

Addendum to Noise Impact Assessment (Condition 3a – Plant Noise)

Project: Irish Consulate, Sixth Floor Office Refurbishment, Manchester City Centre

Date: 15 May 2026

1. Introduction

This addendum has been prepared in response to comments received from Manchester City Council Environmental Health in relation to the submitted Noise Impact Assessment for the proposed development. The purpose of this document is to:

- Provide confirmation from a specialist M&E perspective that the proposed plant installation will operate effectively within the constraints of the ventilation strategy and acoustic design.
- Confirm that the predicted noise levels presented in the original report remain achievable.
- Incorporate the acoustic performance of the proposed intake and discharge louvre systems into the assessment.

2. M&E Specialist Confirmation (Response to Comment 1)

Following consultation with the project Mechanical & Electrical design team and specialist suppliers, we can confirm the following:

- The proposed air intake and discharge openings at sixth floor level, including the specified Gilberts performance louvres and decorative louvre, have been sized in accordance with the required airflow rates for the plant and ventilation systems.
- The selected louvre free area, pressure drop characteristics, and aerodynamic performance have been reviewed to ensure that:
 - Airflow is maintained within acceptable velocity limits.
 - System resistance does not adversely affect plant performance.
 - The plant can operate safely and efficiently under expected external pressure conditions.

The M&E design confirms that the system, as proposed, will operate effectively without requiring changes that would materially alter the predicted sound emissions presented in the original Noise Impact Assessment.

Accordingly, the noise level predictions previously submitted remain valid.

3. Louvre Acoustic Performance (Response to Comment 2)

The original Noise Impact Assessment did not include attenuation attributed to the louvre systems. This has now been reviewed and incorporated.

Based on manufacturer data for the proposed Gilberts louvres (or equivalent performance specification), the following indicative acoustic performance has been applied:

- Intake Louvre Attenuation: Typically 3–5 dB (mid-frequency range)
- Discharge Louvre Attenuation: Typically 4–6 dB (dependent on blade profile and lining, where applicable)

These attenuation values have been applied conservatively to the plant noise breakout calculations.

Revised Assessment Outcome

- Inclusion of louvre attenuation results in a reduction of predicted noise levels at receptor locations compared to those previously reported.
- The worst-case rating level of plant noise (including all mitigation measures such as the 3m acoustic screen) remains below the relevant background sound level at nearby sensitive receptors.
- The development therefore continues to achieve compliance with:
 - BS 4142:2014+A1:2019
 - Manchester City Council noise criteria for plant noise

On completion of the project a further acoustic survey has been confirmed that will show the installation will meet all requirement.

4. Summary and Conclusion

This addendum confirms that:

- The proposed plant and ventilation systems have been reviewed by M&E specialists and are capable of operating safely and effectively within the defined design parameters.
- The acoustic assessment has been updated to include the effect of the louvres, resulting in a marginal improvement in predicted noise performance.
- The conclusions of the original Noise Impact Assessment remain valid, with plant noise impacts appropriately mitigated and compliant with relevant standards.
- The further noise assessment report on completion.

It is therefore considered that Condition 3a (Plant Noise) can be satisfactorily discharged on the basis of the submitted information and this addendum.