Memo

From	**Environmental Noise Solutions Limited**
To	**Miss Mia Eaden**
Subject	**Proposed bar at land to the rear of 2 Blacker Road, Mapplewell**
Date	**27 May 2026**

Thank you for forwarding the consultation response from Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council. Please find herewith the response (for ease of reference the LPA's response is repeated below and *italicised* whilst our response is in green):

1. The full data set of measurements has not been included – can these be provided please, broken down into 1hr/15min measurements? Also, a breakdown of how any calculations have been made (e.g. "The average background noise level between 1800 and 2200 on Sunday was measured at 53dB LA90 (1 hour)").

The full measurements are provided in Appendix 1 of this memo.

For reference, the period 1800 to 2200 hours on Sunday 29th March is repeated below.

Table 1 –Summary of Noise Measurement Data (Sunday 1800 – 2200 hours)

Time	Duration	$L_{Aeq,\,T}$ (dB)	$L_{A90,\,T}$ (dB)
2026-03-29 18:00:00	1:00:00	57	54
2026-03-29 19:00:00	1:00:00	59	54
2026-03-29 20:00:00	1:00:00	57	52
2026-03-29 21:00:00	1:00:00	56	52

As described in the Noise Council's 1995 publication 'Code of Practice on Environmental Noise Control at Concerts' (CoP), the value used for the assessment of music noise break-out from the development is the arithmetic average of the hourly L_{A90} measured over the last four hours of the event.

In this case, the arithmetic average of the hourly L_{A90} measured over the last four hours of the event is 53 dB $L_{A90\,(1\,hour)}$, i.e. ((54 + 54 + 52 + 52) / 4).

2. Measurements were taken on days when existing noise levels would be expected to be generally higher, rather than measured on the "worst case scenario" days such as Wednesdays and Thursdays. The lowest background measurement should be used, rather than an average.

3. Patron noise from the premises is not considered to be part of the existing noise environment. In addition, there is no detail regarding the number of people present at the time of measurement. The measurements taken which include patron noise should not be included in any existing/background noise data sets or calculations.

The background noise level used for the assessment of music noise at the premises is taken from Sunday evening data on an evening with no events at the bar and no patrons using the external area. Background noise levels (the steady, underlying noise level) were not therefore impacted by noise associated with the premises on Sunday.

In the absence of noise associated with the premises itself, Sunday evening is considered worst-case as there is typically less residual noise (i.e. traffic) than on weekdays.

4. "noise measurements were also taken within the bar during a live music event" – there are no details of what the live music event was, instruments/equipment used, no. of musicians, no. of patrons etc.

5. "internal reverberant noise levels were measured at circa 86 dB LAeq (15 min) within the immediate vicinity of the live act" – there is no detail of where the measurement was taken in relation to the source of the live music.

6. Noise levels from live music would be expected to be around 100+dB, the 86 dB LAeq (15min) used seems too low.

Given the modest size of the venue, live music is restricted to acoustic acts/solo singers, rather than bands or ensembles (for example, see below for the venue's event list for May 2026).

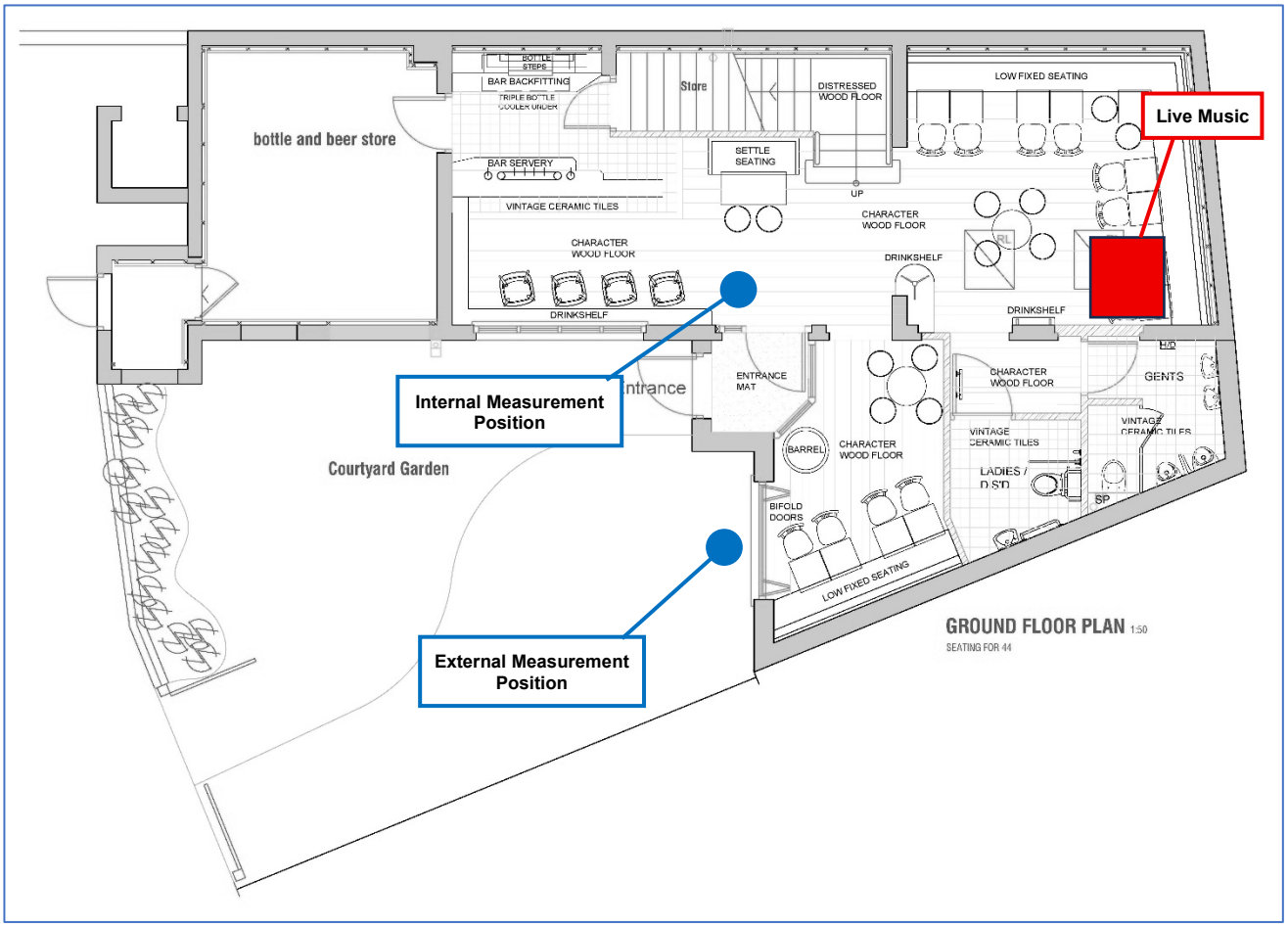
The live music event captured during the survey was a solo acoustic singer ('Shane') with amplified vocals. As outlined above, this is considered typical of the likely events at the venue.

