

Report VA6356.260513.NIA

Dog Kennels, Braydon, Wiltshire

20 May 2026

Braydon Dogs

Contents

1.	Introduction	1
2.	Site Description	1
3.	Design Criterion and Assessment Methodology	2
3.1	Local Planning Policy	2
3.2	Supplementary Methodology – South Holland District Council Guidance	3
3.3	BS8233:2014	3
4.	Environmental Noise Survey	4
4.1	Survey Procedure & Equipment	4
4.2	Results	4
5.	Noise Predictions	5
5.1	Barking Sound Levels.....	5
5.2	Maximum Sound Levels.....	6
5.3	Access and Vehicle Activity.....	7
6.	Discussion	7
6.1	Draft Guidance	8
7.	Noise Management Plan	9
7.1	Purpose and Status.....	9
7.2	Management Responsibility	9
7.3	Operating Hours.....	9
7.4	Dog Numbers	10
7.5	Dog Suitability	10
7.6	Supervision and Barking Response.....	10
7.7	Kennel Management	10
7.8	Exercise Field and Outdoor Activity	11
7.9	Arrivals, Departures and Visitors	11
7.10	Deliveries, Maintenance and Farm Activity	11
7.11	Neighbour Relations.....	11
7.12	Complaint Procedure.....	11
8.	Conclusion.....	12

Attachments

VA6356/SP1	Indicative Site Plan
VA6356/TH1 - TH8	Environmental Noise Time Histories
Appendix A	Acoustic Terminology

Report Version	Author	Approved	Changes	Date
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The interpretations and conclusions summarised in this report represent Venta Acoustics' best technical interpretation of the data available to us at the time of assessment. Any information provided by third parties and referred to in this report has not been checked or verified by Venta Acoustics, unless otherwise expressly stated in the document. Venta Acoustics cannot accept any liability for the correctness or validity of the information provided. Due to a degree of uncertainty inherent in the prediction of all parameters, we cannot, and do not guarantee the accuracy or correctness of any interpretation and we shall not, except in the case of gross or wilful negligence on our part, be liable for any loss, cost, damages or expenses incurred or sustained by anyone resulting from any interpretations, predictions or conclusions made by the company or employees. The findings and conclusions are relevant to the period of the site survey works, and should not be relied upon to represent site conditions at later dates. Where additional information becomes available which may affect the findings of our assessment, the author reserves the right to review the information, reassess the findings and modify the conclusions accordingly.

1. Introduction

Venta Acoustics has been commissioned by Moore Allen & Innocent LLP, on behalf of Braydon Manor Farm Services, to undertake a noise assessment and prepare a Noise Management Plan in connection with the retrospective change of use of part of the agricultural yard at Braydon Manor Farm, The Common, Swindon, SN5 0AG, to a dog kennel facility.

An environmental noise survey has been undertaken at the site to characterise the existing background and ambient noise climate during normal operation of the facility. The measured levels, together with operational information provided by the applicant and agent, have informed the assessment of the kennel use against the relevant local planning guidance, and have informed the operational controls set out in the Noise Management Plan.

All staff at Venta Acoustics are members of the Institute of Acoustics, the recognised UK professional body for acoustics, noise and vibration professionals.

2. Site Description

The site is located at Braydon Manor Farm, The Common, Swindon, SN5 0AG, an existing agricultural site with agricultural buildings and facilities.

The kennel use is located within the farm complex, immediately to the west of an existing barn, on a historic concrete pad that was previously used as a stable block and dog grooming facility. The use comprises ten individual dog kennels arranged as a single run, with adjacent farm buildings and the wider farmyard immediately surrounding.

The site is set within a rural setting on the edge of Braydon. The Common runs to the north of the farm and provides the principal vehicular access. The wider area is predominantly agricultural grassland with scattered dwellings.

The principal noise-sensitive properties in the locality are residential dwellings within and immediately surrounding the farm holding. The closest dwelling is the farmhouse at Braydon Manor Farm itself, located approximately 50 metres to the northwest of the kennels. This dwelling is occupied by the applicant and is functionally associated with the kennel operation and the wider farm holding; it is not therefore considered to represent a third-party noise-sensitive receptor for the purposes of this assessment, although predicted levels at this position are reported below for completeness.

The next-nearest residential property identified on the Location Plan is Braydon Manor, located to the east of the kennels at a distance of approximately 70 metres and well screened by the intervening farm buildings. The nearest third-party residential receptor unrelated to the farm holding is the dwelling on The Common, approximately 170 metres to the northwest and partially screened by intervening vegetation.

Beyond these, the surrounding land is open agricultural grassland with further dwellings at greater distances.

The Braydon Manor Farm house includes an existing dog care business with a pen on site, used for the exercise of animals.

The application is retrospective and seeks consent for the change of use of part of the agricultural yard to dog kennels. The Design and Access Statement and supporting information indicate the following:

- Braydon Dogs was established in early 2023 and has operated continuously since that time as a licensed dog boarding and kennel facility;
- the site contains ten individual dog kennels, constructed on a historic concrete pad;
- the use is for day boarding;
- dogs are walked three times per day;
- a secure field is available on the holding for exercise;
- access to the site is by appointment only, with gates set back from the road to allow visiting vehicles to wait off the carriageway; and
- there is no public or unscheduled access to the holding.

The applicant has confirmed that the kennels operate as a day-boarding facility, with no overnight boarding.

The application is retrospective. The kennel facility has been in continuous operation since early 2023 and the noise climate captured by the environmental survey described in Section 4 is therefore representative of the operating site as it currently exists.

3. Design Criterion and Assessment Methodology

3.1 Local Planning Policy

The Wiltshire Core Strategy (adopted 2015) provides the relevant local planning policy framework. The Design and Access Statement identifies Core Policy 34 (employment land) and Core Policy 48 (supporting rural life) as relevant to this application. Core Policy 48 requires that relevant rural development should not be detrimental to the amenities of residential areas.

Wiltshire Council's *Noise and Planning Technical Guidance* (Environmental Control and Protection, Version 1, October 2023) supplements the Core Strategy and provides direct technical guidance on the assessment of noise from commercial dog kennelling and boarding establishments.

The guidance recognises that dog vocalisation is highly intermittent and characterful, and states that BS 4142 is not considered an appropriate sole assessment method for barking from kennels and boarding establishments. The Wiltshire approach instead places emphasis on the predicted maximum barking level at the receptor relative to the representative background sound level, the duration and frequency of barking events, the separation distance and any screening between source and receptor, the time of day at which barking occurs, and the operational controls in place to limit sustained or repeated barking.

This assessment has been prepared in accordance with the Wiltshire technical guidance and the Core Strategy amenity test.

3.2 **Supplementary Methodology – South Holland District Council Guidance**

The Wiltshire technical guidance is qualitative in nature and does not specify a numerical method for predicting barking levels at a receptor. In the absence of a prescribed Wiltshire calculation procedure, the source levels and the calculation framework set out in South Holland District Council's guidance, *Location of Premises for the Boarding and Breeding of Dogs and other Animals* (1999), have been used as a recognised quantitative supplement. The South Holland guidance is widely cited in UK kennel planning assessments and provides published source levels and a dog-number correction.

The South Holland method has been applied here to derive an indicative time-averaged barking level for comparison with the measured background, with the caveat that the resulting levels are deliberately conservative and should be considered alongside the qualitative factors set out in the Wiltshire guidance and the operational controls.

The assessment methodology states that noise from dogs at the nearby receivers, based upon a medium size dog barking for a cumulative time of 10 minute per any hour, corrected for the number of dogs (levels of which are provided in the document), should be assessed against the arithmetic average of the L_{A90} during the operational period of the facility.

3.3 **BS8233:2014**

BS 8233:2014 *Guidance on sound insulation and noise reduction for buildings* provides internal residential sound level guidance and has been considered. The kennel operation is restricted to daytime hours with no overnight boarding, and internal night time sound levels are not the controlling consideration for this assessment.

