



MIAMI LTD

NOISE ASSESSMENT

NEW BIRD STREET, LIVERPOOL

15 August 2016

AEC REPORT: P3276/R1/PJK

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'P. J. Knowles', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Acoustic & Engineering Consultants Limited (AEC) has been appointed by Iliad Group on behalf of Miami Ltd to assess the noise levels affecting the proposed residential blocks on land off New Bird Street, Liverpool. This noise assessment is required to accompany the associated planning application for the development.
- 1.2 This report details the ambient and maximum noise levels measured on site, presents the assessment criteria and discusses the implications on the building design to achieve acceptable internal noise levels to meet appropriate requirements.
- 1.3 Acoustic terminology used throughout the report is described in brief in Appendix A.

2.0 BACKGROUND AND SITE DESCRIPTION

- 2.1 A scheme to redevelop land on New Bird Street, Liverpool has been prepared by Tim Groom Architects. The scheme includes numerous ground floor commercial units with four accommodation blocks in a square shape above, as presented on Figure 1. There will be an open courtyard in the middle of the development, which is a shared communal area.
- 2.2 The proposed development site is located within an area of Liverpool known as the Baltic Triangle and is currently used as commercial unit.
- 2.3 The site is bound to the east by St James Street, which is a relatively busy road into Liverpool City Centre. Opposite the site is a light shop and commercial unit who provide screenprinting products to the print and sign industry.
- 2.4 To the north are industrial/commercial units on Jordan Street. During the measurement period it was noted that there was no external works or building services plant associated with these units. Beyond the units on Jordan Street, there were construction works.
- 2.5 Opposite Newhall Street, to the west, is a car park and more industrial/commercial units.
- 2.6 To the south of the site, on New Bird Street, is Lee Floorstok Ltd, a distributor of flooring materials and the proposed development will overlook the service yard of the unit. During the measurement period it was noted that the high backed vans arrive on site and are loaded with rolls of flooring. The loading is undertaken both manually and with an electric forklift truck. Based on conversations with a member of staff it is understood that typical activities were occurring during the daytime measurements.
- 2.7 To the east of Lee Floorstok is a row of four disused units.
- 2.8 To the southwest of the site is Botanical Gardens, which has an external bar area and indoor entertainment space. It is understood that the indoor entertainment space, which screens for the outdoor bar from the proposed site, has been fully acoustically insulated as part of their planning condition. Therefore, this source has not been assessed further.
- 2.9 It was noted that, with the exception of Lee Floorstok Ltd, there were no external works associated with any of the units close to the development and all of the industrial/commercial units were closed at night.

3.0 NOISE CLIMATE

- 3.1 Daytime noise levels were measured by AEC on Monday 25 July 2016 between 1300 and 1600h and night-time noise levels were measured on between 2300 and 0100h on Monday 25 and Tuesday 26 July 2016. Full details of the noise surveys are presented in Appendix B with measured noise data presented in Tables B1 and B2.
- 3.2 Noise levels were measured at four locations around the site, identified as A to D on Figure 1. The noise levels measured at Locations B and D were taken under façade conditions, and a -3dB correction has been applied to these measured noise levels to represent free-field noise levels.
- 3.3 Location A was selected to measure the noise level from road traffic on St James Street at location representative of the eastern elevation of the proposed development. During the daytime period the road traffic was relatively constant, with measured noise levels around 65dBL_{Aeq} and 70dBL_{A10}.
- 3.4 At night the ambient noise level ranged from 54 to 57dBL_{Aeq,T} and maximum noise levels were no greater than 74dBL_{Amax}.
- 3.5 Location B was selected to represent the apartment blocks which will overlook Jordan Street. The daytime ambient noise level at this location was a combination of road traffic on Jordan Street, St James Street and construction noise. The daytime ambient noise level was consistently around 56dBL_{Aeq}.
- 3.6 The night-time noise level at this location was mainly due to road traffic on St James Street. The ambient noise level was consistently around 48dBL_{Aeq,T} and maximum noise levels were no greater than 64dBL_{Amax} as a result of a car pass by.
- 3.7 Daytime ambient and night-time ambient and maximum noise levels were measured opposite the car park on Newhall Street, Location C. During the daytime the ambient noise level ranged from 55 to 57dBL_{Aeq} depending on the number of car pass-bys on the surrounding roads.
- 3.8 At night, the ambient noise level ranged from 42 to 46dBL_{Aeq,T} due to distant road traffic, with maximum noise levels no greater than 57dBL_{Amax}.
- 3.9 The ambient noise level at Location D was consistently around 55dBL_{Aeq,T} due to a combination of road traffic noise on the surrounding roads and activity noise on the Lee Floorstok Ltd site. The night-time ambient noise level at this location ranged from 44 to 49dBL_{Aeq,T} depending on the number of vehicles on New Bird Street. Maximum noise levels at this locations did not exceed 68dBL_{Amax}.
- 3.10 Following the development of the scheme, the apartments within the scheme themselves will be the nearest noise sensitive properties to the ground floor commercial units. The day and night-time background noise levels presented in Table 1, below, are representative of these apartments.

