

ODOUR ABATEMENT TASKFORCE

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This community newsletter provides updates from the Department of Environment and Science (DES) about the management of odour and other environmental nuisance in and around the Swanbank Industrial Area.

March update

The Odour Abatement Taskforce was established in July 2018 and has been in operation for more than **seven months**. In this time, the taskforce has:

- received 2114 community reports
- conducted 63 planned and 66 unplanned site inspections
- actioned 503 reports via field response
- taken 23 pre-enforcement actions
- issued 13 enforcement tools
- attended 35 community events, and
- interacted with 1270 community members.

Enforcement actions

To date, the taskforce has issued the following enforcement actions:

- **6 formal warnings**
- **5 section 451 (require relevant information) notices**
- **5 penalty infringement notices (fines)**

Any person who receives an infringement notice can pay the fine or elect to contest it in court. More information on these enforcement actions can be found at www.qld.gov.au/odourbusters.



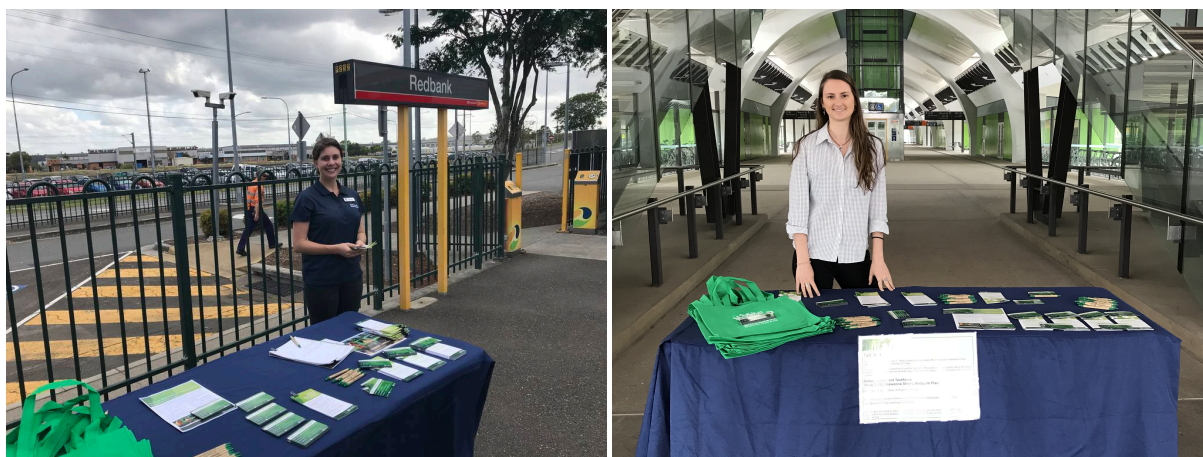
[Click here to read more](#)

The department undertakes an extensive process before taking any enforcement action. This includes gathering evidence to verify the offence and allowing the alleged offender to respond to the evidence. Designated staff also review all enforcement actions, moderate the enforcement tool chosen (such as a fine or warning) to ensure consistency across the state, and then approve the issuing of that tool.

Further information about the department's approach to its enforcement activities is set out in the [Enforcement Guidelines](#).

Community engagement

Late in 2018, the taskforce's community engagement team visited shopping centres and train stations around Ipswich. During the Christmas holidays, the taskforce was also busy reminding industry of their obligations around odour and other environmental nuisance coming into the break. This will continue during the April holiday period as well.



Like to see us in your area? Have a community event coming up?

Contact the Odour Abatement Taskforce community engagement team via

[email \(OdourTaskforce@des.qld.gov.au\)](mailto:OdourTaskforce@des.qld.gov.au).

School engagement

Your community reports have indicated that odour has been present near schools in the area. Consequently the community engagement team is working with primary and secondary schools to deliver an engagement program to students, parents and staff.

The [student program](#) includes a presentation on the work of the taskforce as well as a range of activities, which are tailored to all year levels. The team is also reaching out to schools' [P&C associations](#), which may be interested in hearing from the taskforce and discussing ways in which the community can continue to report.

If you believe your school would be interested in a visit from the Odourbusters, email OdourTaskforce@des.qld.gov.au.



Odourbusters get Totally Wild!

Children's television program Totally Wild visited the Odour Abatement Taskforce shopfront late last year and spent the day learning all about the work of an Odourbuster.

Click here or below to watch!



Visit the Odourbusters [webpage](http://www.qld.gov.au/odourbusters) for more information and to view our weekly statistics dashboard www.qld.gov.au/odourbusters