

Noise Impact Assessment: 19 King Street, Manchester, M2 6AW

June 2024

Introduction

This Noise Impact Assessment has been prepared to accompany an application for full planning permission for the replacement of 4 air conditioning units and the installation of 2 louvres to the rear elevation of 19 King Street, Manchester M2 6AW.

Noise Assessment Guidance

It is noted within the Manchester City Council Planning and Noise Technical Guidance (October 2022) that the main reasons for requiring a noise assessment would be if:

- *There is a planning application for a noise sensitive development, such as a residential development, next to or near an existing noise source, such as busy transport route, or an industrial, commercial or recreational land use; or*
- *There is a planning application for a development that has the potential to cause noise disturbance to existing residential or other noise sensitive properties.*

This application proposes the replacement of 4 air conditioning units on the rear elevation of the application site to serve the retail store interior. The site is not located in a noise sensitive location nor do the proposals comprise noise sensitive development.

This document has been provided in order to confirm the acoustic characteristics of the equipment and the measures taken to minimise any noise impact.

Proposed Development

The air conditioning units are proposed to replace the existing units installed on the building. The units will be located in the same location on the rear elevation of the building sited away from neighbouring properties. The building is located in the city centre with commercial and retail properties located close by. The proposed units will have the following noise outputs:

- Sound Pressure High Cooling/Heating dB(A) 54/57
- Sound Power High Cooling/Heating dB(A) 70/74

A data sheet for the units has been provided as part of the planning application.

Noise Impact Assessment

The proposed units are to be positioned at the rear of the property, alongside similar plant equipment that is installed on neighbouring properties. There are no residential or noise sensitive properties in close proximity to the application site. The rear elevation is accessed via Mayo Street which is a narrow side road, due to width of the road here the plant equipment is partially enclosed and there is very limited opportunity for overlooking onto the area of the building where the units will be located. As noted above, there are a number of air conditioning units and similar plant equipment installed along the entirety of the rear elevation of the units along Mayo Street. The proposal is seeking to replace existing equipment at the site, the existing units have been installed for some time and the new units are smaller in size and will operate more efficiently due to their modern design and as reflected in the noise data provided in this assessment.

The units will be wall mounted in the same position to those currently in situ at the site and will only operate during the buildings working hours and will not operate overnight.

As such, there is not considered to be any additional noise outputs as a result of the replacement equipment other than that already experienced at the site and the new units are expected to be significantly quieter than the existing units due to the modern design of the equipment and their operational efficiency.

Conclusion

It is therefore our understanding that there will be no significant noise impact created by the installation of the replacement air conditioning units to the rear of the building. The equipment proposed is a modern replacement of the existing plant equipment, the units will only be operational during working hours and they are sited on the rear elevation of the building alongside other existing equipment, this area is not in direct view from the street scene and is partially enclosed due to the width of the road therefore minimising any noise impact.