Activity	Location	07:00 to 23:00	23:00 to 07:00
Resting	Living Room	35 dB L_{Aeq} , 16 hour	-
Dining	Dining Room	40 dB L_{Aeq} , 16 hour	-
Sleeping (daytime resting)	Bedroom	35 dB L_{Aeq} , 16 hour	30 dB L_{Aeq} , 8 hour

Table 1.1 - Excerpt from BS8233: 2014

[dB ref. 20 μ Pa]

4. Environmental Noise Survey

4.1 Survey Procedure & Equipment

In order to establish the existing noise levels at the site, a noise survey was carried out between Tuesday 14th and Tuesday 21st April 2026 at the location shown in site plan VA6356/SP1. This location was chosen to be representative of the noise levels at the most affected dwellings.

Continuous 5-minute samples of the L_{Aeq} , L_{Amax} , L_{A10} and L_{A90} sound pressure levels were undertaken at the measurement location.

The weather during the survey period was generally dry with light winds. The background noise data is not considered to have been compromised by these conditions. The kennel facility was operating normally throughout the survey period. The measured ambient and background levels therefore characterise the existing acoustic environment at the survey position with the kennel use in operation.

Measurements were made generally in accordance with ISO 1996 2:2017 *Acoustics - Description, measurement and assessment of environmental noise – Part 2: Determination of sound pressure levels*.

The following equipment was used in the course of the survey:

Manufacturer	Model Type	Serial No	Calibration	
			Certificate No.	Date
Svante Class 1 SLM	971A	162020	1517067-1	12/3/26
Larson Davis calibrator	CAL200	22561	1516263-1	6/2/26

Table 4.1 – Equipment used for the tests

The calibration of the sound level meters was verified before and after use with no significant calibration drift observed.

4.2 Results

The measured sound levels are shown as time-history plots on the attached charts VA6356/TH1-8.

The average and background noise levels for the daytime and night-time periods, as measured at the automated monitoring position were:

Monitoring Period	L _{Aeq, T}	Typical ¹ L _{A90,5min}
07:00 – 23:00	59 dB	30 dB
23:00 – 07:00	56 dB	21 dB
Operational hours, 08:00 – 20:00	60 dB	35 dB

Table 4.2 – Average ambient and typical background noise levels

¹ The typical L_{A90} value is taken as the 10th percentile of all L_{A90} values measured during the relevant period. See below

The monitoring location was adjacent to the exercise pen at Braydon Manor Farm farmhouse and the measured data would be partially influenced by dogs in this area.

The measured noise climate is characteristic of a quiet rural location. In accordance with the Wiltshire Council Noise and Planning Technical Guidance, which requires background levels to represent the most sensitive or quietest periods of the proposed operation rather than a simple average, a representative background sound level of L_{A90} 35 dB has been adopted for the primary assessment.

However, the South Holland guidance advocates for the use of an arithmetic average of background sound levels which is less stringent. As a point of reference, the arithmetic average of all intervals across the proposed 08:00 to 20:00 operating period is higher, at L_{A90} 40 dB.

5. Noise Predictions

5.1 Barking Sound Levels

Following the approach set out in the South Holland guidance, predicted barking noise levels have been calculated at the nearest surrounding residential receptors.

The guidance provides a source level of 65.6 dB L_{Aeq,T} at 10 metres for one dog barking. For boarding kennels, the assessment number of barking dogs is taken as 60% of the total number of dogs. On the basis of ten kennels, this gives:

$$10 \text{ dogs} \times 0.6 = 6 \text{ barking dogs}$$

The source level for six dogs has therefore been calculated as:

$$65.6 + 10 \log_{10}(6) = 73 \text{ dB L}_{Aeq,T} \text{ at 10 metres}$$

The calculations are summarised below.

Receptor	Distance	Source level @ 10 m	Distance correction	Screening correction	Predicted level
Braydon Manor Farm farmhouse	50 m	73 dB	-14 dB	0 dB	59 dB L _{Aeq,T}
Braydon Manor	70 m	73 dB	-17 dB	-18 dB	38 dB L _{Aeq,T}
The Common Dwelling	170 m	73 dB	-25 dB	-5 dB	43 dB L _{Aeq,T}

Table 5.1 – Predicted barking noise levels at the nearest residential receptors

The predicted barking sound level at the applicant's farmhouse (approximately 59 dB L_{Aeq,T}) is comparable with the measured ambient daytime sound level at the site. As noted in Section 2, this

dwelling is occupied by the applicant and is functionally part of the kennel operation; it is not a third-party noise-sensitive receptor and is reported here for completeness only.

At Braydon Manor, the predicted level is approximately 38 dB $L_{Aeq,T}$, after allowance for substantial screening by the intervening farm buildings. This is approximately 3 dB above the measured 35 dB L_{A90} background level. A 3 dB exceedance above background is considered marginal, particularly in the context of the active rural ambient sound climate at the site.

At the dwelling on The Common, the predicted level is approximately 43 dB $L_{Aeq,T}$, approximately 8 dB above the measured operating-period background level.

This level is, however, approximately 16 dB below the measured daytime ambient sound level at the site, and barking events would not be expected to be the controlling source of audible sound at this receptor outside of quiet residual periods. It should be noted that this value applies to the south (road facing) façade of the building, which does not include external amenity areas.

The amenity areas to the north of the dwelling are expected to be well screened and experience significantly lower sound levels, likely below the background. Allowing 15dB for a partially open window, sound levels within the building would be approximately L_{Aeq} 28dB, well below the BS8233 suggested internal levels¹.

The above calculation is intentionally conservative in that it assumes simultaneous barking from the South Holland assessment number of dogs. In practice, the operation is day boarding only, with no overnight boarding, and the Noise Management Plan includes controls to limit sustained or repeated barking, including staff supervision, controlled exercise, appointment-only access and intervention where individual dogs fail to settle. The wider context of the site and operations, including the rural agricultural setting, the position of the external amenity areas, and the three-year operational record of the facility, would support a lower impact than the initial numeric output would suggest and these factors are discussed further in Section 6.

5.2 Maximum Sound Levels

The Wiltshire technical guidance places particular weight on the maximum barking level at the receptor, with stricter expectations applied to early morning, evening and night-time hours. The kennel operation at Braydon is a day-boarding use with no overnight boarding and no activity outside agreed daytime hours, and the more stringent early morning, evening and night-time considerations in the Wiltshire guidance are therefore not applicable.

Wiltshire's daytime expectation, set out in section 6.12 of the technical guidance, is that the L_{Amax} at the nearest noise-sensitive receptor should not exceed the representative background sound level L_{A90} during the period 08:00 to 20:00. The guidance recommends an L_{AFmax} source proxy of 95 dB (sound power) for a medium-sized dog, which has been adopted here on the basis that Braydon

¹ It is accepted that BS8233 is intended to be applied to anonymous sound sources. The intent in this instance is to show that the absolute internal sound levels are relatively low even under robust assumptions.

Dogs accommodates dogs of typical medium build. Predicted maximum barking levels at the nearest receptors derived using this source proxy and the same distance, including 8dB geometric spreading factor, and screening corrections applied in Section 5, are summarised in Table 5.2.

Receptor	Distance	Source level (L _{Aw})	Distance correction	Screening correction	Predicted L _{AFmax}
Braydon Manor Farm farmhouse	50 m	95 dB	-22 dB	0 dB	81 dB L _{AFmax}
Braydon Manor	70 m	95 dB	-25 dB	-18 dB	52 dB L _{AFmax}
The Common Dwelling	170 m	95 dB	-33 dB	-5 dB	57 dB L _{AFmax}

Table 5.2 – Predicted maximum barking levels at the nearest residential receptors

The predicted maximum levels at the third-party receptors of approximately 52 dB L_{AFmax} at Braydon Manor and 57 dB L_{AFmax} at the dwelling on The Common are above the measured operating-period background of 35 dB L_{A90}. The predicted values are, however, a single-event worst case derived from a published reference source level for an unobstructed adult medium dog.

The intermittent character of barking, the operational controls in place, the rural agricultural setting and the three-year operational record of the facility together support the conclusion that the use remains acceptable in terms of residential amenity notwithstanding this notional numerical exceedance. These considerations are developed in the Discussion in Section 6.

