



**A103875 Land at Wakefield Road Athersley**  
**Response to Comments received from Barnsley Council**

A note of a meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2018 at Barnsley Council Offices has been circulated by Cushman & Wakefield summarising discussions relating to the planning application associated with the above proposed development. The note included the following reference in relation to noise:

3. Noise

- Comprehensive report.
- Raised issues re- low frequency noise from sub stations. Asked for details of mitigation (preference is a natural barrier – bund).
- Asked for clarity on what noise standards are used in the report.
- KM (Katharine Morgan, Cushman & Wakefield) discussed with Sam Moran. WYG is amending report accordingly.

Our (WYG) response is as follows:

Following a telephone conversation between Sam Moran (WYG) and Paul Denton (Barnsley Council) it was agreed that as the application is outline in nature, noise mitigation could be covered by a suitably worded planning condition for further assessment at Reserved Matters when a detailed site layout is available. This could include considering the feasibility / benefit of screening in the intervening space between the substation and the proposed dwellings.

With regard to the assessment of noise in private external amenity areas with regards to the substation, it was considered reasonable to refer to BS 4142 as Annex C specifically references a method of analysing the presence of a tone between 25 Hz and 125Hz. There is limited guidance available with regard to low frequency noise, however, reference is provided within the Handbook of Noise Control (Cyril M Harris) which states: *The acceptable sound level depends on the background noise level, but generally (in the open air), an A-weighted sound level of 45dB(A) or more at the point of interest is objectionable, a level of 40 dB(A) is usually tolerable, and a level of 35 dB(A) usually acceptable.*

Table 5.5 within the submitted noise report establishes that the highest predicted noise rating level is 38 dB(A) inclusive of a 4 dB(A) correction. This equates to a specific noise level of 34 dB(A) and thus considered to be acceptable. As noted in the report, in terms of context with background noise levels on site and an assessment of the illustrative layout, the predicted noise rating level of the substation is below existing daytime background noise levels in proposed gardens.

**For WYG Environment, Planning, Transport Ltd**

**Sam Moran**

Associate