**Table 1 – Typical Background Noise Levels at
Nearest Noise Sensitive Properties**

| Location | Noise Level, dBL _{A90} | |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|-------|
| | Day | Night |
| St James Street (A) | 52 | 41 |
| Jordan Street (B) | 46 | 35 |
| Newhall Street (C) | 49 | 39 |
| New Bird Street (D) | 45 | 37 |

4.0 BASIS OF ASSESSMENT

National Planning Policy Framework

- 4.1 The latest Planning Policies are included in the National Planning Policy Framework published by the Department for Communities and Local Government and dated March 2012. This document provides little mention of planning policies with regard to noise with the exception of paragraph 123 that states:

'Planning policies and decisions should aim to:

- avoid noise from giving rise to significant adverse impacts on health and quality of life as a result of new development;*
- mitigate and reduce to a minimum other adverse impacts on health and quality of life arising from noise from new development, including through the use of conditions;*
- recognise that development will often create some noise and existing businesses wanting to develop in continuance of their business should not have unreasonable restrictions put on them because of changes in nearby land uses since they were established; and*
- identify and protect areas of tranquillity which have remained relatively undisturbed by noise and are prized for their recreational and amenity value for this reason.'*

- 4.2 The terms 'significant adverse' and 'adverse' above are referenced to the Noise Policy Statement for England (NPSE), published by Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) dated March 2010. One of the main aims of this policy is also to avoid significant adverse effects on health and quality of life.

- 4.3 With respect to the two terms above, the explanatory note for the NPSE introduces two concepts from toxicology that are currently being applied to noise impacts, for example, by the World Health Organisation (WHO). They are:

- "NOEL – No Observed Effect Level - This is the level below which no effect can be detected. In simple terms, below this level, there is no detectable effect on health and quality of life due to the noise.*
- LOAEL – Lowest Observed Adverse Effect Level - This is the level above which adverse effects on health and quality of life can be detected.*
Extending these concepts for the purpose of this NPSE leads to the concept of a significant observed adverse effect level.
- SOAEL – Significant Observed Adverse Effect Level - This is the level above which significant adverse effects on health and quality of life occur."*

- 4.4 National Planning Practice Guidance, an online resource, brings together the aims of the NPPF and NPSE and tries to indicate how the likely perception and average response to noise relates to the effect levels. This is summarised in Appendix C below.

- 4.5 Further to the above, the Government's 'Planning Practice Guidance' dated 6 March 2014 indicates:

'Noise needs to be considered when new developments may create additional noise and when new developments would be sensitive to the prevailing acoustic environment. When preparing local or neighbourhood plans, or taking decisions about new development, there may also be opportunities to consider improvements to the acoustic environment.'

- 4.6 In addition, the guidance indicates that, whilst noise can override other planning concerns, it should not be considered in isolation from the economic, social and other environmental dimensions of any proposed development.

Noise Break-In

- 4.7 Following a consultation with Ian Rushforth, an Environmental Health Officer at Liverpool City Council (LCC) he confirmed that they generally require that as a minimum the external envelopes of residential accommodation in the city centre incorporate windows with 10mm glass/thermal cavity/6mm glass and for habitable rooms to be provided with acoustically attenuated mechanical ventilation to remove the need to open windows.
- 4.8 In relation to internal levels due to the surrounding industrial/commercial units it was agreed with Ian that internal noise levels should be no greater than those presented in BS 8233:2014 'Guidance on sound insulation and noise reduction for buildings' and World Health Organisation (WHO) document 'Guidelines for Community Noise'.
- 4.9 These documents state that to avoid sleep disturbance and conditions for resting, inside dwellings, the noise level should not exceed 30dB_{LAeq, 8 hour} and 45dB_{LAmax} at night in bedrooms at night and 35dB_{LAeq, 16 hour} in living rooms during the day.
- 4.10 Where these internal levels can be achieved with an alternative glazing and ventilation strategy other than the one provided above, the suggested alternative scheme needs to be agreed with LCC.
- 4.11 In relation to the balconies, BS8233 states:

"For traditional external areas that are used for amenity space, such as gardens and patios, it is desirable that the external noise level does not exceed 50dB_{LAeq,T}, with an upper guideline value of 55dB_{LAeq,T} which would be acceptable in noisier environments. However, it is also recognized that these guideline values are not achievable in all circumstances where development might be desirable.

