

Technical Memorandum

To: Bill Jennings (JDA)

From: Mike Potts (Echo Acoustics)

CC: Tony Hill (Hologic)

Date: Noise assessment for 24-hour operation of the Hologic facility, Crewe Road, Manchester.

This technical memorandum provides a brief review of the potential noise effects associated with a planning application for 24-hour operation of the Hologic facility at Crewe Road, Wythenshawe, South Manchester. This document is a 'high-level' assessment enabling the application to be validated by the Local Planning Authority, to which subsequent, more detailed, quantitative assessment will be added.

The Crewe Road facility serves as both the UK headquarters of Hologic Ltd, the UK trading company of Hologic Inc, and as a manufacturing and distribution hub for the receipt of raw products/materials, the manufacture of finished product and its onward transmission throughout the UK.

The site is located on the Oaks Business Park, a small industrial estate, with residential housing immediately adjacent the site's boundary to the north, west and south-west of the application site, as indicated in Figure 1.

Figure 1: Application site/facility outline



Currently the facility operates between the hours of 06:00 and 22:00 but the movement of heavy goods vehicles (HGVs) to and from the facility are constrained as follows:

1. Deliveries to or from the building:

- 08:00 to 20:00 Monday to Friday (most deliveries occur up to 16:30 with deliveries after these times occurring very infrequently);
- 09:00 to 12:00 on Saturdays.

There are no deliveries on Sundays and Public Holidays.

In discussion with the Applicant, the following aspects have been confirmed:

1. There will be no change to the hours during which HGVs arrive/depart from the site.
2. Externally mounted plant equipment already operates 24 hours per day; there are no intentions to increase the amount of plant equipment or to change their operational state in any way.
3. Fork lift truck movements between the buildings may change as a result in increased turnover; these are electrically-powered vehicles so engine noise will not be an issue but the rattling of forks and sounding of horns may give rise to offsite noise. This aspect will be studied in detail at a later stage and appropriate mitigation/control measures proposed to ensure the control of noise for neighbouring residents.
4. Offsite noise levels associated with the site's operation, affecting nearby residential areas, will be agreed with the Local Planning Authority. Mitigation measures will be put in place to meet these requirements but, in the event that complaints are received from the neighbours, the causes of the noise will be investigated and mitigated as far as is reasonably practicable.
5. Mitigation/control measures and agreed offsite noise levels will be set out in a site noise management plan (NMP).

Two previous planning applications have been submitted for the site (reference 126686/JO/2020 and 125299/FO/2019). Application 126686/JO/2020 relates to an extension to the northern-most building within the wider site and provides an assessment of noise from a new vehicle turning area and loading bay on the western side of that building; those plans would still be carried forward under this application but there are no plans to materially change any aspect of those proposals due to the increased working hours.

In summary, we conclude that the application can be validated, enabling further detailed assessment of noise during the consultation period, and that noise from the site can be suitably controlled so as to prevent disturbance to the nearby residential areas.