

*Disclaimer: the material in this fact sheet is intended as a general guide only. You should not act on the basis of the information in this fact sheet without first getting legal advice about your own particular reason. The information is based on the laws in Victoria as of August 2020.*

## NEIGHBOURHOOD DISPUTES

If you are fearing for your safety because of your neighbour, you should contact the police straight away. If you have a dispute with your neighbour about **trees, noise, pets or fences**, you can find more information from Victoria Legal Aid at:

- [Disputes with neighbours](#)

If you have a dispute with your neighbour, it is always encouraged to have a discussion with your neighbour before taking any further action. Before having that conversation, make sure you are clear about what the problem is and work out what you want or what you would like your neighbour to do.

You can find more information about initiating a conversation with your neighbour from the Dispute Settlement Centre of Victoria at:

- [Starting the Conversation](#)

If you still can't resolve the issue, dispute resolution can be an alternative to court that is less costly, less stressful and less time-consuming. For more information about dispute resolution for neighbourhood disputes, head to:

- [Dispute Settlement Centre of Victoria](#)

If you live in public housing or your neighbour lives in public housing, you can also contact the housing office. Head to:

- [Contact a housing office](#)

You might also be able to get help from your local council. Go to:

- [Know Your Council](#) to identify your local council

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