

Silkstone Environmental Ltd

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Geotechnical, Mineral, Waste Management
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4th April 2013

Your ref:

Our Ref: 13074

Mr Joe Jenkinson

Barnsley Planning and Regulatory Services

PO Box 604

Barnsley

S70 9FE

Dear Mr Jenkinson,

**Ref: Background Noise Survey – Proposed Housing Development, Faith Road, Barnsley
(application ref: 2013/0111)**

We have been requested by planning agent Mr Michael Clynych to assess the requirements of a background noise survey to be carried out in relation to the above named residential development planning application.

It is understood that an outline planning application was submitted to Barnsley Council by Mr Clynych on behalf of his client, for a small scale housing development, on a vacant plot of land adjacent 7 Faith Street, Barnsley. Upon submission of the planning application a background noise survey was requested by the EHO to determine the location suitability for residential development.

Acting as an independent acoustic consultant, we (Silkstone Environmental Ltd) were asked to assess the location to determine the background noise survey requirements. During the assessment it was concluded that a background noise survey may not be required at this location for reasons set out below.

The request for a background noise survey was understood to relate to concerns regarding night time noise from the adjacent Ardagh Glass facility, and possible disturbance to occupants in the proposed residential development.

- 1) A locational appraisal has indicated a number of terrace houses located at closer proximity to Ardagh Glass than the proposed development site. A brief historical map review identified the terrace houses being present at the location from 1906 to the present day.

The Ardagh Glass facility is considered a relatively recent and modern development. The planning application for Ardagh Glass considered night time noise impact at the existing terrace houses on Faith Street at the time of its submission. The grant of permission for night time operations at Ardagh Glass therefore confirmed the night time noise impact to be

insignificant. On the basis of the previous noise assessment findings, there appears no solid justification to request a further noise survey for the residential development to be located at even further distance from the Ardagh Glass site. It is therefore argued that a noise survey in this instance is not a requirement.

- 2) Background noise at the proposed residential development is more likely to be dominated by traffic noise from the nearby Burton Road, which is at closer proximity than the Ardagh Glass site. Infrequent HGV related noise from Ardagh Glass is unlikely to be heard above traffic noise from Burton Road. Furthermore, there are existing residential properties situated along Burton Road (10m distance from the roadside) which have co-existed with traffic noise from Burton Road without complaint. There is no evidence to suggest anything different would be the case for the proposed development.
- 3) It is argued that modern residential construction schemes such as the proposed development use materials and methods to provide significantly improved noise suppression features than was the case with older housing developments. This is particularly the case now with minimum requirements for cavity wall insulation, loft and floor insulation, energy efficient double glazing etc. It is also understood that the developer proposes to construct a 1.8m high acoustic fence around the rear boundary of the development to provide additional acoustic suppression to the rear garden space.
- 4) It is understood that the development site location is identified as suitable for residential development in the Local Development Framework (LDF). The proposed development is therefore considered to be consistent with the LDF.

We would advise that a further background noise survey for the proposed residential development would not provide any further information over and above that which was previously considered and accepted by Barnsley Council at this particular location.

If you require any further information in relation to the above we will be happy to assist.

Yours sincerely



M. Wilson

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