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| ***[Department of the Environment:](http://mmail.dods.co.uk/wf/click?upn=PUcZOS6-2FNT4PrY23eS-2B6NzBfsdvqTeU5dcR-2F818NKWCllkvF6eYk1J3p-2Bio04cP50x2jZkelMIeVP4TZjfZuhDQL0Pwx-2BNwit3KHomR9uh2TjDZ-2FdtHotctx8v7KRw7X_3YiO3g4OZ88zjwmUl85ryrr41X3s14Hz15ODy2H11NTmYUGKO-2Fy4rTxTMr8jw91p0uCz6X-2FqLx-2BIRPlgpNFiLXTqc-2BjCmiASpYLD3rEgbDVg1DIiYCuLPOSvcAV-2FNa5SNEU0vCa38-2BtjUtRsfDYSNLuJeaMKaTUjHN503edMnB3xastteV-2BcTm9METqe7wlOsUZuG2i-2BC1K-2BoWtOzZn8sqtfxkQtk4xhxbc3BfM-2Bwco-3D)* [Durkan - marginal rise in noise complaints](http://mmail.dods.co.uk/wf/click?upn=PUcZOS6-2FNT4PrY23eS-2B6NzBfsdvqTeU5dcR-2F818NKWCllkvF6eYk1J3p-2Bio04cP50x2jZkelMIeVP4TZjfZuhDQL0Pwx-2BNwit3KHomR9uh2TjDZ-2FdtHotctx8v7KRw7X_3YiO3g4OZ88zjwmUl85ryrr41X3s14Hz15ODy2H11NTmYUGKO-2Fy4rTxTMr8jw91p0uCz6X-2FqLx-2BIRPlgpNFiLXTqc-2BjCmiASpYLD3rEgbDVg1DIiYCuLPOSvcAV-2FNa5SNEU0vCa38-2BtjUtRsfDYSNLuJeaMKaTUjHN503edMnB3xastteV-2BcTm9METqe7wlOsUZuG2i-2BC1K-2BoWtOzZn8sqtfxkQtk4xhxbc3BfM-2Bwco-3D)**  |
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| *Northern Ireland Executive - Press Releases*  |

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| Noise complaints received by district councils between 1 April 2014 and 31 March 2015 have risen by less than 1% (0.7%) according to a report by the Department of the Environment released today: [http://bit.ly/1lZu1PI](http://mmail.dods.co.uk/wf/click?upn=bq9iL-2FG44uH5u4EXDGxRuwgAN0TYmrG-2FejfAgvT911s-3D_3YiO3g4OZ88zjwmUl85ryrr41X3s14Hz15ODy2H11NTmYUGKO-2Fy4rTxTMr8jw91p0uCz6X-2FqLx-2BIRPlgpNFiLUg6X49ZXWipbpYxsjGWl52PpPHHHhbJ3f4DITiOZV52VY5-2FxUBs1ptFQq5C2RsfI3xfleIxnBewLOmhxPKaIuDJz1qAMijx0bO2SyHS27vm-2FgQDN6dXHEpd54o0ZlRcHgIu1WB89ljhPrBA9Fq-2F6Ho-3D) A total of 11,951 were received in 2014/15 compared to 11,865 the previous year.The report, Noise Complaint Statistics for Northern Ireland 2014/15, finds that domestic noise remains the largest cause of noise complaints across Northern Ireland.81% of noise complaints relate to noise from domestic premises. Of these complaints 39% relate to loud music, televisions and parties and 41% to animal noise.Commenting on the report released today, Environment Minister Mark H Durkan said: “Noise is a very real problem and should not be underestimated. Noise can seriously harm human health and interfere with people’s daily activities. Noise is an internationally recognised problem. The World Health Organisation has identified the main health risks as including pain, impaired hearing, cardiovascular effects, altered hormone responses and altered behaviour, including aggression. These are very serious health impacts that can have an adverse impact on our health without us realising.“I therefore welcome the work of district councils to address noise pollution. I am impressed by the initiatives and schemes that councils have developed to increase public awareness of how our behaviour can affect those around us. This is particularly relevant as noise from domestic premises is responsible for the vast majority of noise complaints.”The report highlights a number of initiatives that councils have adopted this year. Of particular note is an initiative undertaken by Ballymoney Borough Council in conjunction with the PSNI to address noisy car exhausts as well as Strabane District Council working with the Northern Ireland Housing Executive Neighbourhood Wardens to regulate the number of pets permitted in Housing Executive properties.The report finds the second largest contributor to noise complaints to be commercial and leisure premises with noise from entertainment premises accounting for over half of the complaints in this category. This year noise in the street represented 5% of noise complaints with industrial and construction noise complaints each accounting for 2% of the total complaints received. |

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