

Report No. 0628.1 rev 0
July 2026

**RETROSPECTIVE CHANGE OF USE
TO A MIXED-USE SITE (AGRICULTURE & B8 STORAGE, INCLUDING OPEN STORAGE)
HILLVIEW FARM, SELLS GREEN, SEEND, WILTSHIRE, SN12 6RS**

NOISE ASSESSMENT



Report prepared by:
Duncan Newhall BSc MIOA
DKN Acoustics Ltd
1 Wine Street
Bradford on Avon
Wiltshire BA15 1NS

On behalf of:
Coppard Plant Hire Ltd
Sells Green
Seend
Wiltshire
SN12 6RW

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1.0 SUMMARY

- 1.1 A noise assessment has been carried out of the proposed change of use to a mixed use site at Hillview Farm, Sells Green, Seend, Wiltshire, SN12 6RS.
- 1.2 The application site would provide overspill storage for plant hire items that are unable to be accommodated in the nearby main Coppard Plant Hire site.
- 1.3 The client has advised that the application site would be used sparingly, to provide up to 8 no. staff car parking spaces and up to 4 no. plant collections/returns over a working day.
- 1.4 The site hours would be 07:00-17:30 hours Monday to Friday only.
- 1.5 Noise surveys have been undertaken to determine the background sound level at the nearest residence and the level of operational noise at source from typical site operations.
- 1.6 The potential noise impact at the nearest residences has been determined through a BS4142 assessment, considering 2 no. worst-case scenarios.
- 1.7 The BS4142 result, depending on the context, indicates an impact at the lower end of the range between 'low impact' and 'adverse impact' for absolute worst case (unrealistic scenario), and below 'low' impact for the more likely worst-case situation.
- 1.8 The predicted noise level in absolute terms at the nearest residences is relatively low. It would comfortably meet the BS8233 recommendations for desirable noise levels inside residences (even with an open window at the residence) and in gardens.
- 1.9 The nearest residence is at considerable distance and is acoustically screened by intervening site buildings. Subjectively, noise from activities on the site was not generally audible at the nearest residence above background. The existing background noise is determined by road traffic, aircraft, noise from the established units on the industrial estate, birds and leaf rustle.
- 1.10 It is therefore concluded that the potential noise impact will be low. It is recommended that planning permission may be granted and conditioned accordingly.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

2.1 DKN Acoustics Ltd has been instructed by Coppard Plant Hire Ltd to carry out a noise impact assessment for the retrospective planning application for change of use to a mixed-use site (Agriculture & B8 Storage, including Open Storage) at Hillview Farm, Sells Green, Seend, Wiltshire, SN12 6RS.

2.2 The planning application ref. is PL/2026/02184. The planning Officer's comments relating to potential noise issues are as follows:

1. Noise and Amenity

- A proportionate Noise Impact Assessment (or equivalent technical note) addressing:
 - Existing baseline noise levels;
 - Noise associated with vehicle movements, loading/unloading, and general site activity;
 - Specific consideration of potential impacts on nearby sensitive receptors, including the Equestria Barn holiday accomm
 - Any mitigation measures proposed, if required.

2.3 The assessment has included:

- Review of site drawings;
- Site inspection;
- Noise measurement survey of background noise and typical site operations;
- Prediction and assessment of noise impact at nearest residences;
- Recommendations for appropriate noise control measures as necessary.

2.4 Noise levels referred to in the text of this report have been rounded to the nearest whole decibel (dB), as fractions of dBs are imperceptible. **A glossary and description of the relevant noise units and noise characteristics is provided in Appendix I.**

2.5 The survey and assessment has been carried out by Duncan Newhall, who is a Member of the Institute of Acoustics (IOA), holder of the IOA Diploma in Acoustics and Noise Control and who has 30 years' experience in the noise consultancy field. DKN Acoustics Ltd is an independent acoustic consultancy.

3.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

- 3.1 The site drawings are shown in Figures 1-2. Site photos appear in Figure 3.
- 3.2 The main depot and office of the Coppard Plant Hire business is at the junction with the A365 Bath Road, approximately 100m to the south-west of the application site at Hillview Farm. The A365 road is a main highway linking Melksham and Devizes.
- 3.3 The operating hours for plant hire are 07:00-17:30 hours Monday to Friday only. There is no activity at weekends or on Public Holidays.
- 3.4 The area at Hillview Farm has been used by the applicant for a number of years as an overspill site to their main yard and offices. As with the retrospective application, the site has been used for the storage of additional mobile plant items and site welfare cabins that cannot be accommodated within the limits of the existing nearby yard. The application site also accommodates site parking for up to 8 no. staff cars.
- 3.5 It is understood that there are no records of noise complaint from such use of the site at Hillview Farm.
- 3.6 The applicant now wishes to regularise the use by seeking retrospective planning consent.
- 3.7 The client has supplied the following record of typical use and visits to the application site, shown in Table 1 below:

Table 1: Typical use of application site

Melksham Yards Weekly Sheet					
Week starting		MELKSHAM YARDS 2026- 06-29			
Day	Main Yard - customer count	Main Yard - Coppard	Over flow Yard - customer count	Over Flow Yard - Coppard/US count	Emolpyee parking in the over flow yard
Monday	6	14	2	2	8
Tuesday	3	16	0	2	8
Wednesday	5	13	1	2	8
Thursday	8	14	0	2	8
Friday	9	14	0	2	8
Saturday	0	0	0	0	0
Sunday	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	31	71	3	10	40
Grand total movements/jobs	155				
Note: 40 of the movements recorded relate to employee parking. If employees are unable to park in the overflow yard, those vehicles would instead have to park on the main road, which would likely create additional roadside parking and potential congestion.					

