



James Hunt
Aspect Consulting

10th November 2022

The Other Place, Pontardawe

Dear James

The following provides a summary of our Noise Abatement Acoustic Advice Report (9771-Rev A).

1. Local Authority Requirement of Noise

Prior to our report and survey, we advised that an agreement of external noise criteria was sought with the Local Authority (LA) to establish a firm base of what the design target criteria was to be.

The LA stipulated that they would want to carry out a subjective assessment of noise from a live band during a noise survey. The LA would then confirm a level that was deemed subjectively acceptable when the music noise level (MNL) was turned down within the event space.

Once the LA and ACL had agreed upon a subjective level, a noise measurement would be taken to obtain the design criteria noise level.

2. Survey & Assessment

The report details the survey undertaken in full.

The assessment undertaken provides two methods to appease the abatement notice:

- Reduce the number of events per year (in line with Code of Practice for Noise at Concerts).
- Undertake structural insulation works to the event space to allow for music as currently operating.

Reducing the number of events

By reducing the number events per year, the report indicates that the MNL could be considered to fall in line with the code of practice. However, this is a further discussion to be had with the LA.

The number of events, as set within the Code, are either 1 to 3, or 4 to 12 events per year. Our measured data shows that the venue could hold up to 12 events per year, operating as they currently are, with no structural noise control measures needed, subject to LA agreement.

The measured data, and our assessment of noise that can escape from the building, indicates that open-mic style nights could also be held for these durations with no structural works undertaken., subject to LA agreement. This would mean that no drums or bass guitars play live within the venue.



A noise limiter would most likely be required to be installed within the venue.

Undertaking structural insulation works

Our measured data shows that, if the venue wished to hold more than 12 events per year, as they were measured at the noise survey (i.e., live band, playing rock music), structural insulation and noise control works would be required.

If the venue wished to play background music for more than 12 events per year, then our data suggests that this could be acceptable in terms of the Code of Practice for Noise at Concerts, subject to LA agreement.

Our full report details the specifications of structural noise control measures required to achieve effective MNL reduction.

3. Background Music

Our assessment of noise that can escape from the building, as it stands, indicates that the internal music noise level could consist of controlled background music typically (including controlled levels of live acoustic guitar or piano for example), subject to LA agreement.

For any high noise generating event (such as the one measured in the survey) the building façade will need to be upgraded as noted above and in our full report.

A noise limiter would most likely be required to be installed within the venue.



4. Partial Insulation Works

If only certain elements of the noted structural insulation works were to be undertaken, the following table provides the predicted external music noise levels, along with the maximum internal music noise levels that could accommodate this.

The Local Authority agreed criteria for the music noise level outside the building is 45dB.

Mitigation Approach	Noise Control Measures Undertaken	Predicted External Level	Maximum Indoor Level*
<i>All</i>	<i>All noted in Initial Report</i>	<i>45 dB</i>	<i>97 dBA</i>
<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>	45 dB	77 dBA*
1	Blocking up Windows and Vents Only	45 dB	81 dBA
2	Blocking up Windows and Vents Only + Upgrading All Lobby and External Doors	45 dB	81 dBA
3	Blocking up Windows and Vents Only + Upgrading All Lobby and External Doors + Proposed Roof/Ceiling Upgrade	45 dB	85 dBA
4a	Blocking up Windows and Vents Only + Upgrading All Lobby and External Doors + Proposed Roof/Ceiling Upgrade + Proposed West & South Wall Linings	45 dB	96 dBA
4b	Blocking up Windows and Vents Only + Upgrading All Lobby and External Doors + Proposed Roof/Ceiling Upgrade + All Proposed Wall Linings	45 dB	97 dBA
5	Blocking up Windows and Vents Only + Upgrading All Lobby and External Doors + All Proposed Wall Linings (i.e., No Roof/Ceiling Upgrade)	45 dB	83 dBA

* The maximum indoor level is subject to façade, ventilation and sound spectrum internally. In some cases a higher (or lower) dBA level maybe permitted and the external limits be met (not met). This is also on the basis the windows and doors are closed at all times.



Frequency noise levels and overall noise levels will differ from band to band. The predicted noise levels are subject to installation and detailing of the noted works.

A noise limiter would most likely be required to be installed within the venue.

Yours sincerely,

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Acoustic Consultant
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