In higher noise areas, such as city centres or urban areas adjoining the strategic transport network, a compromise between elevated noise levels and other factors, such as the convenience of living in these locations or making efficient use of land resources to ensure development needs can be met, might be warranted. In such a situation, development should be designed to achieve the lowest practicable levels in these external amenity spaces, but should not be prohibited.

- 4.12 Taking the above into account, and the fact that site is located within the city centre, it is anticipated that there will be no practical mitigation measures to reduce noise levels on the balconies, as such this assessment simply reports the measured external noise levels only.

Noise Egress

- 4.13 Following discussions with LCC, AEC has been informed that any items of plant should be assessed using BS4142: 2014 'Methods for rating and assessing industrial and commercial sound', and the 'rating' level should not exceed the existing background at the nearest noise sensitive residential property.
- 4.14 Paragraph 9.1 of BS4142 identifies that "Certain acoustic features can increase the significance of impact over that expected from a basic comparison between the specific sound level and the background sound level. Where such features are present at the assessment locations, add a character corrections to the specific sound level to obtain the rating level."
- 4.15 The noise levels from ground floor daytime activities would not only need to be controlled externally to no greater than the background at the nearest noise sensitive properties, but there would also be a need to control noise to the apartments above. Controlling noise levels in the apartments above to not exceed NR25L_{max} would be expected to be acceptable.

5.0 ASSESSMENT OF PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

External Envelope Sound Insulation Requirements

- 5.1 Road traffic on St James Street is sufficiently busy to allow the daytime ambient noise level ($dB L_{Aeq, 16h}$) to be calculated on the eastern elevation using the shortened measurement procedure presented in the Calculation of Road Traffic Noise.
- 5.2 Based on the measured $L_{A10, 3h}$ of 70dB, to convert the $L_{A10, 3h}$ to a daytime average, $L_{A10, 18h}$, 1dB is subtracted. To convert this to an ambient noise level, a further 2dB is subtracted, giving an overall level of 67 $dB L_{Aeq, 16h}$. This overall level of 67 $dB L_{Aeq, 16h}$ is marginally above the measured short term ambient noise level at this location, and, therefore, this higher level has been used in the assessment.
- 5.3 In regards to the daytime ambient noise levels on the other three elevations which overlook the surrounding roads and industrial/commercial units, the highest measured noise levels have been used in this assessment, and are presented in Table 2, below.
- 5.4 At night, although ambient noise levels may reduce after 0100 until about 0500h, the highest ambient and maximum noise levels measured at each location is also presented in Table 2, below.
- 5.5 In relation to the elevations which overlook the central courtyard, it is anticipated that external noise levels would be at least 15dB lower than those measured around the site, and these levels are also provided in Table 2, below.

Table 2 – Anticipated Noise Levels due to Existing Noise Sources

| Elevation (Measurement Location) | Noise Level, dB | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|------------|
| | Day 0700-2300, $L_{Aeq, 16h}$ | Night 2300-0700 | |
| | | $L_{Aeq, 8h}$ | L_{Amax} |
| St James Street (A) | 67 | 57 | 74 |
| Jordan Street (B) | 56 | 48 | 64 |
| Newhall Street (C) | 57 | 46 | 57 |
| New Bird Street (D) | 55 | 49 | 65 |
| Overlooking Internal Courtyard | <52 | <42 | <59 |

Glazing and Ventilation Requirements

- 5.6 The WHO document assumes that attenuation of external to internal noise levels provided by a window partially open for ventilation is up to 15dB, which relates to allowable external levels of 55 $dB L_{Aeq}$ outside habitable rooms during the daytime, and 45 $dB L_{Aeq}$ and 60 $dB L_{Amax}$ during the night-time, in order to use partially opened windows for ventilation.
- 5.7 A comparison between these allowable external noise levels and those presented in Table 2, indicate that the required internal noise levels would only be achieved with windows closed for ventilation purposes, with the exception of those bedrooms which overlook the internal courtyard.
- 5.8 As identified above, it is understood that LCC generally require that habitable rooms in residential developments within Liverpool city centre should be provided with a minimum glazing of 10/TC/6 and mechanical ventilation.
- 5.9 However, calculations based on the determined external noise levels, the area of the windows and room dimensions presented on the provided drawings, indicate that the internal noise levels would comply with BS8233 and WHO requirements on all elevations of the development with a less onerous specification.
- 5.10 The required glazing specification to meet the requirements of BS8233 and WHO have been calculated for each elevation, and is presented in Table 3, below. Example glazing build ups to achieve the required sound insulation performances are presented in Table 4, below.