Note: 'Overflow yard' describes the application site at Hillview Farm

- 3.8 Table 1 confirms that the application site is used very much in an ancillary and secondary role to the established main yard. The application site is used by both Coppard staff and customers to drop off and collect hire items. The use is sparing, with the total number of such visits being from 2-4 per day (over the 10.5 hours trading from 07:00-17:30 hours). In addition, staff car parking takes place for 8 no. staff cars, at the start and end of the working day. The client has advised that on-site mobile plant will be used on occasion for stock movement etc, assumed at 20 minutes per worst-case hour.
- 3.9 The daytime hours of use sought are consistent with the current trading hours of the main site. There would continue to be no plant activity or car parking at weekends or on Public Holidays.
- 3.10 The application site includes the farmhouse residence at Hillview Farm, to the south-west. This is owned by Coppard Plant Hire and occupied by staff. This assessment does not therefore assess noise impact to this residence. There are a number of other outbuildings, barns and

sheds on the site. These form a near continuous line of buildings along part of the northern boundary of the site.

3.11 The Coppard Plant Hire areas are part of the larger industrial estate to the north of the A365 Bath Road. There are a number of other industrial units in the immediate area, including:

- Carmatch UK (Unit 9): Car repair and valeting unit adjacent to Coppard Plant Hire main depot.
- Large car park: To east of Carmatch UK site.
- A number of various industrial units: On spur road parallel to the canal to the east.
- Core Highways: To south of entrance to application site. This unit provides equipment and signs for highways works. As such, it is understood to be in use over 24-hours and includes night-time use and movement of stock and road signs in the yard.
- Bluemay Ltd: Manufacturing unit formed by 3 no. units to the west of the application site. A current planning application (PL/2026/02929) is under consultation for the erection of a fourth warehouse building. The existing Bluemay Ltd site has a number of external items of mechanical services plant which is understood to be in use over 24 hours.

3.12 The nearest permanent residences are at some distance from the application site, being at Berhills Lane to the north-west (approximately 260m away from the proposed site entrance) and alongside Bath Road to the south-west (approximately 150m away).

3.13 There is also a holiday let cottage at Equestria Barn, approximately 130m to the north-west. This is not a permanent place of residence, but has been specifically identified in the consultation response. The assessment has therefore been conducted to this closest residential accommodation.

4.0 NOISE SURVEYS

4.1 The noise survey was conducted on Tuesday 14 July 2026.

Background noise survey – Location 1

4.2 The background noise survey was carried out at the site boundary with the Equestria Barn holiday let accommodation. This location is shown in Figures 1-3.

4.3 The microphone location was approximately 1.5m above ground level and in free-field conditions.

4.4 Noise levels were recorded over consecutive 5-minute measurements from 06:50-10:15 hours. This therefore included the morning period of proposed trading from 07:00-17:30 hours, which is considered the most noise-sensitive period.

4.5 Measurements were in terms of the overall A-weighted noise levels, including third-octave band frequency analysis.

4.6 A summary of the measured levels is shown in Table 2. A full set of measured levels is shown in Appendix II.

Table 2: Summary of background noise survey, dB (06:50-10:15 hours)

Location	Noise level				Comments
	L _{Aeq}	L _{Amax}	L _{A10}	L _{A90}	
Location 1 Site boundary with Equestria Barn residential accommodation	50	64 (range 53-74)	52	44	Distant road traffic, industrial estate, birds, aircraft, leaf rustle. Use of application site not generally audible (entire period 06:50-10:15 hrs)
	49	62 (range 53-72)	51	43	As above, minus periods when activity was taking place on application site, i.e. excluding periods 09:00-09:20 & 09:45-10:15 hrs

4.7 The main noise sources affecting the measured levels were from road traffic, units of industrial estate (vehicles, mechanical plant etc), aircraft, birds and leaf rustle. Any noise from comings and goings at the application site was at distance and well screened by intervening buildings,

and was not generally audible at the residential location. There was no discernible change in noise level when activity was noted at the application site and when it was absent. The measured levels were largely a reflection of the other background noise sources in the area varying over time.

- 4.8 For the entire measurement period, the measured ambient noise level was 50 dB L_{Aeq} , while the background noise level was 44 dB L_{A90} .
- 4.9 For completeness, the background noise levels have also been assessed discounting periods when activity was taking place on the application site (see below). In this case, the noise levels were largely unchanged at 49 dB L_{Aeq} and 43 dB L_{A90} .

Noise survey – activities on application site

- 4.10 Further noise measurements were recorded of typical operations on the application site, both close to source and at measurement location 1.
- 4.11 A summary of the measured levels is shown in Table 3 below. The full set of measurements is shown in Appendix II, including short-term measurements of individual operations.

Table 3: Site activities, dB

Activity	Measurement duration (m s)	Noise level		Comments
		L _{Aeq}	L _{Amax}	
Staff van arrive & park	0m 43s	56	62	At 3m from drive past
<u>Excavator loading</u>				
Empty flat bed lorry drive past/entry	36s	71	80	At 4m from drive past
Load excavator on lorry	2m 27s	69	87	At 4m distance
Flat bed lorry tail lift	28s	65	70	At 4m distance
Loaded flat bed lorry drive past/exit	40s	68	77	At 4m distance from drive past
<u>Telescopic handler loading</u>				
Load item on lorry	1m 13s	73	89	At 3m distance
Flat bed lorry tail lift	44s	65	77	At 3m distance
Loaded flat bed lorry departure/reverse	58s	73	80	At 3m distance from drive past
Telescopic handler manoeuvres – load pallet	35s	71	82	At 2m distance
Telescopic handler manoeuvres – unload pallet	29s	67	78	At 2m distance
Excavator unloading	8m 46s	49	56	At Location 1, activity not audible. Road traffic, birds, leaf rustle dominant.
Telescopic handler manoeuvres	2m 25s	51	57	At Location 1, activity not audible. Road traffic, birds, leaf rustle dominant.