5.3 Access and Vehicle Activity

The Design and Access Statement confirms that access is by appointment only, that the gates have been installed set back from the public road to allow vehicles to wait clear of the carriageway, and that there is no public or unscheduled access to the holding. This arrangement limits the potential for unmanaged arrivals and roadside waiting, and reduces the visual and audible stimulus that can trigger barking from dogs in the kennels.

Vehicle movements associated with drop-off and collection are not expected to be the controlling acoustic source when compared with the potential for barking. The Noise Management Plan in Section 7 nevertheless includes specific controls on appointment scheduling, supervision and prompt handling of dogs during arrivals and departures to limit secondary barking triggers.

6. Discussion

The numerical assessments set out above are based on conservative source-level assumptions drawn from the South Holland and Wiltshire guidance. The time-averaged L_{Aeq} calculation assumes simultaneous barking from six dogs for a cumulative ten minutes in every hour, with no allowance for sound attenuation beyond simple geometric spreading. The L_{AFmax} calculation applies the 95 dB medium-dog source proxy in section 6.12 of the Wiltshire technical guidance as a single-event worst case, without correction for the intermittent character of the source or for the operational controls in place. The following wider considerations would have a bearing on the acceptability of these predicted levels at the nearest third-party receptors.

Barking is brief and intermittent. The L_{AFmax} figures describe isolated maximum events rather than sustained sound, and the L_{Aeq} figures rest on a cumulative bark duration that is significantly greater than the practical operating state of the facility. The Noise Management Plan below outlines active operational controls intended to limit the frequency, duration and intensity of barking events. These include active supervision of dogs at all times, prompt intervention where individual dogs fail to settle, dog suitability assessment before acceptance for boarding, controlled use of the exercise field and appointment-only access. The applicant resides at Braydon Manor Farm farmhouse, immediately adjacent to the kennel run, and is therefore directly aware of any sustained or repeated barking and able to respond promptly.

The kennels are located within an established farm holding in open countryside, in contrast to a suburban residential setting that is expected to have been the intended context when the Wiltshire guidance was drafted. Maximum sound levels of the magnitude and type predicted above are not unusual for a rural agricultural environment, in which agricultural activity, vehicle movements, livestock and other transient sources routinely produce comparable single-event maxima.

The character of barking is distinguishable from these sources, but the levels are broadly congruent with the existing rural noise climate experienced by surrounding receptors.

The predicted levels apply to the most exposed façade of each dwelling. The primary external amenity areas associated with Braydon Manor and the dwelling on The Common are understood to lie on the opposite, screened sides of those buildings, away from the kennel run, and would be expected to experience appreciably lower levels than the predictions at the most exposed façade.

The facility has operated continuously as a licensed day-boarding kennel since early 2023 and is understood not to have given rise to substantiated noise complaints from neighbouring residents during that period. This represents a substantial period of practical demonstration of the use under the operational regime described in this report, and is a direct indication of the actual amenity effect at neighbouring receptors.

The South Holland method advocates for comparison against the arithmetic average of the measured L_{A90} values over the operating period. At this site, that average is approximately 40 dB L_{A90} , which is 5 dB above the typical 35 dB L_{A90} background adopted in the primary assessment. Had the South Holland averaging convention been applied directly, the predicted barking level at Braydon Manor (38 dB $L_{Aeq,T}$) would be below the representative background level, and the level at the dwelling on would exceed it by approximately 3 dB, rather than 8 dB. The typical background level of 35 dB L_{A90} adopted in this assessment therefore represents a highly robust baseline, with the result that potential noise impacts at the nearest receptors are overstated rather than understated.

6.1 Draft Guidance

The Association of Noise Consultants, the Institute of Acoustics and the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health have issued in draft form *ProPG: Guidance for the Assessment and Management of Noise from Dog Kennels*. As the document has not been formally adopted, it is not used as the assessment methodology in this report but does provide an indication of emerging

professional consensus on the assessment of noise from kennel facilities, that support the approach taken in this report. In particular, the draft endorses the South Holland source level of approximately 65 dB L_{Aeq} at 10 m as a reasonable basis for assessment and supports an on-time correction based on ten minutes of barking per hour. The draft also recognises that receptors with a financial involvement in the kennel operation, including family members of the operator living adjacent to the facility, may be excluded from the third-party noise impact assessment, which is consistent with the treatment of Braydon Manor Farm farmhouse in this report. The draft further identifies the operational history of an established facility, the implementation of best practicable means and the character of the area as material contextual considerations, each of which is discussed above.

7. Noise Management Plan

7.1 Purpose and Status

This Noise Management Plan sets out the practical operational controls adopted at Braydon Dogs to limit the potential for adverse noise effects on neighbouring residential receptors.

It is intended to be a live management document, and is to be reviewed by the Operator if the operation changes materially, if substantiated complaints are received, or if Wiltshire Council reasonably requires a review.

7.2 Management Responsibility

The operator of Braydon Dogs is responsible for implementing this Noise Management Plan. The named responsible person is the applicant, contactable via the agent in the first instance.

The responsible person will ensure that all staff and family members involved in the operation are aware of the noise control requirements and that the controls are followed during normal operation. The applicant resides at Braydon Manor Farm farmhouse, immediately adjacent to the kennel run, and a responsible person is therefore available on site, or otherwise on call, at all times that dogs are present on the premises.

7.3 Operating Hours

The kennel operation is a daytime day-boarding use. Dog drop-off, collection, external exercise and transfer between areas will be undertaken within the daytime period 08:00 to 20:00 only, except in an emergency or for animal welfare reasons. Within this daytime period, feeding will normally be carried out between 07:30 and 18:00 and dog exercise on the secure field will normally be carried out between 09:00 and 17:00, in line with the operational guidance set out in section 6.12 of the Wiltshire technical guidance. No overnight boarding is offered. If the operation is changed in the future to include overnight boarding, or to extend regular activity outside the daytime period defined above, this Noise Management Plan and the supporting acoustic assessment will be updated.

7.4 Dog Numbers

The site contains ten kennels and a maximum of ten dogs will be accommodated on site at any one time, consistent with the ten-kennel configuration. The number of dogs accommodated will not exceed the number permitted by the operator's licence and the planning consent. The operator will avoid uncontrolled group barking by limiting the number of dogs that are moved, exercised or transferred between areas at any one time.

7.5 Dog Suitability

Dogs will be accepted for boarding only where the operator is satisfied that they are suitable for the kennel environment. New dogs will, where practicable, be subject to an initial assessment or trial period. Dogs that show repeated distress, persistent barking or an inability to settle will not be accepted for continued boarding unless additional measures can be agreed and shown to be effective. A brief written record will be kept of any dog removed from the regular booking list on noise-related grounds.

7.6 Supervision and Barking Response

Dogs will be actively supervised when outside the kennels, during exercise and during transfers. If barking occurs, staff will intervene promptly. Appropriate interventions include:

- calm verbal control of the dog;
- moving the dog away from the trigger;
- returning the dog to a quieter area;
- separating dogs that are encouraging each other to bark;
- delaying further transfers until the dogs have settled; and
- contacting the owner where a particular dog repeatedly fails to settle.

Persistent or repeated barking will not be allowed to continue without intervention.

7.7 Kennel Management

The kennels will be operated to limit unnecessary triggers for barking. Operational measures include:

- keeping dogs settled within kennels when not being walked or exercised;
- avoiding unnecessary congregating of dogs near entrances, gates or the site boundary;
- reducing visual stimulus from visitors, vehicles or adjacent land where practicable;
- avoiding raised voices and unnecessary shouting by staff; and
- maintaining kennel doors, gates and latches so that avoidable impact noise is minimised.

7.8 Exercise Field and Outdoor Activity

Outdoor exercise on the secure field is supervised. The number of dogs exercised together will be controlled so that group barking is avoided. Dogs that bark repeatedly in the exercise field will be removed from the field and returned to a quieter area until settled. Where practicable, the operator will use the exercise field in a way that avoids placing dogs close to the most sensitive boundaries for extended periods.

