

DRAFT

WESTMINSTER NOISE ACTION PLAN

*These actions are taken from the Draft Westminster Noise Strategy.
July 2009*

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| Ref | Actions to facilitate planning a better sound environment | Timescale |
|----------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| Pn1 | Develop noise policies for Core Strategy and City Management Plan that reflect the policy approaches in the noise strategy. | 2009/10-2013/14 |
| Pn2 | Develop noise related guidance for inclusion in relevant supplementary planning documents, including site-specific planning briefs. | 2009/10-2013/14 |
| Pn3 | Update planning conditions and informatives where necessary to reflect emerging new evidence on the sound environment and any emerging LDF policy changes. | 2010-11 |
| Pn4 | Continue to require adherence to the Westminster Code of Construction Practice for major development schemes securing this where necessary through planning obligations agreements (section 106). | Ongoing or 2009/10 – 2013/14 |
| Pn5 | Ensure all new school buildings are compliant with Building Bulletin 93 specifications where technically possible. | 2009/10-2010/11 |
| L1 | Propose appropriate noise conditions on new and varied Premises Licence applications. | Ongoing |
| W1 | Include minimising noise nuisance as part of the evaluation criteria for the re-let of the waste and cleansing contract. | New contract 2010-2017 |
| W2 | Promote more separation of recyclables (glass and bottles) from general waste, particularly in the hospitality industry. | 2009/10 |
| Lobbying & Engagement | | |
| Pn6 | Code for Sustainable Homes and subsequent codes to consider noise emissions and set standards for these. | Ongoing or 2009/10 – 2013/14 |
| Pn7 | Lobby to ensure that appropriate planning control is retained over air conditioning in the context of changes to permitted development rights being discussed by the government. | 2009/10 |
| Pn8 | Lobby government to develop stricter building regulations in respect to noise emissions and noise insulation standards. | Ongoing or 2009/10– 2013/14 |
| L2 | Support the London Local Authorities Bill to change the licensing of skips to allow greater conditions to reduce noise (for example, working hours, delivery & collection hours) and enforcement of unlicensed skips. | Ongoing |

| Ref | Actions to facilitate quieter transport and servicing | Timescale |
|-----|---|--------------------------|
| T1 | 'Minimising site noise' to be included as part of the review of how the council's Considerate Builders and Considerate Streetworks schemes relate to mainstream highways and streetworks functions. | March 2010 |
| T2 | Integrate noise management criteria, including encouraging contractors to use electric or hybrid vehicles, in the council's fleet vehicles policy and ensure this is applied. | March 2010 |
| T3 | Share up-to-date information to improve DEFRA road traffic mapping and work in partnership with TfL to identify priorities for potential noise minimisation. | March 2010 |
| T4 | Work with the council's contractors to identify noise minimisation actions that can be introduced to protect noise sensitive developments and tranquil areas. | March 2010 |
| T5 | Integrate noise minimisation considerations into the review of use of road surface materials taking place during 2009/10 for immediate implementation. | April 2010 |
| T6 | Incorporate noise minimisation considerations in the new Value Management Framework for highways which is being developed during 2009/10 for implementation from 2010/11. | March 2010 March 2011 |
| T7 | Implement noise minimisation requirements from the specifications for the re-let of the following contracts: - Highways Maintenance Contract (ends Sept 2010) - Engineering and Transportation Projects Contract (ends 2014). | March 2011 March 2015 |
| T8 | Expand the Electric Vehicle Charging Scheme. | 2010/2014 |
| T9 | Incorporate noise mitigation measures into the council's bid for Local Implementation Plan (LIP) funding for transport in 2010/11 and in 2011/2014. | 2010/11 2011/2014 |
| T10 | Introduce a telematic and diagnostic system in the council's fleet vehicles to help reduce mileage and fuel consumption and promote the use of similar systems by other organisations. | 2009/10 |
| T11 | Provide Safe and Fuel Efficient Driving (SAFED) training to van drivers and subcontractors' drivers. | 2009/10 |
| T12 | Continue monitoring the noise impacts from the implementation of Crossrail and other major infrastructure projects. | Ongoing |
| T13 | Identify noise sensitive businesses, such as sound recording studios, and include their details as part of the Additional Street Data (ASD) that is included in the 'Environmental Sensitivity' category in line with Section 5.7 of the 'Code of Practice for the Coordination of Street Works and Works for Road Purposes and Related Matters (Third Edition)'. | March 2010 |
| T14 | Continue to investigate the feasibility of a retail freight consolidation centre. | March 2010 |
| T15 | Investigating the feasibility of a quiet delivery scheme in Westminster in one of the West End areas where noise from deliveries is a particular issue. | March 2011 |
| T16 | Increase the number of on street cycle stands from 2800 to 3200 and work with TfL to introduce approximately 125 Central London Cycle Hire Scheme docking stations. | Summer 2010 |
| T17 | Deliver free cycle training courses to anyone living, working and studying in the City of Westminster and continue to improve provision of other facilities for cyclists (cycle routes, signage etc). | Ongoing |
| T18 | Deliver further Legible London (pedestrian wayfinding) signs to facilitate journeys by foot. | December 2011 |