4.12 The attended measurements conducted at Location 1 (adjacent to Equestria Barn holiday let) showed relatively low noise levels of 49-51 dB L_{Aeq}. For these, noise contribution from the site was not audible above existing background. The measurements at Location 1 were largely a measure of the varying background noise sources, rather than of any activity on the application site.

Noise measurement equipment

4.13 Measurements were undertaken using the following equipment.

Table 4: Measurement equipment

Equipment	Serial no.	Equipment	Serial no.
RION NL-52 Type 1 sound level meter	00809384	RION NA-28 Type 1 sound level meter	00991176
Pre-amplifier model NH-25	09677	Pre-amplifier model NH-23	81217
Microphone model UC-59	017841	Microphone model UC-59	01421
Windshield	n/a	Windshield	n/a
Microphone extension cable	n/a	Calibrator model NC-74 to 94.0dB	34794362

4.14 The sound level meters are fully calibrated with up-to-date calibration certificates, copies of which will be provided on request.

4.15 The calibration of each meter was checked before and after the survey, using calibrator model NC-74 (serial no. 34794362) with no significant variation in level noted. A windshield was fitted over the microphones at all times.

Weather conditions

4.16 The weather was fine and dry, with wind speed typically less than 5m/s. Temperatures were up to 20°C. These were good conditions for noise measurement. Readings from the nearest weather station at Lyneham, Wiltshire are shown in Appendix III.

5.0 ACOUSTIC CRITERIA

BS4142: 2014+A1: 2019

- 5.1 BS4142: 2014+A1:2019 '*Methods for rating and assessing industrial and commercial sound*' describes a method for rating and assessing sound of an industrial and/or commercial nature and to assess the likely effects of sound on people who might be inside or outside a dwelling or premises used for residential purposes upon which sound is incident.
- 5.2 BS4142 compares the noise rating level of the noise source being assessed with the L_{A90} background noise level outside the relevant noise-sensitive receptor.
- 5.3 The rating level at the assessment location includes noise 'character correction(s)' applied to the predicted noise level under assessment. These are applied where appropriate if the noise source has content that is/has:
- tonal (0 dB to +6dB, depending on perceptibility)
 - impulsive (0 dB to +9dB, depending on perceptibility)
 - intermittent (+3dB where present)
 - any other sound characteristic (+3dB where present).
- 5.4 To assess impact it states that:
- Typically, the greater the difference [*between rating level and background sound level*], the greater the magnitude of impact;
 - A difference of around +10 dB or more is likely to be an indication of a significant adverse impact, depending on the context;
 - A difference of around +5 dB is likely to be an indication of an adverse impact, depending on the context; and
 - The lower the rating level relative to the measured background sound level, the less likely it is that the specific sound source will have an adverse impact or a significant adverse impact. Where the rating level does not exceed the background noise level, this is an indication of the specific sound source having a low impact, depending on the context.

BS 8233: 2014

Permanent residences

- 5.5 Further guidance on acoustic design goals for residential development is set out in British Standard 8233: 2014 '*Guidance on sound insulation and noise reduction for buildings*'. The desirable L_{Aeq} criteria for dwellings recommended by BS8233: 2014 in Table 4 of the document are summarised in Table 5 below.

Table 5: Table 4 of BS 8233: 2014 for desirable indoor ambient noise levels for dwellings

Activity	Location	Time period	
		07:00-23:00 hrs (day)	23:00-07:00 hrs (night)
Resting	Living room	35 dB $L_{Aeq,16hour}$	-
Dining	Dining room/area	40 dB $L_{Aeq,16hour}$	-
Sleeping (daytime resting)	Bedroom	35 dB $L_{Aeq,16hour}$	30 dB $L_{Aeq,8hour}$

- 5.6 The BS8233 recommendations show the absolute noise level, rather than relative to background. Note that only the daytime recommendations are relevant to the daytime hours of use proposed for the application site.
- 5.7 BS8233 states that the levels shown in the Table may be 5 dB higher and reasonable internal conditions would still be achieved.
- 5.8 The Standard states that a partially open window typically provides around 15 dB attenuation of external noise.
- 5.9 The desirable noise level for gardens is recommended by BS8233 not to exceed 50-55 dB L_{Aeq} during the daytime where possible.

Hotel/holiday let accommodation

- 5.10 BS8233 recognises that the recommendations for permanent residences, shown in Table 5 above, may not be applicable for non-permanent places of residence (such as hotels, rooms

for residential purposes, holiday let accommodation etc). The transient nature of occupancy may allow a more tolerant desirable internal noise level. Appendix H of BS8233 provides examples of design criteria adopted by hotel chains, as shown below:

H.4 Internal noise levels from external sources											
The noise level in any hotel bedroom, with windows closed, from all external sources, including road, rail and air traffic and noise from activities outside the hotel and any adjacent premises, are to be within the range of average noise levels in Table H.3.											
Table H.3	<table><tr><th colspan="2">Indoor ambient noise level ranges for hotel bedrooms</th></tr><tr><th>Period</th><th>Noise level</th></tr><tr><td>Daytime (07:00 – 23:00 hrs)</td><td>30 – 40 dB $L_{Aeq,1hour}$</td></tr><tr><td>Night-time (23:00 – 07:00 hrs)</td><td>25 – 35 dB $L_{Aeq,1hour}$</td></tr><tr><td>Night-time (23:00 – 07:00 hrs)</td><td>45 – 55 dB L_{Amax}</td></tr></table>	Indoor ambient noise level ranges for hotel bedrooms		Period	Noise level	Daytime (07:00 – 23:00 hrs)	30 – 40 dB $L_{Aeq,1hour}$	Night-time (23:00 – 07:00 hrs)	25 – 35 dB $L_{Aeq,1hour}$	Night-time (23:00 – 07:00 hrs)	45 – 55 dB L_{Amax}
Indoor ambient noise level ranges for hotel bedrooms											
Period	Noise level										
Daytime (07:00 – 23:00 hrs)	30 – 40 dB $L_{Aeq,1hour}$										
Night-time (23:00 – 07:00 hrs)	25 – 35 dB $L_{Aeq,1hour}$										
Night-time (23:00 – 07:00 hrs)	45 – 55 dB L_{Amax}										
<i>NOTE Some hotels may set lower noise levels, depending on location.</i>											

- 5.11 The examples for bedrooms provide a higher tolerance of the upper limit, which is 5 dB higher than the equivalent recommendation shown in Table 5 above.