- 5.11 In relation to the ventilation strategy, as stated LCC require that all habitable rooms in properties in the city centre are mechanically ventilated. The calculations indicate that in some areas ventilation could be provided by systems which include openings in the external envelope. The required sound insulation performance of the openings is presented in Table 3, below.

Table 3 – Outline Requirements to Achieve Internal Noise Levels in Habitable Rooms

| Elevation (Measurement Location) | Room / Period | Glazing Sound Insulation Performance | Ventilation Sound Insulation Performance |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|--|--|
| St James Street (A) | Living Room / Day | $38\text{dBR}_w / 32\text{dBR}_w + C_{tr}$ | $36\text{dBD}_{n,e,w}$ |
| | Bedroom / Night | $34\text{dBR}_w / 27\text{dBR}_w + C_{tr}$ | $36\text{dBD}_{n,e,w}$ |
| Jordan Street (B) | Living Room / Day | $31\text{dBR}_w / 25\text{dBR}_w + C_{tr}$ | $33\text{dBD}_{n,e,w}$ |
| | Bedroom / Night | $31\text{dBR}_w / 25\text{dBR}_w + C_{tr}$ | $33\text{dBD}_{n,e,w}$ |
| Newhall Street (C) | Living Room / Day | $31\text{dBR}_w / 25\text{dBR}_w + C_{tr}$ | $33\text{dBD}_{n,e,w}$ |
| | Bedroom / Night | $31\text{dBR}_w / 25\text{dBR}_w + C_{tr}$ | $33\text{dBD}_{n,e,w}$ |
| New Bird Street (D) | Living Room / Day | $31\text{dBR}_w / 25\text{dBR}_w + C_{tr}$ | $33\text{dBD}_{n,e,w}$ |
| | Bedroom / Night | $31\text{dBR}_w / 25\text{dBR}_w + C_{tr}$ | $33\text{dBD}_{n,e,w}$ |
| Overlooking Internal Courtyard | Living Room / Day | $31\text{dBR}_w / 25\text{dBR}_w + C_{tr}$ | $33\text{dBD}_{n,e,w}$ |
| | Bedroom / Night | N/A | N/A |

Table 4 – Example Glazing Build Ups to Achieve the Required Sound Insulation Performances

| Glazing Sound Insulation Performance | Example Glazing Build Up |
|--|---|
| $38\text{dBR}_w / 32\text{dBR}_w + C_{tr}$ | 10mm thick glass / Thermal Cavity / 6mm thick glass |
| $34\text{dBR}_w / 27\text{dBR}_w + C_{tr}$ | 6mm thick glass / Thermal Cavity / 6.4pvp |
| $31\text{dBR}_w / 25\text{dBR}_w + C_{tr}$ | 4mm thick glass / Thermal Cavity / 4mm thick glass |

- 5.12 Windows can be openable providing that they are effectively acoustically sealed when closed and it is important that any frames and seals do not downgrade the sound insulation performance of the glazing.
- 5.13 The above glazing and ventilation strategies are different from LCC's standard requirement and would, therefore, need to be agreed with the Local Authority in advance.

Other Façade Elements

- 5.14 With regard to the other façade elements these should be selected in order that the on-site sound insulation performance (dBR'_w) is at least 10dB higher than the performances indicated in Table 3. Therefore, the performance of the external envelope will need to be around $50\text{dBR}'_w$ on the St James Street elevation and $45\text{dBR}'_w$ on the remaining elevations.

Noise Breakout from Other Building Uses

Noise Breakout from Commercial Units

- 5.15 Noise breakout from the building in terms of typical, L_{Amax} , levels should be controlled to not exceed the existing background noise levels in the area of about 45dBL_{A90} during the day external to the New Bird Street elevation and 35dBL_{A90} at night on the Jordan Street elevation.

- 5.16 It is understood that the retail units would be used for small commercial enterprises and would, therefore, not include music venues. Based on this, it is anticipated that the noise level within the retail units would not be expected to exceed the values stated in Table 5, below.

