



# Bela-Bela Local Municipality

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## OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL MANAGER

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### MEDIA STATEMENT

For immediate release

To: All Media Houses

Date: 29 March 2022

### THE EFFECTS OF NOISE POLLUTION

Noise pollution is danger that cannot be seen. It cannot be seen, but it is present nonetheless, both on land and under the sea. Noise pollution is considered to be any unwanted or disturbing sound that affects the health and well-being of humans and other organisms.

Exposure to loud noise can also cause high blood pressure, heart disease, sleep disturbances, and stress. These health problems can affect all age groups, especially children. Many children who live near noisy airports, streets or being transported in loud and noisy vehicles have been found to suffer from stress and other problems, such as impairments in memory, attention level, and reading skill. Noise pollution also impacts the health and well-being of animals.

South African law, through the Environment Conservation Act 73 of 1989 and municipal by-laws, protect recipients of intolerable noise pollution. The law makes a distinction between 'Disturbing Noise' and 'Noise Nuisance'. ... like a persistent barking dog, screaming or talking loudly, discharging fireworks in a residential area, etc.

We can Reduce Noise pollution by turning off appliances when not in use, use of earplugs, lowering the volume, we can plant more trees as they are good noise absorbents.

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