

Ref: P25-130-TN01v2
Project: Western Way, Melksham
Date: 27 April 2026
To: Charlotte Counsell, BDW Trading Ltd
From: Graham Bowland BSc MIOA – Technical Director

Subject: Addendum Note to Revised Noise Assessment Report, re EHO Comments

1. This Technical Note has been prepared to address comments provided by Mrs Annabel Wilkinson, Environmental Health Officer at Wiltshire Council, following review of our recently revised noise assessment report in relation to the approved residential development site at Western Way, Melksham (report ref: P25-130-R01v4, dated 9 March 2026).
2. Mrs Wilkinson's comments provide a positive appraisal of the findings and recommendations of the revised report, and go on to list some further details regarding the proposed acoustic barriers that are required to be submitted.
3. The relevant points are reproduced below in normal type, and our response, insofar as specific details are available at this stage, follow each in italics:
 - a) Barrier location, length and height, demonstrating continuous acoustic screening of the identified commercial noise sources to the south-east of the site.

Two separate acoustic barriers have been recommended, specifically one in the each of two areas of observed commercial noise beyond the south-east of the site. The locations are identified in noise assessment P25-130-R01v4. The lateral extents of the acoustic barriers will be 50m, for the more south-westerly barrier, and 20m for the more north-easterly barrier, along which lengths each barrier will be continuous and imperforate. The height of both barriers will be 2.7m above adjacent finished ground level.

- b) A minimum barrier height of not less than 2.7 metres above adjacent finished ground level, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

As confirmed above, and in noise assessment P25-130-R01v4, the height of both recommended acoustic barriers will be 2.7m above adjacent finished ground level.

- c) Construction details demonstrating that the barrier is acoustically solid, with:

- a minimum surface mass of not less than 10 kg/m^2 ,
- no gaps, joints, openings or apertures that would materially reduce acoustic performance, and
- foundations designed to prevent future gaps beneath the barrier.

An example of the type of solution to be adopted is the Natural SoundBlok barrier by Gramm Barrier Systems.

This provides a surface mass of 20.6 kg/m^2 , hence well in excess of 10 kg/m^2 .

The design incorporates abutted timber boards, with joints sealed by way of a cover strip, to allow natural movement of timber without compromising the acoustic seal, i.e. without gaps.

The foundations would be typically 450mm Dia x 1300mm deep, however this is subject to confirmed design. The base of the barrier would be formed of structural gravel boards, set into the ground, to ensure no gaps.

The product specification and final foundation design etc will not be confirmed until construction, however the relevant points covered above will be satisfied.

- d) Confirmation that the barrier shall achieve a minimum acoustic attenuation of 10 dB at mid-frequencies (500 Hz) between the commercial noise sources and the nearest noise-sensitive receptors.

As set out in noise assessment P25-130-R01v4, based on a conservatively estimated source height of 1.0m, a receiver height of 1.5m, and an 'average' source-to-barrier distance of 20m (note that generally noise sources affecting the overall noise level are closer than this distance to the boundary and hence this represents a cautious approach) a mid-frequency (500Hz) acoustic barrier correction of 10dB will be achieved based on a barrier height of 2.7m.

- e) Details of the barrier material, finish, and maintenance arrangements.

Relevant details pertaining to the example solution append this Technical Note. It is noted that the general appearance of this barrier will be similar to another acoustic barrier installed a short distance to the east of the site and the Taylor Wimpey development at Maitland Place.



Noise Barrier - Acoustic Fencing

Tried, Tested, Trusted



Gramm Barrier Systems SoundBlok Range

NATURAL SoundBlok® V16 REFLECTIVE

Gramm Barrier Systems NATURAL SoundBlok V16 barrier range has a classic look most suited to rural environments. Gramm have spent a great deal of time developing our Timber Noise Barrier Range to provide high decibel reductions whilst maintain a 20 year maintenance free design life.

Unlike other systems, Gramm do NOT use a tongue and groove system, as timber naturally wants to expand and contract in the varying weather conditions which causes gaps to open along the joints allowing noise to pass through.

Gramm Barrier systems NATURAL SoundBlok V16 timber noise barrier range uses a unique double acoustic board design on supports which allow the timber to move whilst maintaining an acoustic seal for the full life span.