Table 5 – Anticipated Maximum Noise Levels in Retail Units

| Retail Use | Maximum Noise Level, dBL _{max} | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|----|----|----|----|
| | Overall A-weighted | Octave Band Centre Frequency, Hz | | | | | | | |
| | | 63 | 125 | 250 | 500 | 1k | 2k | 4k | 8k |
| Typical Maximum Noise Level | Approx 90 | 80 | 80 | 85 | 85 | 85 | 85 | 80 | 80 |

- 5.17 The weakest element, acoustically, in the external envelope would typically be the glazing. Assuming that any curtain walling to the retail provides a sound insulation of at least 38dBR_w, then noise breakout would be adequately controlled. Therefore, there would be expected to be no impact due to noise breaking out of the retail units, even if the units were operating at night.
- 5.18 The noise levels from ground floor activities would not only need to be controlled externally, but there would also be a need to control noise to the adjacent apartments above. The party floor construction between the retail units and the apartments would need to achieve, as a minimum, the sound insulation value required to meet Approved Document E of The Building Regulations, which is 45dBD_{nT,w} + C_{tr}.
- 5.19 However, a higher sound insulation performance of around 60dBD_{nT,w} + C_{tr} is likely to be required to achieve below NR25L_{max} in the apartment rooms.
- 5.20 If the floor construction includes a 200mm thick solid concrete slab, and higher noise levels are produced with the units, these levels could be controlled by installing a mass barrier ceiling and/or noise limits could be included in any tenancy agreements.

Plant Noise

- 5.21 Although it is not yet known what plant is to be associated with this development and where it will be located, control of plant noise at the nearest noise sensitive properties should not be onerous. As identified above, the nearest noise sensitive properties will be the apartments in the development.
- 5.22 In order to comply with LLCs requirement that the rating noise level does not exceed the background noise level at the nearest properties, a -5dB correction has been applied to the measured background noise levels presented in Table 1. This correction is to allow for any acoustic character associated with the building services plant. Based on the proposed correction, the noise level limit on each elevation is presented in Table 6, below.

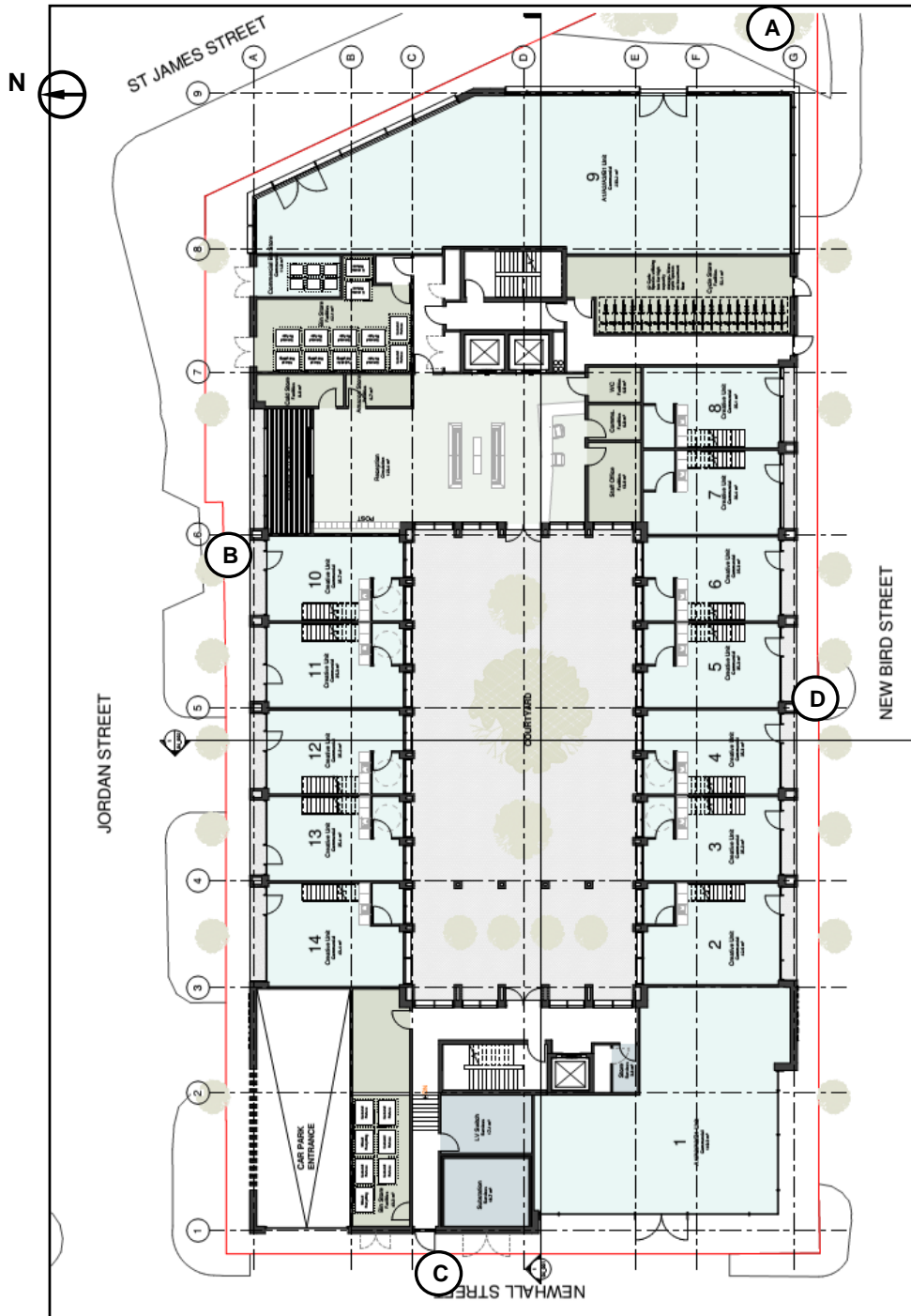
Table 6 – Noise Level Limit on each Elevation due to Plant Noise

