



ENS Acoustics
consulting

ACOUSTIC CONSULTING

Environmental Noise Solutions (ENS) is an independent acoustic consultancy specialising in noise in the built environment.

We undertake projects that encompass small, local development projects and new school developments through to major developments including large residential developments and hotels.

Our consultants all have a broad range of experience, both in the public and private sector, and who all work to our high standards of delivering the best possible service to our clients in a proactive and responsive manner required by the modern, commercial environment we all work in.



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Noise and Planning

DELIVERING THE SOLUTIONS YOU NEED

We are regularly commissioned by architects and planning consultants to assess the impact of noise on a proposed development/redevelopment. We now find that most local authorities are requesting noise surveys and assessments prior to validating planning applications and as such time can be very much of the essence to ensure the planning process is not delayed. This case study highlights some of the issues that you may face with noise at the planning stage.

flexible solutions for all developments

PPG24 and the Noise Survey

We were recently commissioned to perform a PPG24 assessment of site adjacent to a busy road in a major conurbation. The local planning authority had requested a 24-hour noise survey of the site prior to validating the application for the development.

Having assessed the site for the client (affected by a main road and a nearby garage repair shop), we recommended to the client that significantly less survey work would be required to allow a full assessment of the impact of noise on the residential development to be assessed. Our proposed scope of work was discussed and agreed with the Environmental Health Officer for the site and consequently a 24-hour noise monitoring survey was reduced to a 4-hour survey during the daytime and a 2-hour survey at night giving a significant cost saving to the client.

The assessment of the data addressed both the impact of noise on internal and external residential amenity and in each case resilient methods to control 'noise break-in' were recommended and accepted by the local planning authority. The development was consequentially given full planning permission with the site now being complete and occupied.



ON GOING PROJECTS

Wherever proposed residential developments are impacted by noise (for example, main road, rail links, airports, local industry) it is very likely that the local planning authority (LPA) will request a noise survey and assessment.

In some instances the LPA will ask for the earth (24-hour noise surveys or even 3-weeks worth of monitoring!) for what are relatively straightforward noise requirements. In many instances, there are survey techniques and assessment techniques that negate excessive noise monitoring. From CRTN for road traffic to SEL for rail traffic, sample noise measurements at sites can significantly reduce the amount of work required to assess a site for noise and consequently improve the delivery timescale and ultimately reduce costs to the client.

Should you see/hear the technical phrases 'BS4142, BS8233, PPG24, WHO, HTM08-01, Hea13, Pol8' mentioned, it is likely that you will need to consider noise control for your proposed development. At ENS Acoustics, we will do our very best to explain what you will require, in plain English, to address noise and offer you a no-nonsense service that is very much fit for purpose.

For further details about how ENS Acoustics can help you with any noise related planning issues please contact our environmental acoustics team.

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