6.0 NOISE ASSESSMENT & RECOMMENDATIONS

BS4142 assessment

- 6.1 The $L_{Aeq,1hour}$ noise level from the application site has been predicted at the assessment location of the Equestria Barn holiday let.
- 6.2 The predictions take account of attenuation by distance and any acoustic screening. Corrections are also applied for the number of events and on-time over the one-hour assessment period of BS4142. The cumulative noise level has then been determined at the assessment location.
- 6.3 Two scenarios are assessed for the one-hour daytime assessment period of BS4142:
- i. Absolute worst-case: assuming all listed activity occurs in one hour (8 no. staff cars, 4 no. plant collections or drop-offs, and telescopic handler (fork lift truck) manoeuvres over 20 minutes). This scenario of all events occurring in a single hour is not expected to be a realistic one, but has nonetheless been considered for completeness and to provide a robust assessment;
 - ii. More typical worst-case: assuming all of the above but with 2 no. plant collections or drop-offs.
- 6.4 It is noted that predicted activity is limited (as shown in Table 1 and accompanying text above). For the majority of the operating hours, there would be no activity predicted to be taking place at all.
- 6.5 The noise rating level has been calculated, taking account of any acoustic feature corrections. The noise rating level has been compared with the measured background, in accordance with BS4142, to assess likelihood of noise impact.
- 6.6 Detailed noise predictions appear in Appendix IV. A summary of the predictions is shown in Table 6 below.

Table 6: Summary BS4142 assessment to Equestria Barn holiday let, dB (figures rounded)

	Scenario i) Absolute worst-case	Scenario ii) More typical worst-case	Comments
Predicted cumulative L _{Aeq,1hour} noise level	41	38	Cumulative noise level from all activities assumed.
Acoustic feature correction			
Tonal	0	0	Not tonal
Intermittent	+3	+3	Activity is intermittent
Impulsive	0	0	No clear perceptible impulsive noise, distinct from existing ind. units
Other sound characteristics	0	0	No other sound characteristics that are not already present
Rating level	44	41	Specific noise level plus acoustic feature corrections
L _{A90} background sound level	43	43	As measured at Location 1 (assessment location). Excludes periods when activity was taking place on application site to represent true background sound level.
BS4142 assessment result	+1	-2	Background minus rating level
Assessment of impact	At low end of range between 'low' and 'adverse' impact	Below 'low' impact	Depending on the context. The site is adjacent to the larger industrial estate with a number of different industrial uses generating various noise sources. Potential noise sources at application site are similar to those existing from nearby units. Large separation distance with intervening acoustic screening; Application site is not visible from receptor location. Daytime use of application site only and no use at weekends. Holiday let receptor is more likely to be in use at weekends when no works present and may be considered a less noise-sensitive receptor than a permanent place of residence. See further comments in text below.
Notes	Unrealistic scenario	More typical worst-case	

6.7 The BS4142 assessment result is **+1 dB** (scenario i), absolute worst-case) and **-2 dB** (scenario ii), more realistic worst-case).

6.8 Respectively, this indicates a result for scenario i) at the low end of the range **between 'low' and 'adverse'** impact (when BS4142 result is from 0 dB to +5 dB). For scenario ii), the result indicated is **below 'low' impact'** (when BS4142 result is 0 dB).

6.9 The assessment scenarios consider i) the absolute worst-case (pessimistic and unrealistic scenario) and ii) the more realistic worst-case. It is noted that there would be large periods of time when there would be little or no site activity, when the impact will be lower still/negligible.

BS8233 assessment

- 6.10 The BS4142 assessment requires the context to be taken into account when determining the likely noise impact.
- 6.11 Further context to that already shown in Table 6 is provided as follows.
- 6.12 The predicted $L_{Aeq,1hour}$ noise level from the site is 41 dB (for i) absolute worst-case) and 38 dB (for ii) more realistic worst-case) at the assessment location. The predicted levels are both significantly below the existing measured 'background' ambient noise level of 49 dB L_{Aeq} .
- 6.13 This would meet a noise level inside the holiday let accommodation of around 26 dB (scenario i) and 23 dB (scenario ii), even with an open window providing around 15 dB attenuation.
- 6.14 With a closed residential window, the internal noise level would be substantially lower still and at a negligible level.
- 6.15 The desirable daytime L_{Aeq} noise level recommended by BS8233 for habitable rooms (bedrooms and living rooms) of a permanent residence is 35 dB. The predicted noise level inside the holiday let accommodation is therefore comfortably better than the BS8233 recommended level for a permanent residence.
- 6.16 The predicted L_{Aeq} noise level would also comfortably meet the more noise-tolerant example for guest accommodation (non-permanent residence, e.g. hotel, holiday let) recommended by BS8233 of 30-40 dB in Appendix H, with windows closed.
- 6.17 In addition, the predicted daytime L_{Aeq} noise level of 28-31 dB is significantly better than the 50-55 dB range recommended by BS8233 as desirable in gardens.
- 6.18 Further, the nearest residences are located adjacent to a variety of industrial/commercial units, some of which operate over 24 hours and include noise-generating activities (e.g. mechanical services plant at Bluemay Ltd units, movement of stock, road signs at Core Highways unit).
- 6.19 It is noted that the change of use sought has already been in use for a number of years. The client understands that there have been no noise complaints made over this time.