7.9 Arrivals, Departures and Visitors

Access to the site is by appointment only, with permanently closed gates set back from the public road. The operator will:

- schedule drop-off and collection by appointment to avoid clustering of arrivals;
- meet clients promptly on arrival so that dogs are not left waiting at the access;
- restrict access to the kennel run itself to staff, so that visiting clients and other third parties do not enter the kennel area;
- avoid unnecessary horn use, raised voices or prolonged vehicle idling.

7.10 Deliveries, Maintenance and Farm Activity

Routine deliveries and maintenance close to the kennels will be planned to limit unnecessary disturbance to the dogs. Where possible, noisy or unfamiliar activities near the kennels will be scheduled at times when fewer dogs are present or when dogs can be kept settled. This plan does not control normal agricultural activity on the wider holding, but the operator will manage the dogs accordingly when such activity is likely to trigger barking.

7.11 Neighbour Relations

The operator will endeavour to maintain a positive working relationship with the neighbouring occupiers and is available to discuss any specific noise concern that may arise.

A direct contact telephone number for the responsible person will be provided to the occupants of the nearest residential properties at Braydon Manor and on The Common, so that any noise concern can be raised directly with the operator without delay.

7.12 Complaint Procedure

The operator will maintain a written complaint log. Each entry in the log will record:

- the date and time of the complaint;
- the complainant details, where provided;
- a description of the noise reported;
- the dogs or activities on site at the time;

- staff observations;
- the immediate action taken;
- any follow-up action required; and
- the date on which the complaint was closed.

Complaints will be reviewed promptly by the responsible person. Where a complaint is substantiated, reasonable corrective action will be taken. Corrective action may include changes to dog handling, exercise timing, visitor management, screening, staff instruction or the acceptance of a particular dog.

8. Conclusion

The retrospective change of use of the agricultural yard at Braydon Manor Farm to a ten-kennel day-boarding facility has been assessed against the relevant local planning policy framework and guidance. The assessment has been informed by an environmental noise survey undertaken at the site with the kennel use in active operation, and by the three-year operational record of the facility.

Both the time-averaged L_{Aeq} assessment and the maximum-level L_{AFmax} assessment predict barking sound levels above the measured operating-period background at the nearest third-party receptors.

However, as outlined in the discussion, the established context of the locality as an agricultural use, the operational controls described in the Noise Management Plan, the orientation of the receptors relative to the kennel run, and the three-year operational record of the facility without substantiated noise complaint suggest that these predicted exceedances are not considered to indicate an unacceptable noise effect on residential amenity.

Subject to adoption of the operational controls set out in the Noise Management Plan, the use is considered acceptable in terms of residential amenity.

Steven Liddell MIOA



Figure VA6356/TH1

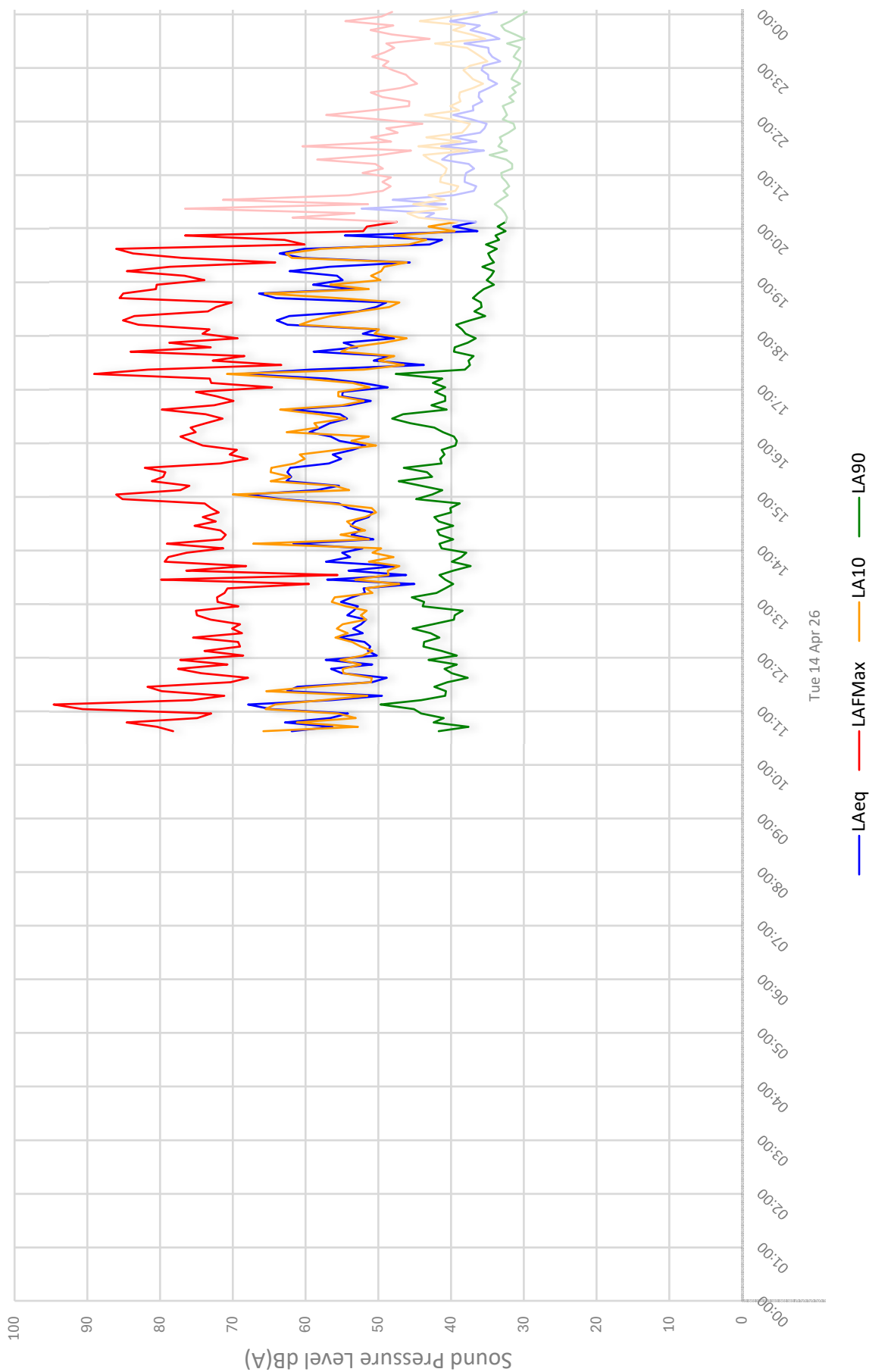
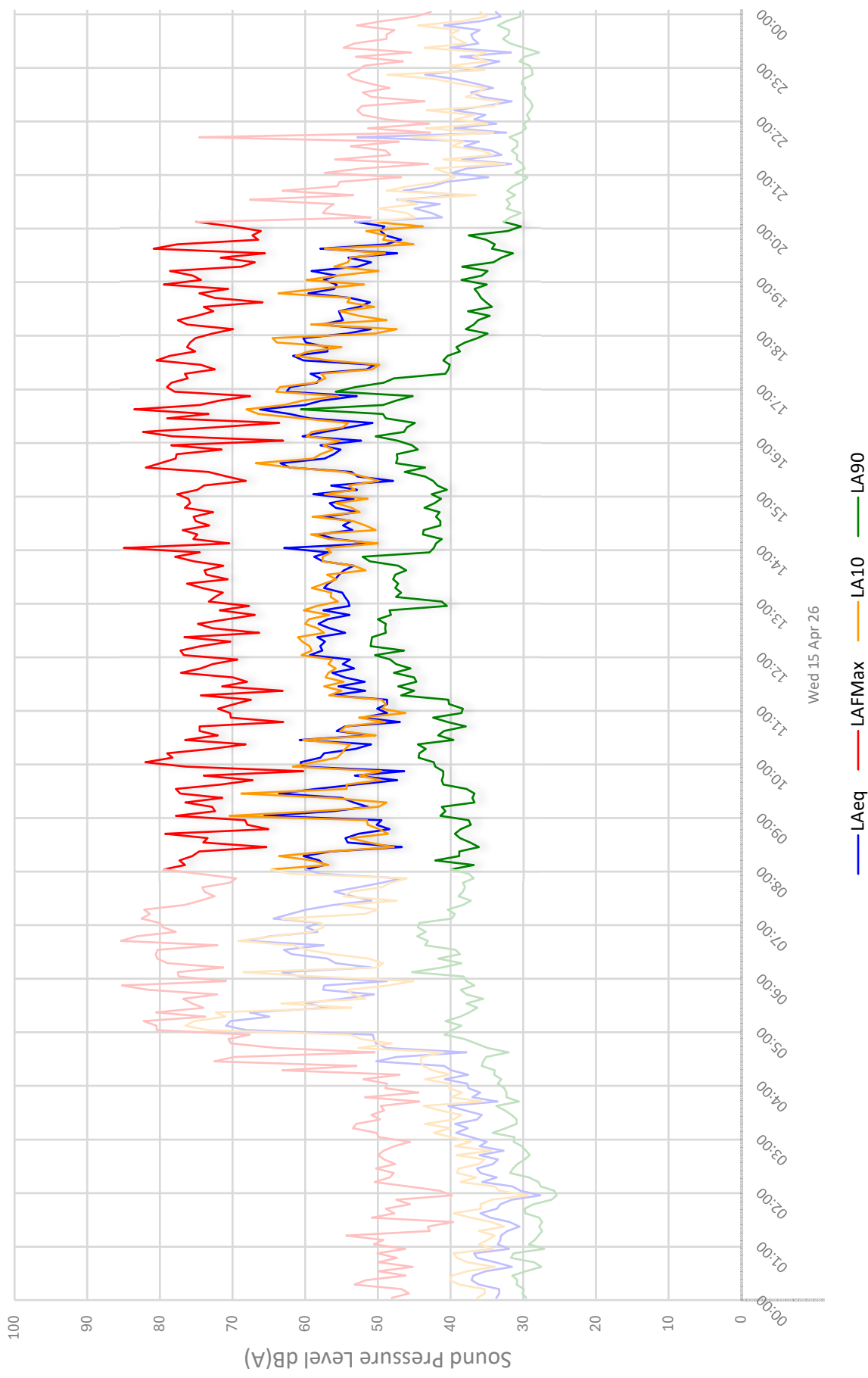