| Location | Noise Level, dBL _{A90} | |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|-------|
| | Day | Night |
| St James Street (A) | 47 | 36 |
| Jordan Street (B) | 41 | 30 |
| Newhall Street (C) | 44 | 34 |
| New Bird Street (D) | 40 | 32 |

6.0 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

- 6.1 Acoustic and Engineering Consultants Limited has been appointed Iliad Group on behalf of Miami Ltd to undertake a noise assessment of the proposed mixed use development at New Bird Street, Liverpool. The scheme consists of four accommodation blocks in a square shape and ground floor commercial units.
- 6.2 Following a consultation with Ian Rushforth, an Environmental Health Officer at Liverpool City Council (LCC) he confirmed that they generally require that as a minimum the external envelopes of residential accommodation in the city centre incorporate windows with 10mm glass/thermal cavity/6mm glass and for habitable rooms to be provided with acoustically attenuated mechanical ventilation to remove the need to open windows.
- 6.3 In relation to internal levels due to noise from the surrounding roads and industrial/commercial units it was agreed with Ian that internal noise levels should be no greater than those presented in BS 8233:2014 '*Guidance on sound insulation and noise reduction for buildings*' and World Health Organisation (WHO) document '*Guidelines for Community Noise*'.
- 6.4 Based on the measured noise levels affecting the proposed development site, the sound insulation requirements of the building envelope and ventilation, to achieve appropriate internal noise levels compliant with the requirements of BS8233 and WHO guidelines, have been determined and are presented in Section 5. The proposed glazing and ventilation specification is different from the usual requirement of LCC for all habitable rooms and would therefore, need to be agreed with LCC.
- 6.5 Measures to control the potential impact of noise break out of the ground floor commercial units on the nearest noise sensitive properties and the first floor apartments are also presented in Section 5.
- 6.6 Total external noise levels from all future mechanical and electrical plant serving the proposed development should be controlled to the levels presented in Table 6.
- 6.7 Based on the above, appropriate planning conditions can be applied to the proposed development to ensure internal noise levels compliant with LCC's requirements in the proposed accommodation are achieved, and that noise from any mechanical services plant is also appropriately controlled.
- 6.8 Based on this assessment, noise should not be considered a determining factor in relation to any planning permission being sought.