Other residences

- 6.20 The predicted noise level at other residences in the area will be lower than predicted, due to additional attenuation by further distance and further intervening acoustic screening. The background noise level at other residences may also typically be higher due to their closer proximity to road traffic noise sources.
- 6.21 The potential noise impact will therefore be lower than assumed for the most exposed residence (holiday let) considered in the above assessment.

Conclusions

- 6.22 Taking all the above into account, it is concluded that the proposed change of use would have a low impact on residential amenity.
- 6.23 It is recommended that the retrospective planning permission may be granted and conditioned accordingly as necessary.

Appendix I – Noise & vibration units and indices

Sound pressure level and the decibel (dB)

A sound wave is a small fluctuation of atmospheric pressure. The human ear responds to these variations in pressure, producing the sensation of hearing. The ear can detect a very wide range of pressure variations. In order to cope with this wide range of pressure variations, a logarithmic scale is used to convert the values into manageable numbers. Although it might seem unusual to use a logarithmic scale to measure a physical phenomenon, it has been found that human hearing also responds to sound in an approximately logarithmic fashion. The dB (decibel) is the logarithmic unit used to describe sound (or noise) levels. The usual range of sound pressure levels is from 0 dB (threshold of hearing) to 120 dB (threshold of pain).

An increase in noise level of 10 dB(A) is roughly perceived as a doubling of the sound source. A 3 dB(A) change in noise level is generally the minimum perceptible difference.

Frequency and Hertz (Hz)

As well as the loudness of a sound, the frequency content of a sound is also very important. Frequency is a measure of the rate of fluctuation of a sound wave. The unit used is cycles per second, or Hertz (Hz). Sometimes large frequency values are written as kiloHertz (kHz), where 1 kHz = 1000 Hz. Young people with normal hearing can hear frequencies in the range 20 Hz to 20,000 Hz. However, the upper frequency limit gradually reduces as a person gets older.

Glossary of Terms

When a noise level is constant and does not fluctuate over time, it can be described adequately by measuring the dB(A) level. However, when the noise level varies with time, the measured dB(A) level will vary as well. In this case it is therefore not possible to represent the noise climate with a simple dB(A) value. In order to describe noise where the level is continuously varying, a number of other indices, including statistical parameters, are used. The indices used in this report are described below.

L_{Aeq} The A-weighted 'equivalent continuous noise level' which is an average of the total sound energy measured over a specified time period. In other words, L_{Aeq} is the level of a continuous noise which has the same total (A-weighted) energy as the real fluctuating noise, measured over the same time period. It is increasingly being used as the preferred parameter for all forms of environmental noise.

L_{Amax} The maximum A-weighted noise level that was recorded during the monitoring period.

L_{A10} The A-weighted noise level exceeded for 10% of the time period. L_{A10} is commonly used as a descriptor of road traffic noise.

L_{A90} The A-weighted noise level exceeded for 90% of the time period. L_{A90} is used as a measure of background noise.

SEL or L_{AE} Sound exposure level which is the level of sound of 1 second duration, that has the same sound energy as the actual noise event considered.

R_w Weighted sound reduction index. Single number quantity which characterises the airborne sound insulating properties of a material or building element over a range of frequencies as measured in a laboratory.

D_{nT,w} Weighted standardised level difference. Single number quantity that characterises the airborne sound insulation between rooms. This can only be tested and determined *in situ*.

L'_{nT,w} Weighted standardised impact sound pressure level. Single number quantity used to characterise the impact sound insulation of floors over a range of frequencies. This can only be tested and determined *in situ*.

