

Document reference: AC20144.01.00

5 Broadwater West Worthing, BN14 9AA

Noise Impact Assessment

March 2025

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ii. Document History

Document Ref	Rev	Description	Date	Created By	Authorised By
AC20144.01.00	0	Noise Impact Assessment	04/03/25	BG	DG

This report presents the acoustic consultancy services undertaken for the client by Trace Surveys Ltd (Trace). This has been based on the defined program of works and relevant terms and conditions agreed upon with the Client. The report has been prepared with all reasonable skill, care, and diligence within the terms of the Contract and the agreed scope of work. Trace accepts no responsibility whatsoever, following the issue of the report, for any matters arising outside the agreed scope of the works.

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iii. Credentials

Acoustic survey and assessments were undertaken by Ben Groves BSc (Hons) MSc MIOA. Ben has been involved with acoustic consultancy for over ten years and has a Masters degree in environmental acoustics and is a corporate member of the Institute of Acoustics (MIOA).

The report was authorised by David Gnanaseharam BSc (Hons) MSc MIOA. David has been involved with acoustic consultancy (including sound insulation testing and noise impact assessments) for over fifteen years and has a Masters degree in Acoustics from the University of Surrey and is a corporate member of the Institute of Acoustics (MIOA).

In addition, they are both is fully accredited under the Sound Insulation Testing and Measurement Association (SITMA) scheme. SITMA is a professional association for the Acoustic Consultancy industry and operates a registered testers scheme providing 3rd party accreditation to testing companies, ensuring that all companies operate to a high standard.

SITMA also holds UKAS Accreditation to ISO 17024:2012.

1. Introduction

Trace has been appointed by Ganco Assets to provide acoustic consultancy services to assist in developing a residential property at 5 Broadwater Road, West Worthing (The Property).

An assessment is required at The Property to establish the suitability of the land for residential development. In this report, external noise levels impinging upon the property will be measured and used to assess the impact on prospective residents. These noise levels will be used to establish the need for acousticly rated façade elements and will dictate the requirement for mechanical ventilation in the event that passive systems may lead to excessive internal ambient noise levels, in accordance with national standards.

The focus of this assessment will be the loft area of The Property, which is proposed to be converted into a residential unit.

2. Relevant Standards and Guidance

The primary standards used in the preparation of this document are as follows:

- British Standard (BS) 7445: 2003 *Part 1 Description and measurement of environmental noise. Guide to quantities and procedures*
- British Standard (BS) 8233:2014 *Guidance on sound insulation and noise reduction for buildings*
- Noise Policy Statement for England (NPSE)
- Professional Practice Guidance on Planning & Noise (ProPG)

3. Site Description

3.1. Site Description

The Property is in the administrative region of Worthing Borough Council. The area immediately around The Property is predominantly commercial with local shops bars, and restaurants along Broadwater Road. The local noise climate is dominated by noise from traffic on Broadwater Road.

Two long-term monitoring positions have been established to capture the noise impact of both Broadwater Road and commercial activities at the rear of the property. These locations, and the area surrounding The Property, can be seen in Figure 3.1.



Figure 3.1: Site location

4. Environmental Noise Survey

4.1. Survey Details

An unattended acoustic survey was carried out by Trace between 14:00 on Tuesday, 11 February, and 14:00 on Wednesday, 10 February 2025. One microphone was located on the façade of a property on the opposite side of Broadwater Road, while the other was positioned to the rear of The Property.

The survey aimed to establish the prevailing noise levels surrounding the site. In particular, noise levels representative of the worst effect façade of The Property will be used to verify the required acoustic performance of façade building elements.

The sound level meters were set to log and store consecutive 15-minute L_{Aeq}, L_{Amax}, and L_{A90} sound levels. During the noise survey, the microphone was protected with a windshield and positioned at first-floor level overlooking Broadwater Road. Measurements were undertaken in general accordance with BS 7445-2:2003 *'Description and measurement of environmental noise – Part 2: Guide to the acquisition of data pertinent to land use'*. Levels have been measured in free-field conditions and are expected to be representative of the worst affected façades.

Weather conditions during the day survey were generally cold and overcast; however, there was no precipitation for the 24-hour duration of the survey. The wind speeds varied but were less than 5m/s. Weather is not expected to have had a detrimental effect on the collection of acoustical data.

The sound level meters had calibration checks before and after the measurement surveys to generate a calibration level of 94 dB at 1 kHz. The equipment calibration was verified before and after the survey and no significant calibration drift was observed (<0.5dB). The microphone was fitted with a windshield. The sound level meter used during the survey was compliant with the Class 1 standard as required by BS EN 61672-1:2013 *Electroacoustics. Sound level meters. Specifications*. This is the most scientifically accurate form of sound level meter that is available.

The equipment used is shown in Table 4.1 and Table 4.2.