Figure VA6356/TH2



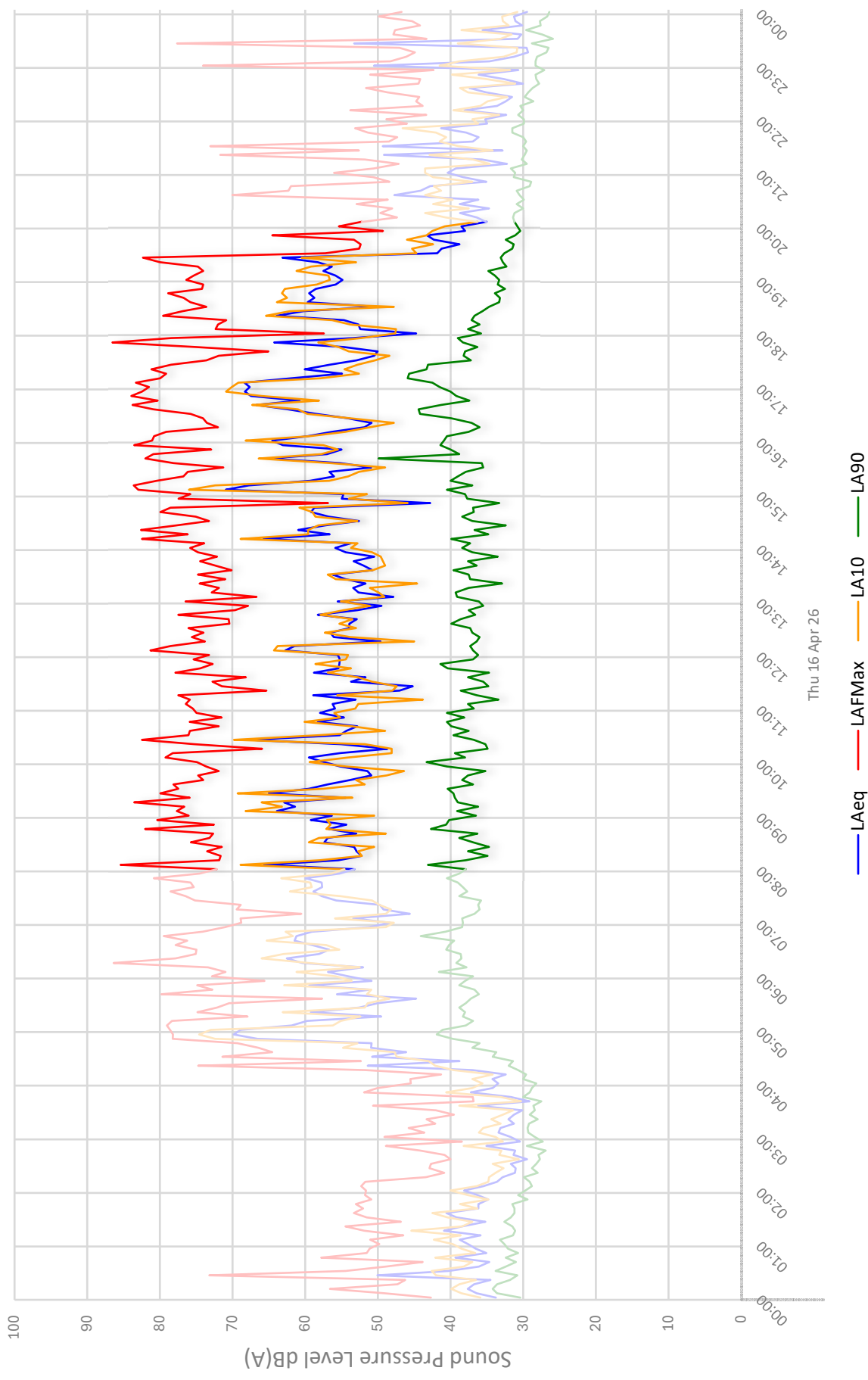


Figure VA6356/TH4

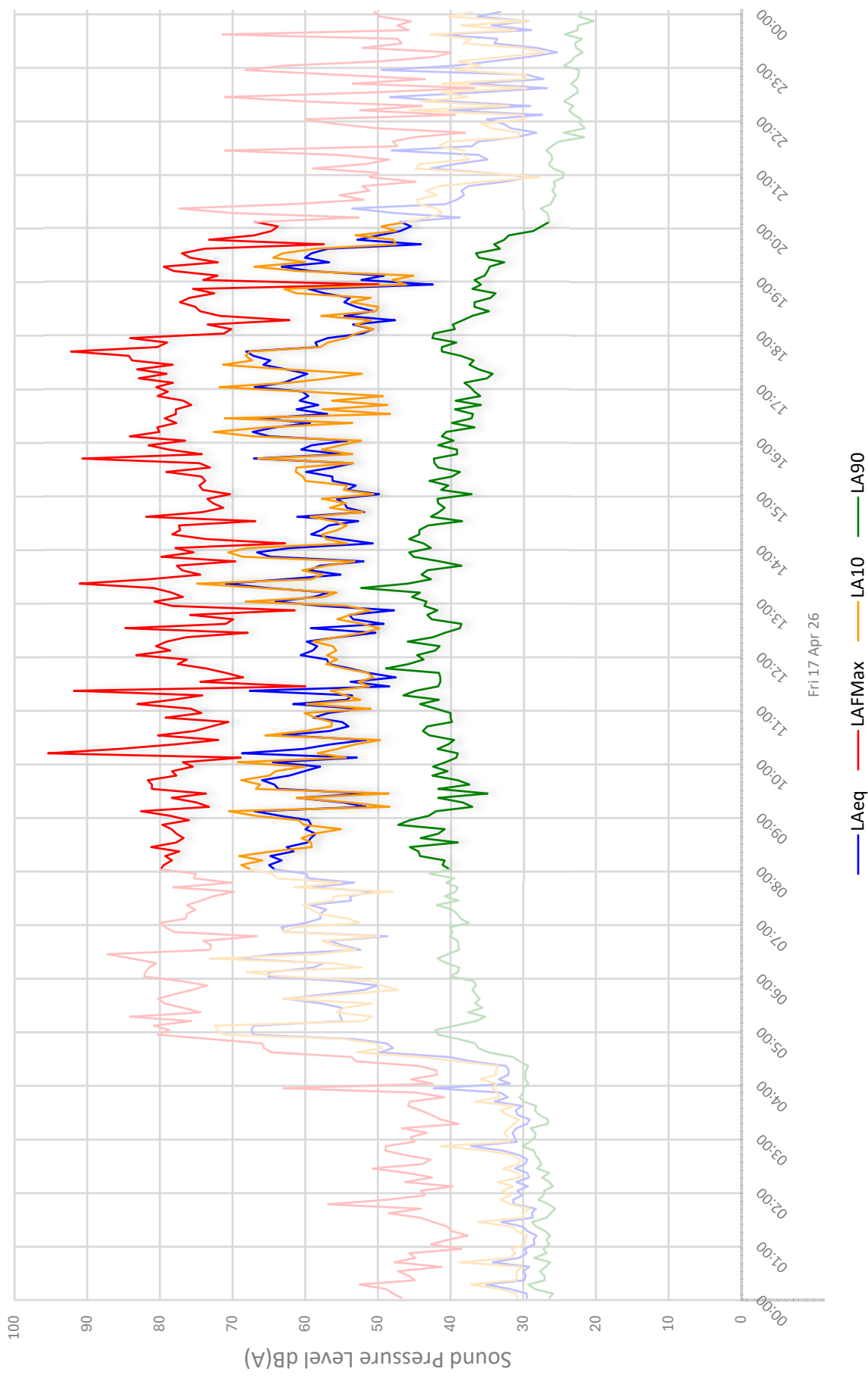


