Noise and Vibration Mitigation Measures Community Consultation



MMU – Library Transformation Project

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Introduction

This report outlines the proposed Noise, Vibration, and Community Consultation measures to support the safe and considerate delivery of the new All Saints Library for Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU), located on Oxford Road. Following the completion of demolition by others, Kier will begin the main construction phase, including piling attendance, concrete frame erection, and façade works. Given the site's location within an active university campus and its immediate proximity to teaching facilities, commercial premises, and public footpaths, the project demands a robust and proactive approach to environmental management and stakeholder engagement.

Through continued engagement with our specialist supply chain partners, we will develop more detailed construction and environmental control plans, informed by the confirmed plant selections, equipment specifications, and programme dates. As this information is refined, we will work closely with Buro Happold to identify any additional project-specific noise or vibration mitigation measures required. All agreed measures will be fully incorporated into the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP).

1.0 Noise Controls

Following completion of demolition by others and commencement of main works, all subsequent construction activities, including piling attendance, concrete frame erection, and façade installation, will be planned with consideration for noise impacts on the surrounding university environment.

The site sits immediately adjacent to Oxford Road, a major public thoroughfare, and is bordered by active MMU buildings and teaching facilities. These sensitive receptors will be considered throughout all phases of construction.

Local stakeholders including Manchester Metropolitan University estates team, adjacent faculty buildings, and key Oxford Road occupiers, will be informed in advance of planned noisy activities. A community liaison contact will be available throughout the project to respond promptly to any concerns or complaints relating to noise. Regular updates will also be provided to MMU Estates to ensure alignment with academic timetables and peak student-flow periods.

All noisy operations will be restricted to the permitted working hours agreed with Manchester City Council. Temporary acoustic barriers, noise blankets, and localised enclosures will be deployed around high-noise activities such as concrete cutting, and material handling areas. Given the proximity to academic buildings, additional acoustic shielding may be introduced along the Oxford Road elevation to reduce sound propagation towards pedestrian routes and occupied spaces.

Selection of plant, equipment, and construction methodologies will follow the company's environmental procedures and the hierarchy of control, prioritising low-noise alternatives, well-maintained machinery, and equipment fitted with appropriate silencers or noise-reduction features.

The project's noise control measures follow the core principles of prevention and protection, emphasising early planning, proactive monitoring, and swift mitigation. These measures ensure that as the concrete frame progresses, operations remain compliant, respectful of the active academic environment, and aligned with statutory and best-practice standards.

2.0 Vibration Controls

In line with the BURO HAPPOLD Noise and Vibration Mitigation Measures document. Vibration assessment will follow the guidance outlined in BS 7385-1 and BS 5228-2:2009.

During CFA piling works, a comprehensive vibration-monitoring regime will be implemented in full accordance with the requirements set out in the Buro Happold document. This regime will include the installation of vibration monitoring equipment, such as Monitex or equivalent real-time monitoring systems, at pre-defined receptor locations identified during the planning and risk-assessment stages.

These monitoring units will continuously track vibration levels throughout the piling operations. Data will be relayed automatically to a central dashboard, providing live alerts and automated threshold warnings. The system will be configured so that exceedance notifications are sent directly to the Site Manager and Project Management Team, ensuring immediate visibility and enabling rapid intervention if vibration limits approach or exceed the permissible levels.

Weekly reviews of all monitoring data will be undertaken, with records logged, trended, and recorded as part of the project's environmental compliance documentation. Any anomalies, exceedances, or required adjustments to methodology will be captured and addressed through this review process.
The vibration-monitoring regime is designed to:

- Ensure vibration levels remain within the acceptable limits defined in the relevant British Standards and the Buro Happold mitigation guidance.
- Provide assurance that neighbouring structures and assets are protected from potential cosmetic or structural damage.
- Maintain compliance with all health, safety, and environmental obligations, safeguarding both site operations and the surrounding community.

3.0 Community Consultation

Kier is committed to maintaining positive relationships with the surrounding community throughout the construction of the new All Saints Library. Given the site's prominent position on Oxford Road, one of Manchester's busiest academic and commercial corridors, proactive communication and careful coordination with neighbours will be essential to minimising disruption.

3.1 Engagement with Key Stakeholders

- We are committed to ensuring minimal disruption to neighbouring properties, businesses, academic buildings, and the public for the duration of the project.
- Kier will work in close collaboration with Manchester Metropolitan University Estates, Saint Augustine's Church, and local businesses and commercial occupiers along Oxford Road.
- Shop owners, building managers, and campus representatives will be informed of planned activities, deliveries, and any potentially disruptive works well in advance to support their daily operations and minimise impact.

3.2 Minimising Impact on Local Businesses and Campus Activity

- All construction works will be considered and planned to minimise disturbance to nearby businesses and academic functions, including teaching schedules, library operations, and peak pedestrian movement associated with the university.

- Construction methodologies will be selected and designed to minimise noise, vibration, and access disruption as far as reasonably practicable, supporting a safe and accessible environment for students, staff, worshippers at Saint Augustine's, and the wider community.

3.3 Public Safety and Site Security

Communication and Emergency Contact Details. To ensure rapid response to concerns, enquiries, or incidents:

Site Emergency Contact (Working Hours):
Chris Gregory – Project Lead
Tel: 07773 236 537

Out-of-Hours Emergency Contact:
Provsec
Tel: 0151 485 7193

Community Liaison Manager
Jessica Roddy – CLM
Tel: 07522 997 690

Emergency contact information will be prominently displayed at the main site entrance and included in all community communication materials.