A-weighting

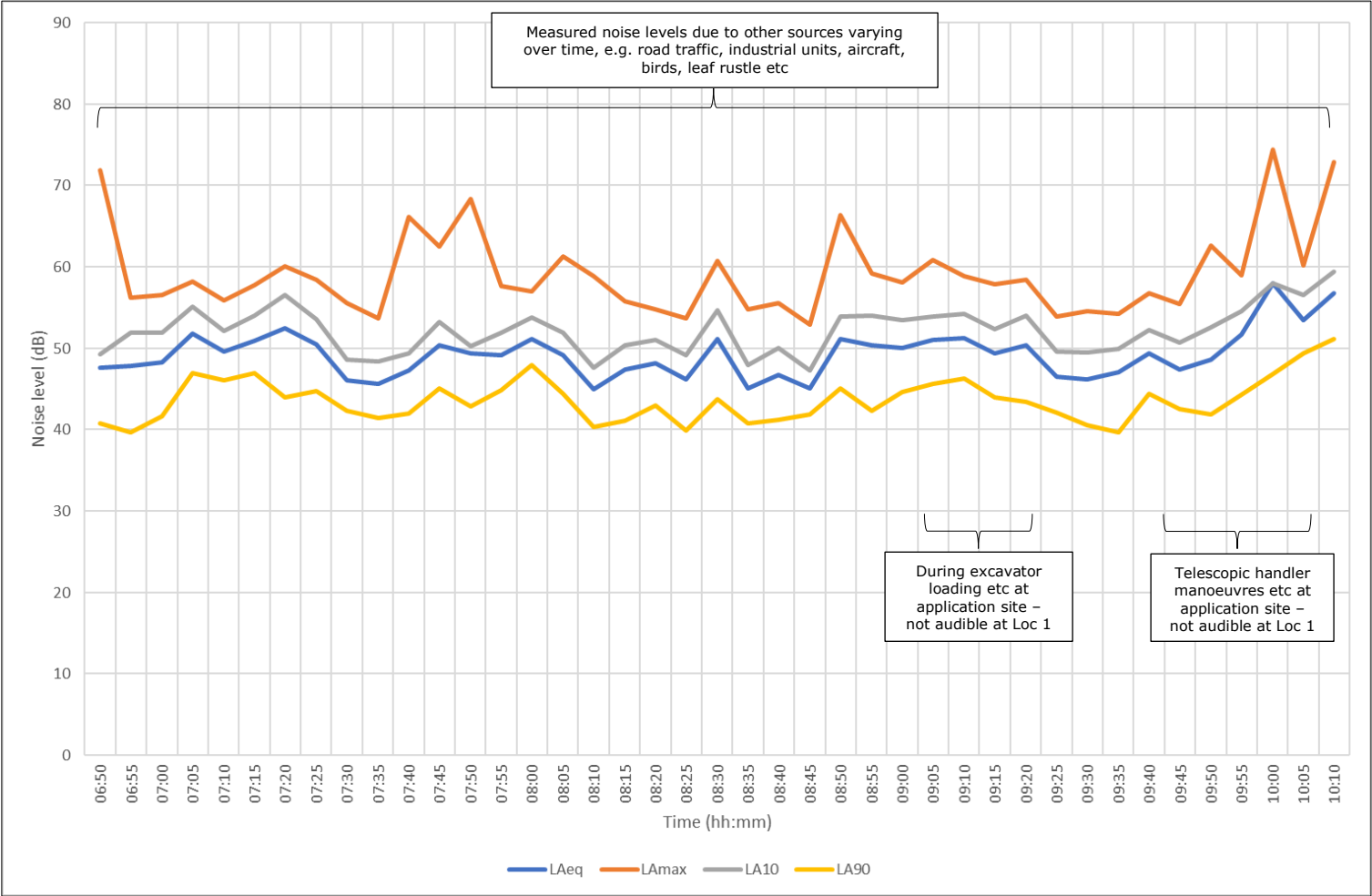
The human ear responds differently to different frequencies of sound. A-weighting is the method of adjusting measured sound pressure levels to take into account human hearing and our uneven frequency response. For example, an A-weighted Leq noise level of 95 dB can be written as either Leq of 95 dB(A) or L_{Aeq} of 95 dB.

Appendix II – Noise survey results

Table A1: Background noise survey – Location 1 (dB)

Start Time	Start Time	LAeq	LAmx	LA10	LA90
14/07/2026 06:50	06:50	47.6	71.8	49.2	40.8
14/07/2026 06:55	06:55	47.8	56.2	51.9	39.7
14/07/2026 07:00	07:00	48.3	56.5	51.9	41.6
14/07/2026 07:05	07:05	51.8	58.2	55.1	46.9
14/07/2026 07:10	07:10	49.6	55.9	52.1	46.0
14/07/2026 07:15	07:15	50.9	57.7	54.0	46.9
14/07/2026 07:20	07:20	52.4	60.0	56.5	44.0
14/07/2026 07:25	07:25	50.5	58.4	53.5	44.7
14/07/2026 07:30	07:30	46.0	55.5	48.6	42.3
14/07/2026 07:35	07:35	45.6	53.7	48.4	41.4
14/07/2026 07:40	07:40	47.3	66.1	49.3	42.0
14/07/2026 07:45	07:45	50.3	62.5	53.2	45.1
14/07/2026 07:50	07:50	49.3	68.3	50.2	42.8
14/07/2026 07:55	07:55	49.1	57.6	51.9	44.8
14/07/2026 08:00	08:00	51.1	57.0	53.8	47.9
14/07/2026 08:05	08:05	49.1	61.3	51.9	44.4
14/07/2026 08:10	08:10	44.9	58.8	47.6	40.3
14/07/2026 08:15	08:15	47.4	55.8	50.3	41.1
14/07/2026 08:20	08:20	48.1	54.8	51.0	42.9
14/07/2026 08:25	08:25	46.1	53.7	49.1	39.9
14/07/2026 08:30	08:30	51.1	60.7	54.6	43.7
14/07/2026 08:35	08:35	45.0	54.8	47.9	40.8
14/07/2026 08:40	08:40	46.7	55.5	50.0	41.2
14/07/2026 08:45	08:45	45.1	52.9	47.3	41.8
14/07/2026 08:50	08:50	51.1	66.3	53.9	45.1
14/07/2026 08:55	08:55	50.3	59.2	54.0	42.3
Excavator loading on application site	14/07/2026 09:00	50.0	58.1	53.4	44.6
	14/07/2026 09:05	51.0	60.8	53.9	45.6
	14/07/2026 09:10	51.2	58.8	54.2	46.3
	14/07/2026 09:15	49.3	57.8	52.3	44.0
	14/07/2026 09:20	50.3	58.4	54.0	43.4
Telescopic handler loading & use on application site	14/07/2026 09:25	46.5	53.9	49.6	42.1
	14/07/2026 09:30	46.2	54.5	49.5	40.5
	14/07/2026 09:35	47.0	54.2	49.9	39.7
	14/07/2026 09:40	49.3	56.7	52.2	44.4
	14/07/2026 09:45	47.4	55.4	50.7	42.5
	14/07/2026 09:50	48.6	62.6	52.6	41.8
	14/07/2026 09:55	51.7	59.0	54.5	44.3
	14/07/2026 10:00	58.0	74.4	57.9	46.8
	14/07/2026 10:05	53.4	60.2	56.5	49.3
	14/07/2026 10:10	56.7	72.8	59.4	51.1
06:50-10:15 hrs	Min	44.9	52.9	47.3	39.7
	Max	58.0	74.4	59.4	51.1
	Mean	50.4	63.9	52.1	43.6
Minus times with site activity	Min	44.9	52.9	47.3	39.7
	Max	52.4	71.8	56.5	47.9
	Mean	49.0	61.7	51.4	42.9

Chart A1: Background noise survey – Location 1 (dB)