Description	Name	Serial Number	Calibration Due
Sound Level Meter	Svantek 971	154221	06/01/2026
Calibrator	Rion NC-75	34935217	01/12/2025

Table 4.1 – Equipment Details Location 1

Description	Name	Serial Number	Calibration Due
Sound Level Meter	Norsonic 131	1312729	18/11/2026
Calibrator	Rion NC-75	34935217	01/12/2025

Table 4.2 – Equipment Details Location 2

All noise equipment has been calibrated to traceable standards within the preceding two years and the acoustic calibrator within the preceding 12 months. Calibration certificates for all equipment used in the survey are available upon request.

4.2. Survey Results

The results of the unattended survey are presented in Table 4.4 below. The L_{A90} background sound level has been established using the most commonly occurring $L_{A90,15min}$ sound level during nighttime, and the most commonly occurring $L_{A90,1hr}$ period during the daytime. The L_{Amax} level is the 90th percentile of the measured $L_{Amax,15min}$ sound levels over the full monitoring period. $L_{Aeq,15minute}$ sound levels have been logarithmically averaged to provide full daytime (16 hour) and nighttime (8 hour) sound levels.

	Measured Noise Levels (dB re 2.0 x 10^{-5} Pa)			
Measurement period	**L_{Aeq}**	**L_{Afmax}**	**L_{A10}**	**L_{A90}**
Daytime (07:00 - 23:00)	55	80	56	49
Night-time (23:00 - 07:00)	51	71	52	42

Table 4.3 Summary of measurement results Location 1

	Measured Noise Levels (dB re 2.0 x 10^{-5} Pa)			
Measurement period	**L_{Aeq}**	**L_{Afmax}**	**L_{A10}**	**L_{A90}**
Daytime (07:00 - 23:00)	69	95	71	62
Night-time (23:00 - 07:00)	63	80	61	32

Table 4.4 Summary of measurement results Location 2 (Broadwater Road)

At the rear of The Property the prevailing daytime $L_{Aeq,16hour}$ sound level has been measured to be 55 dB. The nighttime sound level impacting the property was measured to be 51 dB $L_{Aeq,8hr}$ while nighttime typical maximum sound levels were 80 dB $L_{Amax,15min}$

As shown in Table 4.2 the prevailing daytime $L_{Aeq,16hour}$ sound level at the front of The Property has been measured to be 69 dB. The nighttime sound level impacting the property was measured to be 63 dB $L_{Aeq,8hr}$ while nighttime typical maximum sound levels were 80 dB $L_{Amax,15min}$

4.3. Façade Noise Levels

Based on the measurements and calculations above, the following octave band sound levels will be used to specify façade building elements. The levels below are expected to be representative of the worst affected façades.

Measurement period	**Octave Band Centre Frequency (Hz)**								**dB**	
	63	125	250	500	1k	2k	4k	8k	**L_{Aeq}**	**L_{Afmax}**
Daytime $L_{Aeq, 16hrs}$ (07:00-23:00)	70	64	59	61	66	63	56	50	69	N/A
Night-time $L_{Aeq, 8hrs}$ (23:00-07:00)	65	56	55	56	60	57	48	43	63	80

Table 4.5 Noise data to be used in façade sound insulation assessments rear façade

5. Project criteria

5.1. External Façade Requirements

British Standard 8233:2014 *Guidance on sound insulation and noise reduction for buildings* (BS8233:2014) provides guidance on the acceptable levels of noise within buildings of different types, these levels are based on World Health Organisation (WHO) guidelines.

In the case of residential developments, BS 8233:2014 recommends ambient noise levels in living accommodations. The document states that "*in general, for steady external noise sources, the internal ambient noise level shouldn't exceed the guideline values…"* recommendations from BS8233 are reproduced in Table 5.1 below.

Activity	Location	Day-time 07:00-23:00	Night-time 23:00-07:00
Resting	Living room	35 dB $L_{Aeq, 16hour}$	-
Dining	Dining room/area	40 dB $L_{Aeq, 16hour}$	-
Sleeping (daytime resting)	Bedroom	35 dB $L_{Aeq, 16hour}$	30 dB $L_{Aeq, 8hour}$

Table 5.1 Indoor ambient noise levels for dwellings

A specific maximum L_{AFmax} value is not given by BS 8233:2014. Based on commonly applied criteria, we propose that for bedrooms at night, individual noise events should not normally exceed 45 dB L_{AFmax}.

6. External Façade Assessments

6.1. External Noise Levels – Level 1 Assessment

This section provides an assessment of the suitability of the site for residential use with respect to noise.

The Association of Noise Consultants and the Institute of Acoustics have produced a residential design guide relating to acoustics ventilation and overheating. To complete an initial site risk assessment externally measured free field sound levels can be assessed using Figure 6.1.