| Ref | Actions to facilitate quieter transport and servicing | Timescale |
|------------|---|-------------------|
| T19 | Deliver road safety education and a pedestrian training programme for school children which generates safer walking. | Ongoing |
| | Lobbying | |
| T20 | Respond to consultation on the Mayor's Transport Strategy, incorporating representations about noise including: protocols in relation to roadworks; mitigating noise from the Westway; freight deliveries; tube vent shafts with fans/plant; Volvo buses etc. | May 2009 |
| T21 | Respond to consultations about airport expansion, make representations to ensure there is no increase in noise and highlight the need to adopt quieter aircraft. | As required |
| T22 | Request more detailed monitoring information on flights over Westminster from the Civil Aviation Authority. | March 2010 |
| T23 | Continue to lobby in relation to noise implications of proposed expansion of Heathrow Airport. | Ongoing |
| T24 | Make representations to the Police about impact of noise from helicopters and reinforce the need for pilots to apply guidelines to minimise noise. | March 2010 |
| T25 | Make representations to the Police, the London Fire Brigade and the London Ambulance Service about impact of noise from sirens and explore the potential for siren noise levels to adapt to ambient noise levels. | March 2010 |
| T26 | Support the introduction of a utilities permit scheme, develop noise specific conditions in anticipation of this and agree procedures with the Noise Team for considering applications. (Consultation currently underway on London permit scheme). | Expected end 2009 |
| T27 | Respond to complaints about bus and coach drivers with idling engines. Approach TfL and or the relevant company for assistance if drivers are unwilling to cooperate. | Case by case |

| Ref | Actions to facilitate integrated noise management | Timescale |
|---|--|-------------------------|
| NM1 | Encourage reporting of information on all noise sources (including streetworks and other traffic noise) and set up mechanism to receive information on noise based complaints from partners. | March 2010 |
| NM2 | Review existing guidance, and where necessary produce Westminster specific guidance on preventing and resolving noise nuisance from neighbours, construction projects (small scale and DIY) and entertainment noise. | Minimum 3 by March 2010 |
| NM3 | Promote the use of the Citizen Advice Bureau Licensing Service. | Dec. 2009 |
| NM4 | Train council officers to make appropriate referrals of noise cases (including referrals to health agencies). | June 2009 |
| <i>Neighbour Noise</i> | | |
| NM5 | Develop and maintain an information exchange system on complaints and best practices for neighbour noise nuisance between the Noise Team, CityWest Homes and at least one other RSL. | Sept 2009 |
| NM6 | Extend information exchange system for neighbour noise nuisance to other RSLs in Westminster. (Linked to Action NM5) | March 2011 |
| NM7 | Rolling programme of training/briefing for RSLs and tenants' groups on the implications of research studies and best practice for dealing with noise nuisance. | March 2010 |
| <i>Construction</i> | | |
| NM8 | Brief City Guardians and City Inspectors about the restrictions on hours of working on building sites in the areas of the City with highest level of noise complaints about noise from building sites. | March 2010 |
| NM9 | Develop and implement a strategy for targeting best practice information on minimising noise from construction sites. (Linked to action NM1) | Sept 2010 |
| <i>Streetworks</i> | | |
| T28 | Share information about streetworks with the Noise Team to improve response to noise complaints regarding streetworks. | Started May 2009 |
| <i>Reducing Noise Problems Associated with Entertainment Premises</i> | | |
| L3 | Continue programme of proactive weekend visiting to licensed premises in operation and ensure that the licensing conditions are being complied with. | Ongoing |
| T26 | Encourage and support innovative transport initiatives that help to get people home from the city centre quickly, quietly and safely. | Ongoing |
| NM10 | Collect evidence and target problem private waste contractors on an evidence-led basis. | December 2009 |
| W3 | Brief Noise Team on noise minimisation requirements within the new waste and cleansing contract. | September 2010 |
| <i>Air conditioning</i> | | |
| NM11 | Producing a guidance document on the location of air conditioning units, including reference to quieter rear facades. | March 2010 |
| Lobbying & Engagement | | |
| NM12 | Encourage social and private landlords to upgrade sound insulation as part of any programmed refurbishments in demonstrably problematic properties. | Ongoing |
| NM13 | Develop best practice guide on sound insulation (including guidance on how to reduce noise problems caused by laminate, ceramic or wooden floor coverings) and promote to residents, RSLs, private landlords and large DIY stores. | Sept 2009 |

| Ref | Actions to facilitate protecting and enhancing tranquillity and positive sounds | Timescale |
|------|---|---|
| Pr1 | Identify areas that would benefit from additional protection measures and make specific recommendations. | Ongoing |
| Pr2 | Further develop specific guidance for protecting and enhancing tranquillity in open spaces. This might take the form of a Supplementary Planning Document as part of the council's Local Development Framework. | March 2010 |
| Pr3 | Use techniques from the Westminster Open Spaces Noise Study in Broadley Street Gardens improvements and extend to other programmed improvement projects: Westbourne Green and Stone Wharf. | Broadley St 2009 |
| Pr4 | Continue to specify noise minimisation measures in contracts for the management and maintenance of the council's parks and open spaces in line with the policy approach set out in Noise Policy 4. | Ongoing |
| Pr5 | Develop and implement a three year shrubbery strategy for the council's Parks and Gardens. | Review 2009/10 Implement 2010/13 |
| Pr6 | Develop a sound-based public art feature in one of the city's open spaces (including hard surfaced civic spaces). | To be confirmed |
| Pn9 | Encourage positive sound installations as part of public art provisions, including those funded by planning contributions, and any subsequent development related tariff. | 2009/10- 2013/14 |
| L4 | Use traffic control orders to specify noise related conditions for floats and static sound systems. | As required |
| L5 | Work with Royal Parks to establish more effective communication protocols in relation to events in the Parks. | Summer 2009 |
| L6 | Promote the working practices of communications with Royal Parks when working with other outdoor event organisers. | Ongoing |
| NM14 | Include information on the corporate website about tranquil areas, positive sound features of the city and forthcoming public events that may generate noise. | March 2010 |