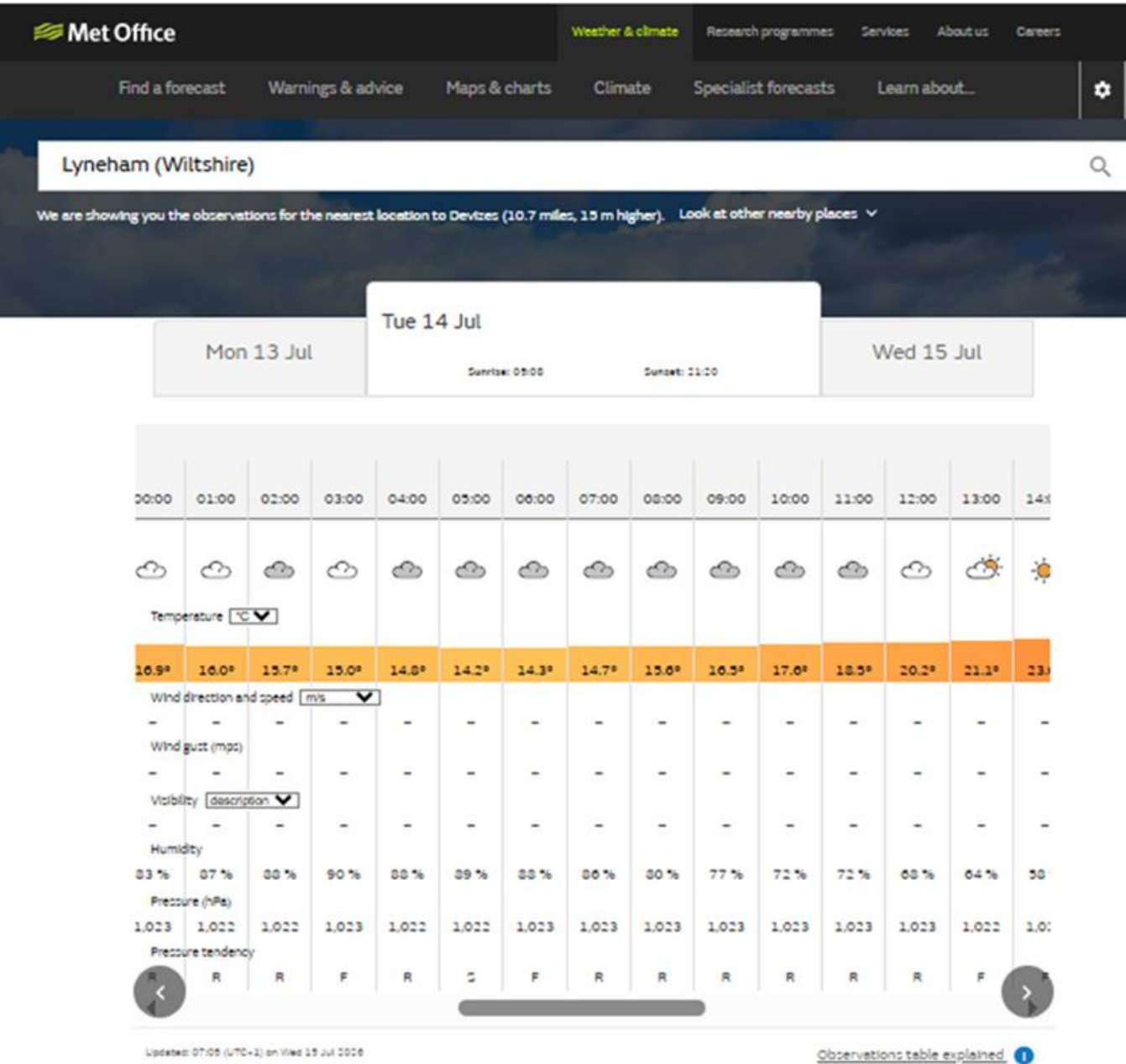
Client:
Coppard Plant Hire Ltd

Site address:
Hillview Farm, Sells Green, SN12 6RS

Table A2: Activities on application site (dB)

Start Time	Meas. Time	LAeq	LAmx	LA10	LA90	Detail	Comments
14/07/2026 08:49	00d 00:00:42.6	55.9	62.8	58.6	48.8	Van arrive & park	3m from drive past, 12m from parking area
14/07/2026 09:00	00d 00:00:35.7	70.5	80.2	76.0	55.8	<u>Excavator loading:</u> Empty flat bed lorry arrival & drive past	4m distance
14/07/2026 09:01	00d 00:02:26.5	69.3	87.2	70.7	65.0	<u>Excavator loading:</u> Excavator tracking onto lorry	4m distance
14/07/2026 09:04	00d 00:00:27.7	65.1	69.5	65.6	64.4	<u>Excavator loading:</u> Flat bed lorry tail lift raise	4m distance
14/07/2026 09:05	00d 00:00:39.8	68.4	77.0	74.3	48.9	<u>Excavator loading:</u> Loaded flat bed lorry departure & drive past	4m distance
14/07/2026 09:14	00d 00:08:46.0	48.8	55.6	51.7	43.8	<u>Excavator unloading:</u> Above steps in reverse order	At Location 1 (Holiday let cottage)
14/07/2026 09:48	00d 00:01:13.3	73.3	89.2	77.0	61.7	<u>Telescopic handler loading:</u> Telescopic handler onto flat bed lorry	3m distance
14/07/2026 09:50	00d 00:00:44.2	65.2	76.7	66.2	60.4	<u>Telescopic handler loading:</u> Flat bed lorry tail lift raise	3m distance
14/07/2026 09:51	00d 00:00:57.8	73.0	79.8	77.5	62.3	<u>Telescopic handler loading:</u> Loaded flat bed lorry reverse/departure	3m distance
14/07/2026 09:55	00d 00:00:35.3	71.2	81.9	74.3	67.4	<u>Telescopic handler site manoeuvres:</u> drive past & loading pallet	2m distance
14/07/2026 09:55	00d 00:00:29.2	67.3	77.6	70.1	62.2	<u>Telescopic handler site manoeuvres:</u> drive past & unloading pallet & reverse bleeper	2m distance
14/07/2026 10:01	00d 00:01:25.2	52.2	58.1	54.9	48.6	<u>Telescopic handler site manoeuvres</u>	At Location 1 (Holiday let cottage)
14/07/2026 10:03	00d 00:01:00.7	47.7	54.2	49.5	44.0	<u>Telescopic handler site manoeuvres</u>	At Location 1 (Holiday let cottage)
	Mean	50.5	56.6	53	46.9	<u>Telescopic handler site manoeuvres</u>	At Location 1 (Holiday let cottage)