Our range of timber barriers can be manufactured to suit the requirements of each individual site, ensuring the barrier system provides the highest level of sound reduction available.

Gramm Barrier systems NATURAL SoundBlok® V16 Reflective barrier are constructed off site under strict quality controls providing the highest level of construction which conforms to all the latest standards required for all sectors. Alternatively, our Timber Reflective range can be installed piece meal on site, to allow for varying ground conditions and obstacles.



NATURAL SoundBlok® V16 Reflective panels are constructed using treated timber which is sourced from an FSC approved supplier.

The panels consist of horizontal structural rails and gravel boards. The face side is then clad with vertical acoustic boards and cover boards and surmounted by a weathered calling. All elements are fixed using stainless steel annular ring shanked nails and fixings.

Applications



Road



Rail



Airport



Commercial



Industrial



Utilities



Ports



Defence



Residential



Housing

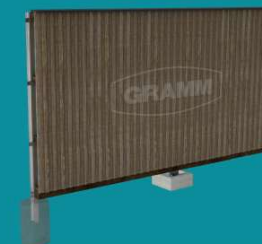
NATURAL SoundBlok® V16 REFLECTIVE

Tried, Tested, Trusted



Technical Information

- Barrier Rating: A0, B2
- Absorption: 0 Dba
- Reflection: 20 Dba
- Height: From 0.5m - 10m (Bespoke Heights available on request)
- Lengths: 1.0m - 3.0m (Bespoke Lengths available on request)
- Material: Timber
- Weight: 20.6kg/m²
- Finish: UC4 Treated for ground contact
- Design Life: 20 years



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Call now for a free quote - 08442 259002 / 01323 872243 info@grammbarriers.com grammbarriers.com



Q40

NOISE BARRIER SYSTEM – NATURALSoundBlok®

GENERAL

120.1 Manufacturer:

- Supplier: Gramm Barrier Systems Ltd.
- Installer: Gramm Barrier Systems Ltd.

120.2 Standard:

- System to comply with:
- Acoustic performance tested to BS EN 1793-2 (sound insulation).
- Mechanical and durability performance to BS EN 1794-1 and BS EN 1794-2.

120.3 System type:

- Modular reflective acoustic barrier system comprising structural and treated timber panels fixed within the web of steel support posts which are set in concrete foundations or bolted down.

PRODUCTS

121.1 Acoustic Panels:

- Type: NATURALSoundBlok® acoustic barrier panels.
- Construction:
 - 150 x 75mm x 2980mm C24 structural incised gravel board..
 - 75 x 75mm x 2980mm C24 structural rails.
 - 150 x 22mm acoustic main boards
 - 60 x 22mm acoustic cover boards.
 - 150 x 22mm x 3000mm capping.
 - Stainless steel ring-shanked nails.
- Dimensions: 119mm thickness / 2980mm length to suit 3m post spacings. (All dims +/- %5)
- Heights: Bespoke height manufactured to the desired height.
- Finish: Tanalith E or UC24 in Green.
- Shape: Rectangle
- Weight: 68.0 kg/m2
- Optional: Bespoke lengths available to suit project requirements.



121.2 Acoustic Performance:

- Airborne sound insulation: DLR 30 dB
- Weight 26.4kg/m2.

122.1 Posts:

- Material: Structural steel, hot-dip galvanised to EN ISO 1461.
- Finish: Galvanized.
- Size/section: As determined by structural design for wind loads and barrier height.
- Centres: 3m standard although can be installed shorter to suit site requirements.
- Fixings: stainless steel ring-shanked nails and M8 coach screws and hex head bolts.

123.1 Foundations:

- Concrete grade: As per design (ST5 or C25/30 as standard)
- Foundation type: Root-fixed or base-plated to concrete pads as designed.
- Design: Posts and foundations to be designed for site-specific wind loading, ground conditions and barrier height.

EXECUTION

124.1 Installation:

- Install strictly in accordance with Gramm installation manual.
- Ensure posts aligned vertically and horizontally before panel insertion.
- Panels to be fully seated, interlocked and gap-free.
- Bespoke panels on request

124.2 Tolerances:

- Maximum deviation from line: ± 20 mm over 10 m.
- Maximum deviation from vertical: 1:300.

