

**Site: 700 Wharfedale Road, Winnersh Triangle**

**Issue: Noise from deliveries**

**Application Number: VAR/2014/2499**

In regards to the development of 700 Wharfedale Road, environmental health were consulted on an application to remove restricted operating times on the site. In order to protect the amenities of local residents environmental health looked specifically at the acoustic assessment carried out by Environoise Consulting Limited dated Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2014, report reference: 20419R02bRMWpk.

In the report reference to the following guidance is made and recommendations made to meet the dB levels stated in these guidance documents.

WHO – Guidelines for Community Noise.

BS8223 - Sound insulation and noise reduction for buildings. The local Authority requires that the assessment of on-site vehicle noise is carried out using the guidance given in BS8223 and the 'Good' standard for resting conditions is achieved. The good standard for living rooms and bedrooms is 30dB LAeq,T. For this assessment this figure was used as the target internal noise level for night time assuming 13 dB(A) attenuation offered by an open window in a brick façade. Also any individual noise events not to exceed 45dB LAmax.

**Delivery Vehicle Noise**

The site will have two delivery bays with limited movement and turning area for HGVs. Although it is unclear how many deliveries/HGV movements there will be both at day time and at night time The 'worst case scenario' used by Environoise in its report is acceptable

From the background levels recorded and predicted noise levels of HGVs arriving and departing and Fork Lift Truck movement/activities the following recommendations were made within the acoustic report in order to protect the amenities of local residents.

**Noise from HGVs will be sufficiently controlled if part of the proposed palisade fence is substituted for a close boarded timber fence. Maximum noise levels produced by HGVs in the development site will not exceed the guideline values given in the BS8233/World Health Organisation Guidelines on Community Noise.**

**Operation of plant and vehicles on the site should not cause noise levels inside residential properties to exceed the BS8233 'Good' standard for resting conditions in living rooms and bedrooms if the recommended close boarded timber fence is installed.**

**We recommend that part of the proposed palisade fence around the site boundary and marked red on drawing number 3620-03/P3 is replaced by a 2.4m high close boarded timber fence as shown in Figure 5 for additional mitigation. The fence should be of density greater than approximately 10kg/m<sup>2</sup> and be free from gaps.**

The council under planning application RM/2014/0366 within the Decision Notice dated 27<sup>th</sup> June 2014 stated as **Condition 7 - Prior to the occupation of the development hereby approved, a 2.4 m high close boarded fence (acoustic barrier) should be erected and maintained in accordance with submitted plans.**

As part of my discussions with the applicants, I raised my concerns regarding night time reversing alarms of both delivery vehicles attending the site and fork lift trucks permanently working on the site.

The following has been agreed:

**23254/A3/FB**

**18th May 2015**

**Plot 700, Winnersh Triangle, Delivery Management Plan**

- 1) All Rockwell Collins fleet HGVs and FLT's will be fitted with white noise reverse alarms, or have their reversing alarms turned off during night time hours (11pm – 7am).**
- 2) Other agencies will be advised that when delivering during night time hours (11pm – 7am) reversing alarms must be turned off or white noise alarms used.**
- 3) All HGV drivers entering the site will be advised to turn their engines off when possible when using the service yard.**

**The above will be reinforced to all vehicle drivers entering the site by the onsite gatekeeper, who will also advise of the need to minimise any disruption to nearby residents.**

This could be reinforced by imposing a suitable condition

Conclusion

The applicant has produced an acoustic report stating the background noise levels during the day and at night time. The noise generated by HGV deliveries and fork lift truck movements were obtained and it was calculated what the noise level would then be at the nearest receptor. In order to reduce the noise level to the specifications within BS8223, WHO guidance and the local authorities requirements a specific type and height of acoustic fencing was recommended by the acoustic consultants in order to meet the requirements of BS8223, WHO guidance and the local authority.

As long as the recommendations are followed by the applicants, the indications are that 'complaints are unlikely'. Condition 7 – will ensure the required acoustic fencing is erected as specified by Environoise

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