Figure VA6356/TH5

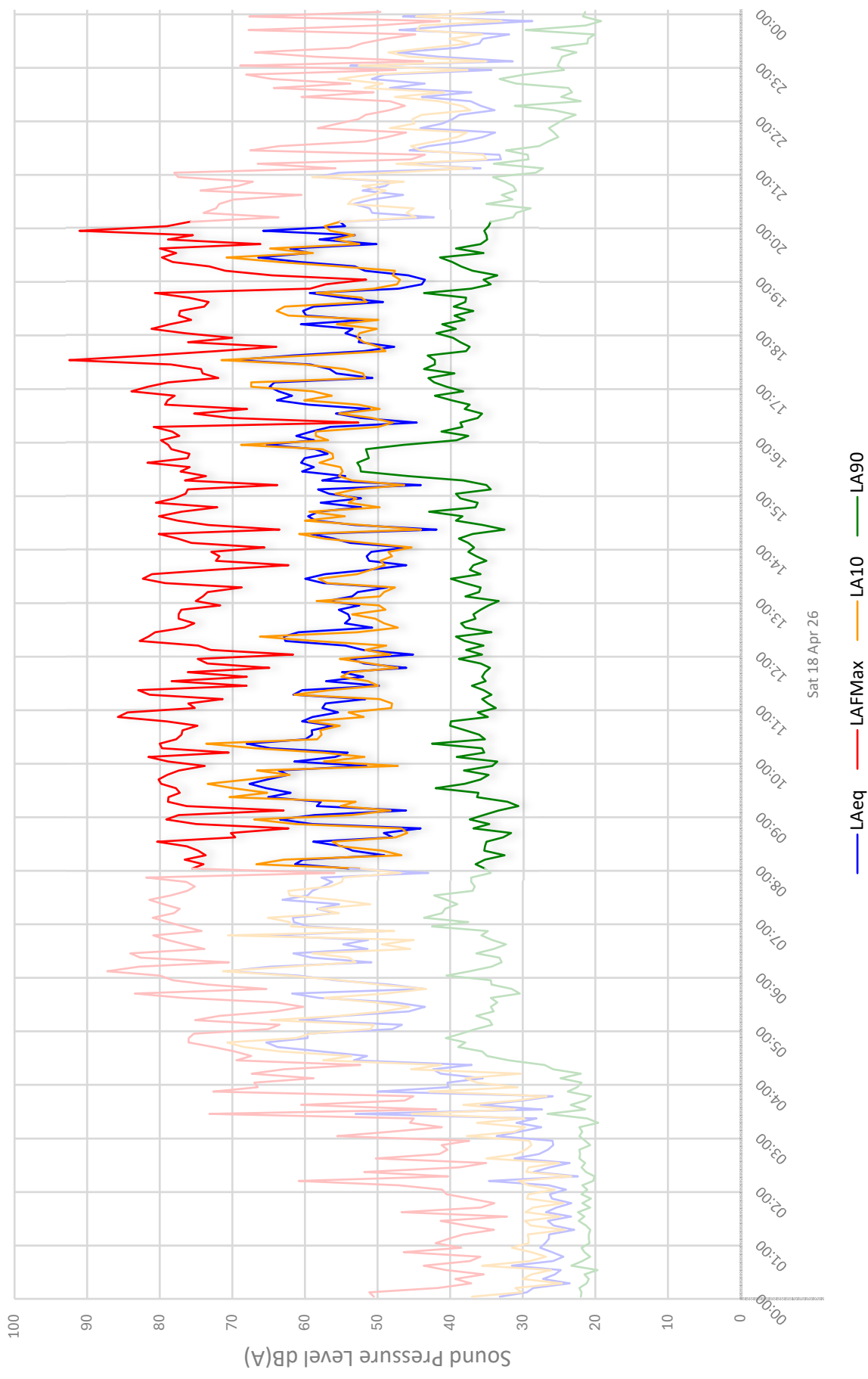
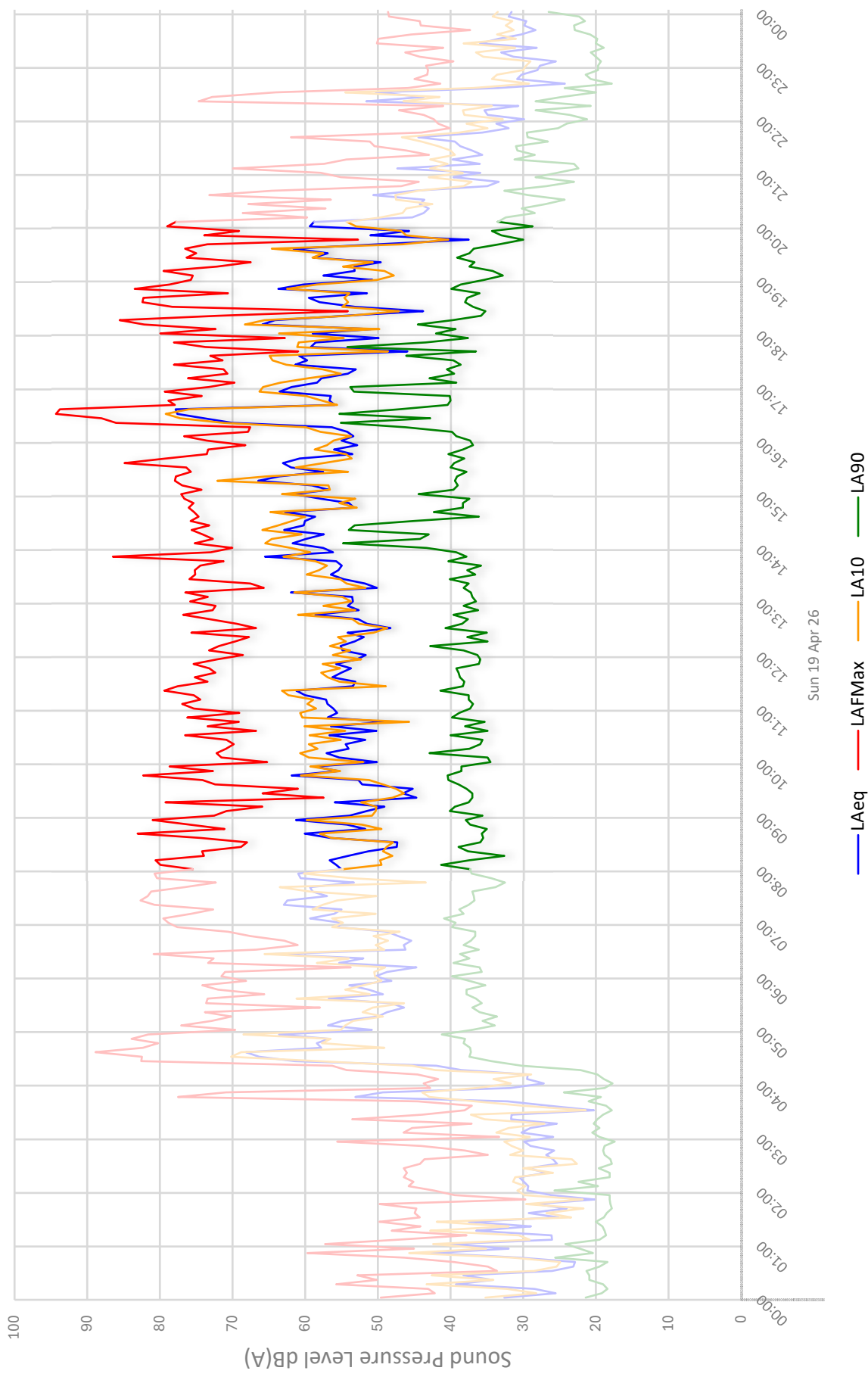
