If these conditions are not adhered to by the dog owner the matter becomes a criminal offence which should be reported to the Police.

If appropriate the Police will then report the offence to the Procurator Fiscal. Further court action may be taken against the dog owner and this could result in a heavy fine.

## Please see the East Renfrewshire Council website for information on:

- Dog Barking (for owners)
- Dog Barking Causing a Problem
- Dog Barking Diary
- Form of Petition (form 32.2)

www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/dogs





Advice on what action you can take if you are disturbed by barking from a neighbour's dog.



## Persistent barking by a dog can cause a great deal of distress and be a general nuisance to the public.

If you have a problem with a barking dog it is best initially to make a friendly approach to the owner/s to make them aware that there is a problem.

If this does not resolve the problem you can ask for help from the Council's Community Safety Team. He or she may be able to help the dog owners by giving them advice to prevent their dog from barking.

You may also wish to discuss the matter with the Council's Anti Social behaviour section of Housing Services.

If none of these steps are successful the final option is for you (or a group of your neighbours together) to take civil action under the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982.

To do this you will have to apply in writing to the Court.

The letter should be sent to:

**Justice of the Peace St James Street Paisley PA3 2HW** 

Phone: 0141 887 5291

Email: paisleyip@scotcourts.gov.uk

Please note that you will have to present your own case in the Court or employ the services of a solicitor or other legal advisor to conduct the case for you.

If you wish to discuss a potential action informally with the Court, please telephone any member of the Court staff.

On receipt of the letter, the Clerk of Court will arrange a date for the hearing. You may wish to consult a lawyer and be represented at the hearing, but this is not essential.

Once the hearing is arranged both parties will be asked to attend. Witnesses and documentation can be used to help prove your case. Documentation may be in the form of a log book detailing dates and time the dog was barking.

If your case is proved the JP Court may then make a suitable Order. This Order will lay down conditions to prevent the annovance continuing.

