

Disclosure Report



Disclosure Reference Number: 730223
Disclosure Received Date: 2026/05/30
Disclosure Received Time: 12:04
Disclosure Channel: Email
Client Internal Reference Number: N/A
Group Disclosure: N/A

Whistleblower Details

Relationship: None
Anonymity Status: Reveal Identity
Name and Surname: Thaabit Martin
Contact Number: +27810289405 OR 061 474 7758
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Disclosure Details

Disclosure Category: Air Pollution
Disclosure Sub-Category: N/A
Disclosure Date: N/A
Disclosure Place: 52 Empire Road, Turfhall Estate, 7780 (City of Cape Town Metropolitan Municipality within the Western Cape province)
Disclosure Description: Email as per Whistleblower:

Formal complaint: health nuisance caused by foul odour from Neighbouring property emanating from dogs

Dear Environmental Health Officer,

I am writing to formally lodge a complaint regarding a persistent and severe foul odour emanating from a neighbouring property where several dogs are being kept.

The odour has become a significant nuisance and is materially affecting the enjoyment and use of my property. The smell is regularly noticeable and, at times, so strong that it prevents the reasonable use of outdoor areas and requires windows and doors to be kept closed. I am unable to open my main bedroom and my 4-year-old daughter's bedroom windows, and also unable to open my kitchen windows and doors, as the smell is that bad. My kids are also unable to utilise my carport to play due to the severity of the foul smell. I am also unable to comfortably host any family get-togethers and functions where I use my carport for entertainment due to the severity of the foul smell. The situation has persisted for an extended period despite the expectation that pet owners maintain their premises in a sanitary condition that does not adversely affect neighbouring residents.

I have formally approached my neighbour about the issue on 2 separate occasions, and the situation has not changed and has progressively gotten worse over time.

I don't have the exact date of the first time I spoke to him about the issue, but it was about a year ago. After the first

address to my neighbour, the problem continued to persist with no change. I do have the exact date of the 2nd time I approached him about the issue that has been persisting, even after raising my concern with him. The second time was on 15 March 2026. On 15 March, my neighbour was cleaning out his carport (a very, very rare occurrence), where his dogs are being kept, but all the accumulated dirt and dirty water were hosed out and not properly cleaned and removed from in front of both his and my property, causing an even worse foul smell and attracting a host of flies. I then had a friend come over, and as my guests arrived and got out of the car, they were bombarded with a foul smell and flies everywhere.

On the same day, I again approached him about the issue, and it had been getting progressively worse. He claimed that he cleans his carport and hoses it out every night, but I can see no evidence of this

- If that were the case, the smell wouldn't be getting progressively worse and constant
- If he was cleaning and hosing out every night, I would physically see the water coming out from his carport and exiting into the road. The road outside would show signs of wear or be wet. I have seen no evidence of this. On 15 March, after speaking to him directly, he sent me a WhatsApp saying that he would be moving the dogs from his carport (his carport and my carport are separated by a vibracrete wall) to the opposite side of his house, but he has since failed to do so as he has promised.

Based on the severity and ongoing nature of the problem, I believe the conditions may constitute a health nuisance and warrant investigation by the City's Environmental Health Department. The odour suggests that animal waste and/or the area in which the dogs are kept may not be adequately maintained, creating conditions that negatively impact neighbouring properties.

Details of the property concerned:

Property address: 52 Empire Road, Turfhall Estate, 7780

My address: 54 Empire Road, Turfhall Estate, 7780

Duration of the problem: more than a year

I respectfully request that the City investigate this matter as a matter of urgency and take any appropriate action necessary to ensure compliance with applicable municipal by-laws and public health requirements. I formally ask that this matter be referred to the relevant department and the individual who deals with these issues.

I would appreciate confirmation that this complaint has been received, together with a reference number and an indication of the next steps in the investigation process.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to

Disclosure Report



your response and a resolution of this ongoing nuisance.

Yours faithfully,

Thaabit Martin
081 028 9405
thaabitmartin786@gmail.com

Name of Person(s) or Organisation(s) involved: N/A

How do you know about the Disclosure: N/A

Will the Disclosure reoccur?: No

When will the Disclosure reoccur?: N/A

Reoccur details: N/A

Addition Information: **CONFIDENTIAL CLAUSE:**
"It is the duty of the recipient of this e-mail to manage all information and documentation received as part of the referral of this complaint in compliance with all applicable legislation, including, but not limited to section 31 of National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No.107 of 1998 and the Protected Disclosures Act, 2000 (Act No. 26 of 2000))"

Has the disclosure been resolved?: No

Comment: N/A

Disclosure Report

