There have been some complaints about backyard burning in your neighbourhood. This fact sheet sets out the laws related to lighting fires in residential areas and how Council handles complaints.

### Lighting a fire
Under Council's Local Laws you may not light a fire that:
- Disrupts or inhibits an activity ordinarily carried out on adjoining or nearby residential premises
- Could cause irritation (smoke or fumes), annoyance or distress to others
- Could be a risk to people or property

### Burning off
You can obtain a permit for burning off (such as burning garden or other rubbish in an incinerator, on vacant land or on a road reserve), from the Rural Fire Service Queensland (except where the fire is not permitted under Local Laws). For further information visit ruralfire.qld.gov.au (and search fire permit).

### Cooking fire
You can light a fire, such as a barbecue, for cooking purposes but you MUST make sure the fire does not cause excessive smoke, irritation or annoyance to others.

### What we do
When investigating complaints about smoke and fumes we consider:
- The amount of smoke or fumes being emitted
- The location and purpose of the fire
- The views of neighbours and those making a complaint

### Penalty
We can issue a $652 fine to anyone lighting a fire that doesn’t comply with the rules set out here.

### More information
Please contact us on 1300 69 22 47 or council@ca irns.qld.gov.au if you have any questions or to report a problem.