124.3 Protection:

- Prevent damage to panels and posts during handling and installation.
- Repair or replace damaged components as instructed.



COMPLETION

125.1 Cleaning:

- Remove all protective films (if applicable).
- Clean surfaces and remove installation debris.

125.2 Documentation:

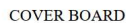
Provide:

- Acoustic test reports EN 1793-1/2.
- Structural/durability certification EN 1794-1/2.
- O&M Manual including maintenance schedule and warranties.

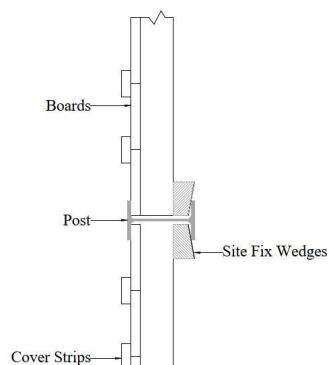
125.3 Handover:

- Demonstrate installation is complete, aligned and free from defects.
- Provide photographic record.





CROSS SECTION



PLAN VIEW WITHOUT CAPPING

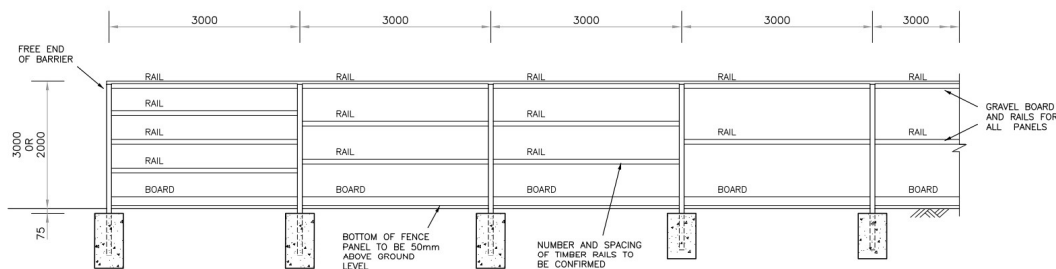
Material Grades	
Item	Timber Grade
Top Rail	C24
Intermediate Rail	C24
Gravel Board	C24
Main Board	C16
Cover Board	C16
Capping	C16
Timberwork	
Use Grades as specified in BS 5268	
Rails & Gravel Boards use Grade C24	
Main Boards, Cover Boards & Capping use Grade C16 UNO	
Treatment	
Pressure Treated Tanalith E Preservative to HAS Clause 311 (Nov 2000)	
Notes:	
All dimensions in millimetres, levels in metres. Refer to relevant drawings by others	
UNO indicates "unless noted otherwise"	
Materials and workmanship will comply with current British Standards, unless specifically shown otherwise.	



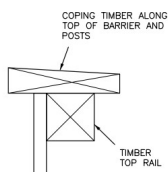
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email: info@grammbarriers.com

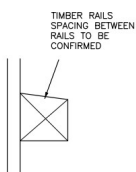
TITLE					NATURAL SoundBlok® REFLECTIVE				
DWG NO				REV		Date:			
GRM104A						01/09/2020			
SIZE		SCALE		Drawn By		Checked By		Sheet	
A3		Do Not Scale		CB		MW		1 of 1	



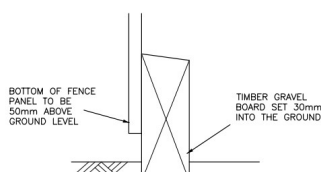
ELEVATION
AT ENDS OF NOISE BARRIERS



DETAIL
TIMBER TOP RAIL



DETAIL
TIMBER MIDDLE RAILS



DETAIL
TIMBER GRAVEL BOARD

NOTES:

ALL TIMBER TO BE TREATED
TO PROVIDE MINIMUM 30
YEAR PROTECTION



HTP & Gramm Barrier Systems Working in Partnership HTP, The Barn, Keens Lodge, Worth Lane, Little Horsted, Sussex TN22 5TT Gramm, 18 Clinton Place, Seaford, East Sussex, BN25 2QT	
Project:	NATURAL SOUNDBLOK BARRIER
Drawing:	TIMBER BARRIER DETAILS

Date.	09-11-21	
Made by. Checked.	RGK	
Scale.	1:50 @A3	
Dwg No.	NSB2	