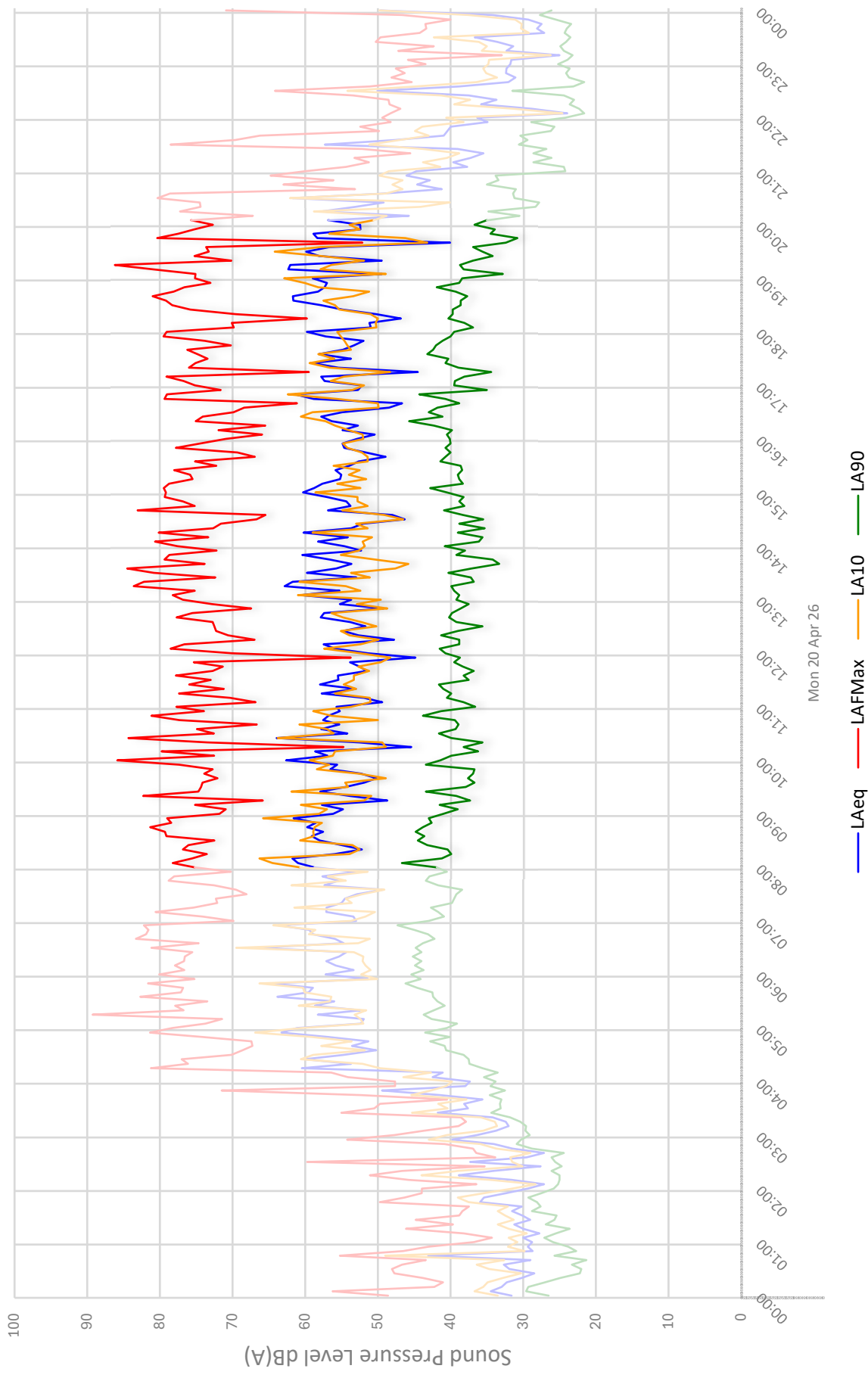
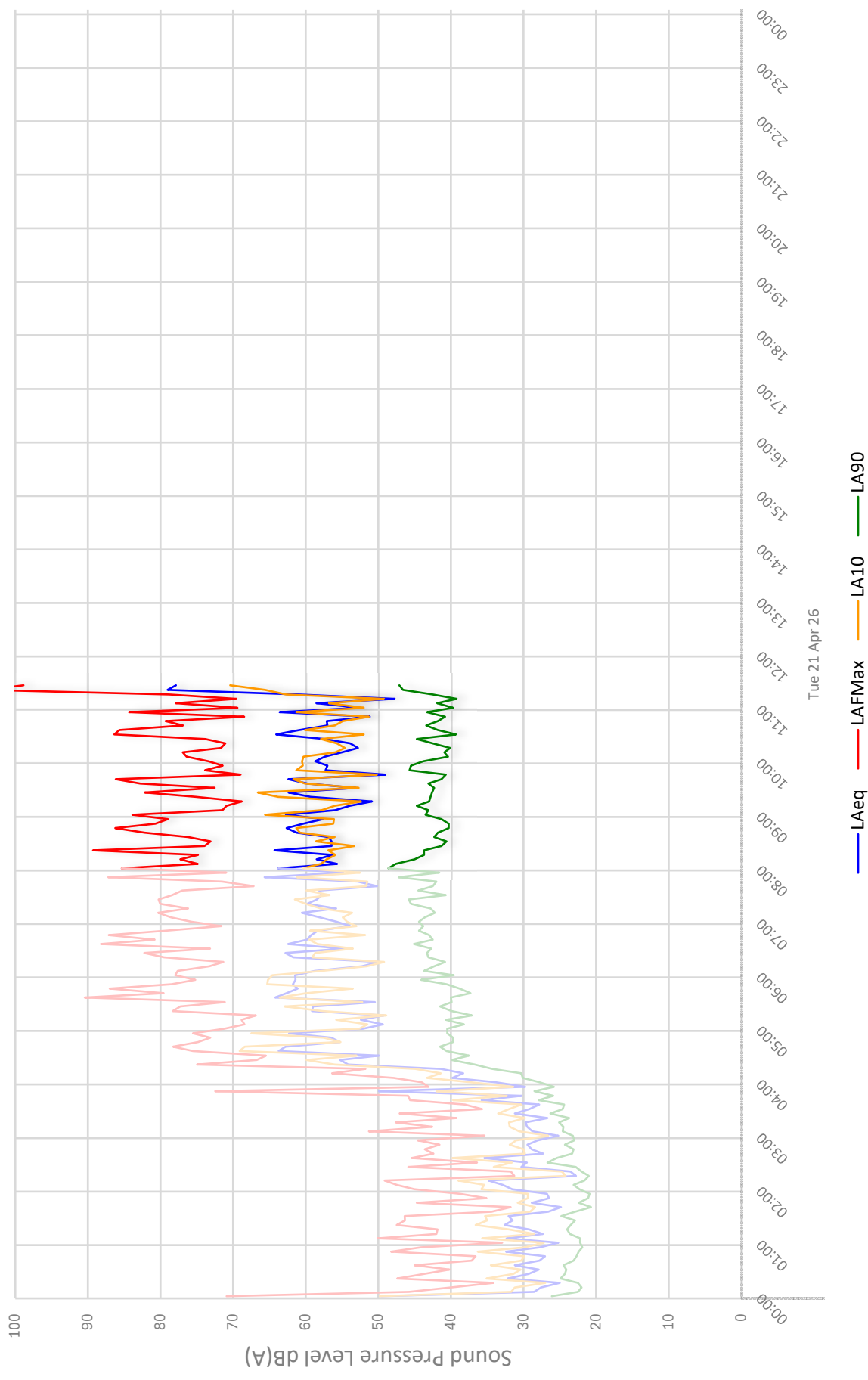


