative location such as a commercial spraybooth

### **More Information**

For more information visit Council's website [townsville.qld.gov.au](http://townsville.qld.gov.au), or call Council's Customer Service Centre on **13 48 10**.