FIGURE 1 – Site Location Identifying Monitoring Locations



APPENDIX A – Acoustic Terminology in Brief

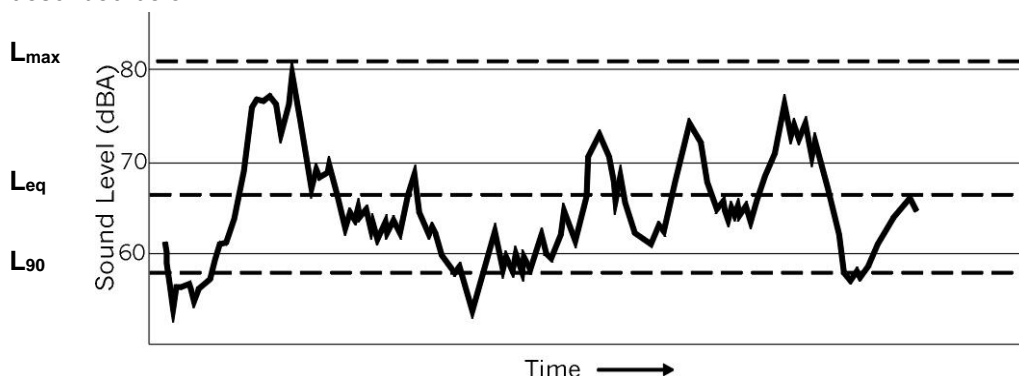
Sound is produced by mechanical vibration of a surface, which sets up rapid pressure fluctuations in the surrounding air. The rate at which the pressure fluctuations occur determines the pitch or *frequency* of the sound. The frequency is expressed in Hertz (*Hz*), that is, cycles per second. The human ear is sensitive to sounds from about 20 Hertz to 20,000 Hertz. Although sound can be of one discrete frequency - a 'pure tone' - most noise is made up of many different frequencies.

The human ear is more sensitive to some frequencies than others, and modern instruments can measure sound in the same subjective way. This is the basis of the A-weighted sound pressure level *dBA*, normally used to assess the effect of noise on people. The dBA weighting emphasises or reduces the importance of certain frequencies within the audible range.

Noise Units

In order to assess environmental noise, measurements are carried out by sampling over specific periods of time, such as fifteen minutes or one hour, the statistically determined results being used to quantify various aspects of the noise.

The figure below shows an example of sound level varying with time. Because of this time variation the same period of noise can be described by several different levels. The most common of these are described below.



Example of Sound Level Varying With Time

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| $L_{Aeq,T}$ | The equivalent continuous (A-weighted) sound level may be considered as the "average" sound level over a given time, T. It is used for assessing noise from various sources including transportation, industrial and construction sources and can be considered as the "ambient" noise level. |
| L_{A90} | The (A-weighted) sound level exceeded for 90% of a measurement period. It is the value used to describe the "background" noise. |
| L_{Amax} | The maximum (A-weighted) sound level during a measurement period. |
| Free-field Level | This refers to the sound level measured outside, away from reflecting surfaces. |
| R_w | Single number rating used to describe the airborne sound insulation properties of a material or building element over the frequency range of typically 100-3150Hz. |
| $R_w + C_{tr}$ | Single number rating used to describe the airborne sound insulation properties of a material or building element over the frequency range of typically 100-3150Hz, using a traffic noise spectrum as the source. |
| $D_{n,e,w}$ | Weighted element-normalised level difference. Single number rating used to describe the performance of a ventilation unit. |

APPENDIX B – Measurement Procedure

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Dates & Times of Survey | Day: Tuesday 26 July 2016, 1300 to 1700h Night: Monday 25 to Tuesday 26 July 2016, between 2300 and 0040h |
| Personnel Present | David Terry (AEC) Paul Knowles (AEC) |
| Equipment Used | B&K 2260 Real Time Analyser (AEC Kit 1) B&K 2260 Real Time Analyser (AEC Kit 2) |
| Weather Conditions | Day: Dry, 18°C, 7/8 cloud cover and calm. Night: Dry, 10-15°C, 7/8 cloud cover skies and light breeze. |
| Measurement Procedure | <p>Ambient, background and maximum noise levels were measured at four locations, identified as Locations A to D on Figure 1 and described below.</p> <p>A – On the corner of the site, 10m from St James Street carriageway.</p> <p>B – 1m from the northern elevation of the existing building.</p> <p>C – 1m from the carriageway of Newhall Street.</p> <p>D – 1 from the southern elevation of New Bird Street, opposite the gates to Lee Floorstok.</p> <p>All locations were selected to measure baseline noise levels, which were measured in terms of L_{Aeq}, L_{A10}, L_{A90} and L_{Amax} (fast response) typically over 5 to 15 minute periods.</p> <p>All the measurements were taken at a height of 1.5m above ground and all were free field measurements, with the exception of Locations B and D which was a façade measurement.</p> <p>The sound level analyser, which conforms to BS EN 61672-12003 '<i>Electro acoustics – sound level meters - Part1 Specifications</i>' for Class 1 Type Z meters, was in calibration and check calibrated before and after the measurement periods using a Brüel & Kjær type 4231 (94dB) calibrator. There was no significant drift of calibration. Calibration certificates are available on request.</p> |
| Measured Data | A summary of the results is presented in Tables B1 and B2. |