Figure VA6356/TH6







APPENDIX A

Acoustic Terminology & Human Response to Broadband Sound

A. Acoustic Terminology

The human impact of sounds is dependent upon many complex interrelated factors such as 'loudness', its frequency (or pitch) and variation in level. In order to have some objective measure of the annoyance, scales have been derived to allow for these subjective factors.

Sound Vibrations propagating through a medium (air, water, etc.) that are detectable by the auditory system.

Noise Sound that is unwanted by or disturbing to the perceiver.

Frequency The rate per second of vibration constituting a wave, measured in Hertz (Hz), where 1Hz = 1 vibration cycle per second. The human hearing can generally detect sound having frequencies in the range 20Hz to 20kHz. Frequency corresponds to the perception of 'pitch', with low frequencies producing low 'notes' and higher frequencies producing high 'notes'.

dB(A): Human hearing is more susceptible to mid-frequency sounds than those at high and low frequencies. To take account of this in measurements and predictions, the 'A' weighting scale is used so that the level of sound corresponds roughly to the level as it is typically discerned by humans. The measured or calculated 'A' weighted sound level is designated as dB(A) or LA.

A notional steady sound level which, over a stated period of time, would contain the same amount of acoustical energy as the actual, fluctuating sound measured over that period (e.g. 8 hour, 1 hour, etc).

Leq : The concept of Leq (equivalent continuous sound level) has primarily been used in assessing noise from industry, although its use is becoming more widespread in defining many other types of sounds, such as from amplified music and environmental sources such as aircraft and construction.

Because Leq is effectively a summation of a number of events, it does not in itself limit the magnitude of any individual event, and this is frequently used in conjunction with an absolute sound limit.

L₁₀ & L₉₀ : Statistical Ln indices are used to describe the level and the degree of fluctuation of non-steady sound. The term refers to the level exceeded for n% of the time. Hence, L₁₀ is the level exceeded for 10% of the time and as such can be regarded as a typical maximum level. Similarly, L₉₀ is the typical minimum level and is often used to describe background noise.

It is common practice to use the L₁₀ index to describe noise from traffic as, being a high average, it takes into account the increased annoyance that results from the non-steady nature of traffic flow.

L_{max} : The maximum sound pressure level recorded over a given period. L_{max} is sometimes used in assessing environmental noise, where occasional loud events occur which might not be adequately represented by a time-averaged Leq value.

R Sound Reduction Index. Effectively the Level Difference of a building element when measured in an accredited laboratory test suite in accordance with the procedures laid down in BS EN ISO 10140-2:2010 and corrected for its size and the reverberant characteristics of the receive room.

D The sound insulation performance of a construction is described in terms of the difference in sound level on either side of the construction in the presence of a sound source on one side and the reverberant characteristics of the adjoining 'receive' space. D is the arithmetic Level

APPENDIX A

Acoustic Terminology & Human Response to Broadband Sound

	Difference in decibels between the source and receive sound levels when filtered into frequency bands.
D_{nT}	Weighted Standardised Level Difference. As defined in BS EN ISO 717-1, representing the Weighted Level Difference, when standardised for reference receiving room reverberant characteristics.
$D_{n,e}$	Normalised sound insulation of small building elements of fixed dimensions, such as vents, measured in an accredited laboratory test suite in accordance with the procedures laid down in BS EN ISO 10140-2:2010.
$D_{n,f}$	Flanking sound insulation of lightweight elements, such as curtain wall mullions, measured in an accredited laboratory test suite in accordance with the procedures laid down in ISO 10848-2:2006
R_w D_w $D_{nT,w}$ $D_{n,e,w}$ $D_{n,f,w}$	Value of parameter, determined as above, but weighted in accordance with the procedures laid down in BS EN ISO 717-1 to provide a single-figure value.
C , C_{tr}	Spectral adaptation terms to be added to a single number quantity such as $D_{nT,w}$, to take account of the sound insulation within frequency ranges of particular interest.
$L'_{nT,w}$	Weighted Standardised Impact Sound Pressure Level as defined in BS EN ISO 717-2, representing the level of sound pressure when measured within a space where the floor above is under excitation from a calibrated tapping machine, standardised for the receiving room reverberant characteristics.
ΔL_w	Change in impact sound pressure level when a floor is fitted with a 'soft' or resilient covering, as measured in an accredited laboratory test suite in accordance with the procedures laid down in BS EN ISO 10140-3:2010.

B. Octave Band Frequencies

In order to determine the way in which the energy of sound is distributed across the frequency range, the International Standards Organisation has agreed on "preferred" bands of frequency for sound measurement and analysis. The widest and most commonly used band for frequency measurement and analysis is the Octave Band. In these bands, the upper frequency limit is twice the lower frequency limit, with the band being described by its "centre frequency" which is the average (geometric mean) of the upper and lower limits, e.g. 250 Hz octave band extends from 176 Hz to 353 Hz. The most commonly used octave bands are:

Octave Band Centre Frequency Hz	63	125	250	500	1000	2000	4000	8000
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C. Human Perception of Broadband Noise

Because of the logarithmic nature of the decibel scale, it should be borne in mind that sound levels in dB(A) do not have a simple linear relationship. For example, 100dB(A) sound level is not twice as loud as 50dB(A). It has been found experimentally that changes in the average level of fluctuating sound, such as from traffic, need to be of the order of 3dB before becoming definitely perceptible to the human ear. Data from other experiments have indicated that a change in sound level of 10dB

APPENDIX A

Acoustic Terminology & Human Response to Broadband Sound

is perceived by the average listener as a doubling or halving of loudness. Using this information, a guide to the subjective interpretation of changes in environmental sound level can be given.

Change in Sound Level dB	Subjective Impression	Human Response
0 to 2	Imperceptible change in loudness	Marginal
3 to 5	Perceptible change in loudness	Noticeable
6 to 10	Up to a doubling or halving of loudness	Significant
11 to 15	More than a doubling or halving of loudness	Substantial
16 to 20	Up to a quadrupling or quartering of loudness	Substantial
21 or more	More than a quadrupling or quartering of loudness	Very Substantial

D. Earth Bunds and Barriers - Effective Screen Height

When considering the reduction in sound level of a source provided by a barrier, it is necessary to establish the "effective screen height". For example if a tall barrier exists between a sound source and a listener, with the barrier close to the listener, the listener will perceive the sound as being louder if he climbs up a ladder (and is closer to the top of the barrier) than if he were standing at ground level. Equally if he sat on the ground the sound would seem quieter than if he were standing. This is explained by the fact that the "effective screen height" is changing with the three cases above. In general, the greater the effective screen height, the greater the perceived reduction in sound level.

Similarly, the attenuation provided by a barrier will be greater where it is aligned close to either the source or the listener than where the barrier is midway between the two.