

Construction Site Noise Code



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Noise Control on Construction Sites

1 Purpose of Code

The purpose of this code of practice is to ensure that disturbance due to noise arising from our construction works is kept to an acceptable level without the imposition of unnecessary or unduly onerous restrictions on contractors.

2 General Requirements for Noise Control

- 2.1 Compliance with BS 5228 'Code of practice for noise and vibration control on construction and open sites' is expected as a minimum standard. In all instances where alternative working methods exist the minimisation of noise and vibration shall be a prime consideration in the choice of technique and equipment used.
- 2.2 The contractor is responsible for ensuring that all plant and equipment including any which may be on hire, is well maintained, properly silenced and used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, as required by the above British Standard.
- 2.3 Good relations with people living and working in the vicinity of the site operations are of paramount importance. Local people are to be kept informed of progress and complaints will be treated fairly and expeditiously.

3 Measures to Minimise Noise Disturbance

The need for the following measures should be considered prior to commencement of works:

- Scheduling certain works to more acceptable times of day.
- Use of the most environmentally acceptable plant and equipment which is properly maintained and silenced.
- Use of the least intrusive method of work.
- Proper instruction and supervision of staff.
- Use of mortar silos instead of cement mixers.
- Avoid unnecessary revving of engines and switch off equipment when not required.
- Keep internal haul roads well maintained and avoid steep gradients.
- Minimise drop height of materials.
- Start up plant and vehicles sequentially rather than all together.
- Minimise reversing manoeuvres with one way systems wherever possible.
- Ensure deliveries are during permitted hours of work.

4 Normal Working Hours

As a general rule, where residential occupiers are likely to be affected by noise, it is expected that works of demolition and construction shall be carried out during normal working hours:-

- 08.00 to 18.00 hours Monday to Friday; and
- 08.00 to 13.00 hours on Saturdays: and
- No working on Sundays or Bank Holidays

- 4.1 In areas which are predominantly commercial or industrial and it is likely that the works will adversely affect business operations, these hours may not be appropriate and there may be advantages for works to be carried out outside normal working hours. Often in mixed use areas there will be a need to compromise between the needs of business and residential occupiers.