Whilst live music noise levels in larger venues can reach 100 dB+, a much lower level is typical (and adequate) for events of this nature and in venues of this scale.

Live music events take place at the rear of the premises. The internal measurement position was undertaken near the entrance and the external measurement was undertaken near the bifold doors (see Fig 1 and 2).

Figure 1: Location of Live Music Act

Figure 2: Location of Live Music Act and Measurement Positions



7 "to assess the potential for external amplified music, further measurements of the external speakers were taken…with the speakers set at the required level (amplifier volume dial set at 9 o'clock)" – Does "external amplified music" mean recorded music only? What is a 9 o'clock setting? Need more precise detail. What measures are in place to ensure the volume dial cannot be changed/increased from "9 o'clock"?

8 "noise levels were measured circa 62dB LAeq (15min) at 1 metre" – 62dB LAeq would generally be considered as background level (allowing conversations to be heard without the need to raise voices). Is this the applicant's intention, to have background music only outside?

9 Does the "external amplified music" relate to recorded music, via the 2 existing speakers only?

To clarify, "external amplified music" refers to recorded music only played through an auxiliary cord to an amplifier connected to the external speakers.

The amplifier itself does not have numbered volume controls, hence the reference to 9 o'clock as shown below.

Figure 3: Amplifier Set to 9 o'clock Position

The operator has advised that the amplifier volume is never varied from the 9 o'clock position and only staff will have access to the amplifier meaning that it cannot be increased by third parties. However, if concerns remain about external amplified music, then it is considered that a limiting noise level of **62 dB(A) at 1 metre from the speaker** can be set as part of an appropriately worded planning condition.

10 "It is assumed that standard thermal double glazing (with a sound reduction performance of circa 28dB Rw+Ctr) has been installed" – as the glazing is already in situ, this should have been checked, not assumed.

The music noise assessment focuses on the noise impact with the bifold door open (therefore offering no noise reduction) and so the precise sound reduction of any glazing at the site has no bearing on the assessment.

Further, standard thermal double glazing (i.e. 4 mm glass / 12 mm cavity / 4 mm glass) is the minimum possible glazing which would have feasibly been installed at the site in terms of noise reduction. Any other specification would offer higher noise reduction.

Appendix 1 – Full Noise Monitoring Data

Time	Duration	$L_{Aeq, T}$ (dB)	$L_{A90, T}$ (dB)
2026-03-27 15:00:00	1:00:00	58	53
2026-03-27 16:00:00	1:00:00	58	54
2026-03-27 17:00:00	1:00:00	58	54
2026-03-27 18:00:00	1:00:00	58	54
2026-03-27 19:00:00	1:00:00	65	56
2026-03-27 20:00:00	1:00:00	65	57
2026-03-27 21:00:00	1:00:00	66	59
2026-03-27 22:00:00	1:00:00	60	56
2026-03-27 23:00:00	0:15:00	59	55
2026-03-27 23:15:00	0:15:00	56	53
2026-03-27 23:30:00	0:15:00	55	51
2026-03-28 12:00:00	1:00:00	58	53
2026-03-28 13:00:00	1:00:00	59	54
2026-03-28 14:00:00	1:00:00	59	53
2026-03-28 15:00:00	1:00:00	58	54
2026-03-28 16:00:00	1:00:00	60	55
2026-03-28 17:00:00	1:00:00	61	56
2026-03-28 18:00:00	1:00:00	63	59
2026-03-28 19:00:00	1:00:00	65	58
2026-03-28 20:00:00	1:00:00	66	59
2026-03-28 21:00:00	1:00:00	62	56
2026-03-28 22:00:00	1:00:00	59	55
2026-03-28 23:00:00	0:15:00	58	55
2026-03-28 23:15:00	0:15:00	63	55
2026-03-28 23:30:00	0:15:00	62	52
2026-03-29 12:00:00	1:00:00	61	55
2026-03-29 13:00:00	1:00:00	59	55
2026-03-29 14:00:00	1:00:00	60	55
2026-03-29 15:00:00	1:00:00	60	56
2026-03-29 16:00:00	1:00:00	59	55
2026-03-29 17:00:00	1:00:00	61	55
2026-03-29 18:00:00	1:00:00	57	54
2026-03-29 19:00:00	1:00:00	59	54
2026-03-29 20:00:00	1:00:00	57	52
2026-03-29 21:00:00	1:00:00	56	52