TABLE B1 – Measured Daytime Noise Levels

| Location | Period, h | Noise Level, dB | | | | Comments |
|----------|-----------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------------|---|
| | | L _{Aeq} | L _{A10} | L _{A90} | L _{Amax, F} | |
| A | 1311-1326 | 65.8 | 70.3 | 53.6 | 80.3 | Road traffic on St James Street. |
| | 1410-1425 | 65.1 | 69.5 | 53.8 | 80.9 | |
| | 1504-1519 | 64.6 | 59.0 | 51.5 | 76.5 | |
| B | 1328-1338 | 59.0 | 61.9 | 51.1 | 77.1 | Road traffic on St James Street and Jordan Street, and construction noise from the north |
| | 1430-1440 | 58.5 | 61.3 | 49.0 | 73.1 | |
| | 1525-1535 | 58.2 | 62.1 | 50.2 | 71.6 | |
| C | 1340-1350 | 56.5 | 59.5 | 48.7 | 73.9 | Road traffic on Jordan Street and New Bird Street. |
| | 1441-1451 | 55.1 | 57.2 | 48.7 | 75.6 | |
| | 1537-1547 | 54.9 | 54.0 | 49.0 | 83.8 | |
| D | 1359-1409 | 56.3 | 59.3 | 47.3 | 74.4 | A combination of road traffic on St James Street and New Bird Street and activities in the service yard of Lee Floorstok Ltd. |
| | 1453-1503 | 57.8 | 60.1 | 47.5 | 77.0 | |
| | 1548-1558 | 57.5 | 60.5 | 48.0 | 77.6 | |

TABLE B2 – Measured Night-Time Noise Levels

| Location | Period, h | Noise Level, dB | | | Comments |
|----------|-----------|------------------|------------------|----------------------|--|
| | | L _{Aeq} | L _{A90} | L _{Amax, F} | |
| A | 2305-2315 | 57.0 | 42.2 | 74.2 | Road traffic on St James Street. |
| | 2354-0004 | 54.1 | 41.8 | 73.3 | |
| | 0044-0054 | 54.7 | 40.7 | 71.1 | |
| B | 2318-2328 | 50.9 | 38.5 | 66.6 | Distant road traffic and occasional road traffic on Jordan Street. |
| | 0005-0015 | 49.9 | 38.3 | 66.5 | |
| C | 2330-2340 | 45.9 | 39.7 | 57.4 | Distant road traffic and occasional road traffic on Jordan Street and New Bird Street. |
| | 0018-0028 | 42.2 | 39.4 | 50.1 | |
| D | 2343-2353 | 52.0 | 39.6 | 68.3 | Distant road traffic and occasional road traffic on New Bird Street. |
| | 0033-0043 | 47.3 | 39.4 | 62.4 | |

APPENDIX C – National Planning Practice Guidance

| Perception | Examples of Outcomes | Increasing Effect Level | Action |
|--------------------------------|--|---|----------------------------------|
| Not noticeable | No Effect | No Observed Effect | No specific measures required |
| Noticeable and not intrusive | Noise can be heard, but does not cause any change in behaviour or attitude. Can slightly affect the acoustic character of the area but not such that there is a perceived change in the quality of life. | No Observed Adverse Effect | No specific measures required |
| | | Lowest Observed Adverse Effect Level | |
| Noticeable and intrusive | Noise can be heard and causes small changes in behaviour and/or attitude, e.g. turning up volume of television; speaking more loudly; where there is no alternative ventilation, having to close windows for some of the time because of the noise. Potential for some reported sleep disturbance. Affects the acoustic character of the area such that there is a perceived change in the quality of life. | Observed Adverse Effect | Mitigate and reduce to a minimum |
| | | Significant Observed Adverse Effect Level | |
| Noticeable and disruptive | The noise causes a material change in behaviour and/or attitude, e.g. avoiding certain activities during periods of intrusion; where there is no alternative ventilation, having to keep windows closed most of the time because of the noise. Potential for sleep disturbance resulting in difficulty in getting to sleep, premature awakening and difficulty in getting back to sleep. Quality of life diminished due to change in acoustic character of the area. | Significant Observed Adverse Effect | Avoid |
| Noticeable and very disruptive | Extensive and regular changes in behaviour and/or an inability to mitigate effect of noise leading to psychological stress or physiological effects, e.g. regular sleep deprivation/awakening; loss of appetite, significant, medically definable harm, e.g. auditory and non-auditory | Unacceptable Adverse Effect | Prev |