Appendix III – Weather survey data



Appendix IV – BS4142 noise predictions

Table A3: BS4142 prediction – Scenario i): worst-case, unrealistic

Detail	Activity					Notes
	Staff car/van manoeuvre	Lorry arrival	Lorry load up/unload	Lorry departure	Plant manoeuvre	
Measured LAeq noise level	55.9	70.5	73.3	73	77	
Reference distance (m)	3	4	3	3	2	
LAeq noise level corrected for 1m distance	61	77	83	78	77	
Number of events/60 mins	8	4	4	4	1	Worst-case assumptions: all 8 no. staff vehicles in one hour; maximum no. of 4 no. plant loading/unloading in same one hour period.
Duration (secs)/60 mins or 3600 secs for each event	43	36	73	58	1300	Plant manoeuvre, assume 20mins/60 mins use
Total duration (secs)/60 mins or 3600 secs	344	144	292	232	1300	
On-time correction	-10	-14	-11	-12	-4	
Distance to residence (m)	139	141	150	141	150	From activity
	Line	Line	Point	Line	Point	Assumed point/line source
Distance attenuation	-21.4	-21.5	-43.5	-21.5	-43.5	Dependent on being point/line source
Acoustic screening attenuation	-5	-5	-5	-5	-5	From intervening buildings etc. Pessimistically low from 'partial line of sight'
LAeq,1hr noise level at residence	24.0	36.0	23.4	39.4	24.3	
Cumulative LAeq,1hr noise level at residence	41.3					
<u>Acoustic feature correction</u>						
Tonality	0					No tonal noise identifiable
Impulsivity	0					No impulsive noise identifiable
Other sound characteristics	0					No other sound characteristics identifiable
Intermittency	3					Noise source is intermittent
Noise rating level	44.3					
LA90 background	42.9					
Difference (BS4142 result)	1.4					Between 'low' and 'adverse' impact, depending on the context

Client:
Coppard Plant Hire Ltd

Site address:
Hillview Farm, Sells Green, SN12 6RS

Table A4: BS4142 prediction – Scenario ii): more realistic worst-case

Detail	Activity					Notes
	Staff car/van manoeuvre	Lorry arrival	Lorry load up/unload	Lorry departure	Plant manoeuvre	
Measured LAeq noise level	55.9	70.5	73.3	73	77	
Reference distance (m)	3	4	3	3	2	
LAeq noise level corrected for 1m distance	61	77	83	78	77	
Number of events/60 mins	8	2	2	2	1	Typical assumptions: all 8 no. staff vehicles in one hour; 2 no. plant loading/unloading in same one hour period.
Duration (secs)/60 mins or 3600 secs for each event	43	36	73	58	1300	Plant manoeuvre, assume 20mins/60 mins use
Total duration (secs)/60 mins or 3600 secs	344	72	146	116	1300	
On-time correction	-10	-17	-14	-15	-4	
Distance to residence (m)	139	141	150	141	150	From activity
	Line	Line	Point	Line	Point	Assumed point/line source
Distance attenuation	-21.4	-21.5	-43.5	-21.5	-43.5	Dependent on being point/line source
Acoustic screening attenuation	-5	-5	-5	-5	-5	From intervening buildings etc. Pessimistically low from 'partial line of sight'
LAeq,1hr noise level at residence	24.0	33.0	20.4	36.4	24.3	
Cumulative LAeq,1hr noise level at residence	38.4					
<u>Acoustic feature correction</u>						
Tonality	0					No tonal noise identifiable
Impulsivity	0					No impulsive noise identifiable
Other sound characteristics	0					No other sound characteristics identifiable
Intermittency	3					Noise source is intermittent
Noise rating level	41.4					
LA90 background	42.9					
Difference (BS4142 result)	-1.5					Lower than 'low' impact, depending on the context

Site address:
Hillview Farm, Sells Green, SN12 6RS

The map displays a site plan with several key areas identified by callouts:

- Equestria Barn holiday let**: Located in the upper left, adjacent to a pond.
- Noise measurement Location 1**: Indicated by a yellow star near the Equestria Barn area.
- Bluemay Ltd**: Situated in the center-left of the map.
- Hillview Farm**: Located to the east of Bluemay Ltd.
- Core Highways**: A network of roads running through the central part of the site.
- Carmatch UK**: Located south of Hillview Farm.
- Large car park**: Situated south of Carmatch UK.
- Coppard Plant Hire main depot**: Located in the lower left, near a road labeled "ROAD".
- Various industrial units**: Located in the lower right quadrant.

A scale bar at the bottom indicates distances from 0 to 100 metres. Grid coordinates are provided along the map's perimeter. A north arrow is positioned in the top right corner.

Site address:
Hillview Farm, Sells Green, SN12 6RS

[illegible]

Figure 3 – Site photos



1: Background noise measurement at Location 1



2: View of site to north-west towards holiday let ~130m behind



3: Example of noise measurement of plant movement