

RE: Glyndwr uni, Plas Coch Road - Ref: P/2018/0671 - noise surveys



You replied on Thu 15/07/2021 11:20

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MP

Mike Potts <mike@echoacoustics.co.uk>

Fri 11/06/2021 09:09

To: Toby Zorn

Cc: Ian1 Jones; Robert Johnston; Steve Jones

Toby,

For information I attended site yesterday evening - the sports pitch was in use for two 5-a-side games which enabled an hour's data gathering between 20:00 and 21:00 - games finished at 21:05 after which I let the meter run until 22:00.

I then installed the meter adjacent Plas Coch Road and it will remain in place until Monday, recording continuous consecutive 15-minute (and 1-second) noise data.

By 22:00 pretty much everything seemed closed up - the Plas Coch pub/restaurant was open early in the evening but was closed by 22:00. I drove through the town centre and there was a pub and McDonald's operating; I saw around a dozen people in total in the town centre so it seemed very quiet - not sure if this is normal for Wrexham.

Train noise was audible but didn't affect the measured data close to the sports pitches - main noise late in the evening was the A483 and occasional local traffic.

Have a good weekend,

Mike Potts MIOA

Acoustic Consultant

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From: Toby Zorn [mailto:Toby.Zorn@wrexham.gov.uk]

Sent: 08 June 2021 17:39

To: Mike Potts <mike@echoacoustics.co.uk>

Cc: Ian1 Jones <Ian1.Jones@wrexham.gov.uk>; Robert Johnston <Robert.Johnston@wrexham.gov.uk>; Steve Jones <dsjonesandco@live.co.uk>

Subject: RE: Glyndwr uni, Plas Coch Road - Ref: P/2018/0671

Hi Mike

Please see my comments highlighted with your text.

Best regards, Toby Zorn

From: Mike Potts <mike@echoacoustics.co.uk>

Sent: 08 June 2021 11:04

To: Toby Zorn <Toby.Zorn@wrexham.gov.uk>

Cc: Ian1 Jones <ian1.Jones@wrexham.gov.uk>; Robert Johnston <Robert.Johnston@wrexham.gov.uk>; Steve Jones <dsjonesandco@live.co.uk>

Subject: RE: Glyndwr uni, Plas Coch Road - Ref: P/2018/0671

Good morning Toby,

Many thanks for your response. Now that pandemic-related conditions are easing some of my previous queries to Ian (see the first e-mail in this chain) have resolved themselves.

However, there are potentially 3 issues we could do with discussing/agreeing:

1. The condition requires assessment of day and night time traffic noise; night time noise is still substantially reduced due to their being no significant night time economy at the moment. Consequently, night time measurement data would be unreliable or unrepresentative; would you be agreeable to setting a night time ambient noise level 10 dB below the measured day time level (yet to be determined); this is a generally accepted and relatively reliable assumption for 'typical' urban/town centre areas?

While I understand your comment I would still like to see the night time traffic monitoring carried out to assess if there is still a substantial ambient noise reduction attributable to the close down of the night time economy. I would recommend that a number of observations be carried out of nearby night time economy businesses to assess the degree of activity. However if Wales is subject to a further lock down of night time venues, before the survey is carried out, I would accept the 10 dB adjustment.

2. The railway is 150m away with intervening residential buildings and roads, and is downwind most of the time; is assessment of this really necessary? It seems somewhat overly-stringent.

Yes I would agree that the distance, intervening buildings and situation of the railway (in a depression) is likely to make any noise impact on the development very low. As such I am content to accept assessment of railway noise as unnecessary.

3. I'm not sure what the status of the all-weather pitch adjacent the site is at the moment; as per my initial e-mail, in the event that the pitch is not in use, can we assume/agree it will be noisy at times due to shouting and ball-impact noise and put in recommendations for noise barriers? There are defined 'acceptable' noise levels for sports facilities (55 dB LAeq,1h) but they're not that useful as they're 1-hour broadband noise levels and don't reflect the noise of shouting etc.

I have my doubts about the effectiveness of noise barriers for this application and would instead recommend that bedroom windows (only those that directly face the sports pitch) in blocks D to G have acoustic double glazing installed, with acoustic ventilation louvres. Another possible measure

is to employ noise reduction systems into the surrounding fencing e.g. <https://www.zaun.co.uk/sports-muga-fencing/muga-noise-reduction-using-epdm-inserts/> as ball impact is quite significant and impossible to control. This system <https://www.noiseair.co.uk/acoustic-barrier-for-sports-pitches/> may also provide a ball impact and shouting noise reduction. I don't have any experience of these two systems so more research would obviously be necessary to examine if they are appropriate for this development.

I would appreciate your thoughts on the above so that I can progress the noise assessment.

many thanks

Mike Potts

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