Our ref: NIA/6352/15/6223/v1 Response

15th January 2016

Ms. Natalie Garside
A+DP Architecture Design Partnership LLP
The Old Police Station
16 Bridge Lane
Holmfirth
HD9 7AN

Sent by email only: natalie.garside@adp-architects.com

Dear Ms. Garside

NOISE IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF PROPOSED COMMERCIAL CHANGE OF USE TO VEHICLE DISMANTLERS, EXISTING INDUSTRIAL UNIT, BEEVER STREET, GOLDTHORPE, ROTHERHAM, S63 9HT

1.00 INTRODUCTION

Thank you for forwarding the consultation response from Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council. Please find herewith the response:

Monitoring Location
The report has only monitored at one point to the rear of the former depot. Whilst this is position has been used as it is closest to current residential areas, it is our understanding that there are two sites to the west and south west (2014/0020 and 2013/1330) which already have planning permission for housing.

These two sites are on the side of the depot which has the access door, and thus will not be afforded the same sort of noise protection provided by the solid wall of the depot.

As such, monitoring at these locations would be required to show these developments would not be affected. Due to the fact that these adjacent developments already have permission, we would not be able to reconsider the fact a new noise source has been introduced into the area.

Planning application ref: 2014/0020 is for proposed residential development to the west of the subject site. Assuming the façades of the proposed residential dwellings are set back 5 metres from the nearside kerb of Beever Street (as per existing residential terraces) these dwellings will be situated circa 27 metres from the eastern façade of the subject site building.

The façades of the nearest existing NSRs are circa 30 metres from the northern façade of the existing building at the subject site. Noise levels at the nearest existing residential dwelling were calculated as 29 dB $L_{Aeq,T}$.

Assuming point source propagation of 6 decibels per doubling of distance, noise levels at the nearest *proposed* residential dwelling to the west are predicted to be 1 decibel higher [= 20 * log (30 / 27)], i.e. 30 dB $L_{Aeq,T}$. **This is 7 dB below the daytime background noise level of 37 dB $L_{A90,T}$.**

The noise impact of the subject site on residential dwellings proposed in planning application ref: 2013/1330 will be even lower, as these dwellings will be:

a) located further from the subject site, and
b) screened by the residential dwellings proposed in planning application ref: 2014/0020.

The daytime background noise level at MP1 was 37 dB $L_{A90,T}$, and was formed of distant road traffic on the A635, albeit subject to localised screening from properties on Cross Street. Background noise levels within the application sites outlined above would not differ significantly from this and may in fact be higher due to increased exposure to the A635 (i.e. no localised screening).

Any further monitoring would also have to consider what measures would be undertaken to control noise from the proposed development with regards to the access, as when the door is open, then not attenuation would be provided to any future properties to the south and south west.

The access door on the southern façade is only to be opened intermittently and for short periods to allow personnel/vehicles to access the building, and will not be left open during dismantling operations.

The fire door on the western façade will remain closed except in the event of an emergency.

This aspect of the development is amenable to an appropriately-worded condition.

Sound Levels within the gardens of the properties on Cross Street

The report has calculated the sound levels at the nearest façades on Cross Street. However, as the business is proposing to operate during daytime hours, we need consideration as to whether the noise levels within the gardens would be suitable, as people are likely to use these whilst the business is operating. If we look at the Noise Levels that have been measured at MP1, 59dB LAeq, and map the approximate distance of the monitoring point from the rear wall of the depot (10m) to the properties on Cross Street, then this would be the rear gardens. This level would be above the World Health Organisation guidance for outdoor areas. Thus the report needs to provide further consideration to show rear gardens are not going to be adversely affected, and not just the buildings.

The 59 dB $L_{Aeq,\ T}$ measured at MP1 was part of a noise break-out test to assess the sound insulation of the existing building envelope, using an internal noise level of 100 dB $L_{Aeq,\ T}$. For the purpose of the impact assessment, an internal noise level of 80 dB $L_{Aeq,\ T}$ was adopted (see Paragraphs 4.07 + 4.08) – meaning levels within gardens will be < 39 dB $L_{Aeq,\ T}$, i.e. significantly below WHO Guidelines.

Building Design

The report indicates a great deal of any noise generated within the building would not escape outside due to the building design. Whilst we do not question the attenuation measured, we would like further details of the design of the building to ensure this attenuation would be achieved for all areas around the proposed development.

As is typical with industrial-type buildings, providing access doors are closed, the sound insulation performance of the building envelope is limited by the roof. As the access doors are to remain closed during dismantling operations (see above), the amount of attenuation provided by the building envelope will be the same on any façade.

Outside Working

The report has assumed no work/vehicle breaking would be undertaken outside of the building. This would be vital to ensure noise does not affect the surrounding areas. What measures would be put in place to ensure this is the case, and can planning controls ensure this take place?

It is understood that no external dismantling is to take place at the subject site. This aspect of the development is amenable to an appropriately-worded condition.

I trust the foregoing is sufficient for your needs. Should you have any queries regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

T. Crabb

Thomas Crabb
For Environmental Noise Solutions Limited

cc File