

# Being a good neighbour

Churches of Christ Housing Services is committed to working with residents to build sustainable and safe communities.

Everyone is entitled to the quiet enjoyment of their home and to live in peace and harmony with their neighbours.

## Principles of being a good neighbour

- Having respect for, and getting to know, your neighbours and the environment in which you live.
- Treating people fairly irrespective of their race, religion, gender, ability, culture or political views.
- Accepting people are different, being tolerant and understanding of the lifestyle of others.
- Caring for the elderly, the lonely and the vulnerable in your community.
- Being responsible for the behaviour of your children and anyone visiting your home.
- Respecting the rights of children to meet and play in a safe and happy environment.
- Keeping your community clean, tidy and safe.
- Supporting good community spirit that benefits everyone through healthy interaction and mutual support in dealing with local problems.
- Respecting peoples' right to choose the extent to which they engage in the community.



## Tips for how to be a good neighbour

- Always try to be considerate and think about how your behaviour and habits might affect your neighbours. Always ensure your visitors do the same.
- Consider things like language (swearing) or smoking near your neighbours.
- Remember noise travels - keep noise to a minimum particularly between 10pm and 7am.
- Don't slam doors, sound car horns, talk loudly or shout – inside or out.
- Keep the volume on televisions, radios and computers turned down.
- Don't put noisy electronics against shared walls and consider using a rubber mat or earphones.
- Let your neighbours know when you are going to do something particularly noisy such as maintenance activities or having a get together.

- Talk to your children about how their playing habits and behaviour might affect your neighbours.
- Always clean up mess from pets and make sure it doesn't make excessive noise.
- Don't leave external doors open or use fire doors to enter or leave the building.
- Don't let anybody into the building if you don't know who they are.
- Always report anything suspicious to the police.
- Always lock your door and look after your keys.

Residents living in unit complexes, caravan parks or in shared tenancy arrangements, have additional responsibilities for being a good neighbour. Following and understanding your communal rules, park rules or house rules are an important part of being a good neighbour.