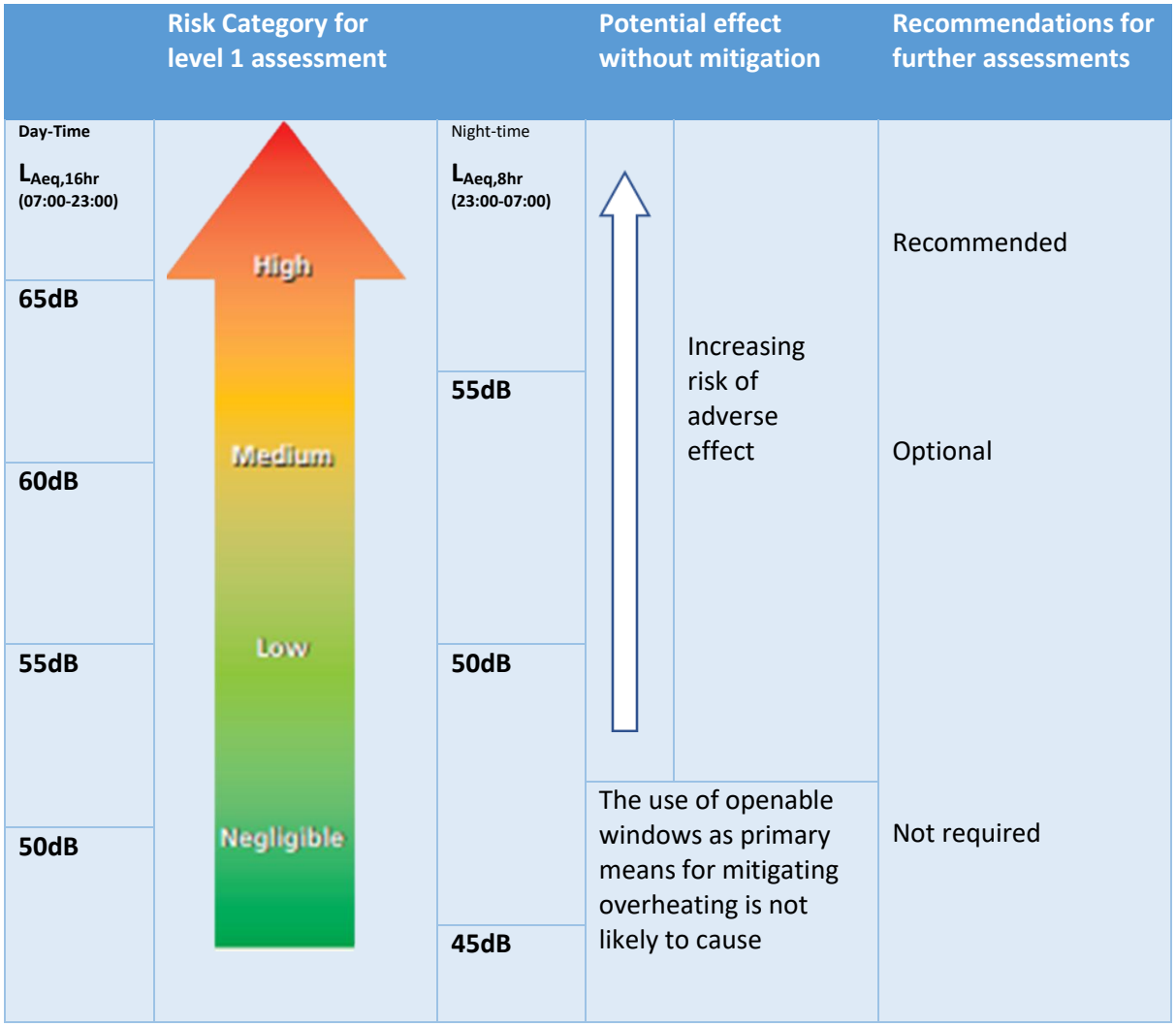


Figure 6.1 Guidance for level 1 site risk assessment

Based on the measured sound levels presented in Section 3 a level 1 risk assessment can be completed. It can be seen that noise levels impinging on the façade of the proposed development present a high risk of noise resulting in an adverse effect.

6.2. Façade (and Glazing) specification

Using the façade noise levels, presented in Table 4.5, calculations have been completed to allow the selection of both glazing and ventilation for the whole development. The calculations consider the free-field equivalent sound level, the sound reduction index of the glazing and ventilation elements, the sound reduction of the façade, and the internal acoustics of a typical domestic room. Based on these calculations in Appendix B of this report, façade elements and ventilation can be specified.

It is assumed that the non-glazed areas of any façade systems may incorporate sufficient acoustic treatment such that the glazing remains the weakest path for external noise intrusion. As such, the acoustic performance of the glazing will be the most critical element in determining the overall sound insulation performance of the external façade.

Broadwater Façade

Table 6.1 presents the sound insulation performance specifications recommended for elements of the external building fabric system for all room types on the Broadwater Road façade. Typical constructions that achieve the internal ambient noise criteria in BS8233:2014 are also provided.

Façade Element	Living rooms and Bedrooms	
	Sound Insulation Performance, dB R_w	**Example Constructions**
External wall Fabric	50	Brick and block external wall (BS8233 - 2014)
Glazing	35	10/6/4 Glazing Pilikington
These values have been based on: Ventilation – System 4 mechanical ventilation Living room - 100m^3 room volume with 15m^2 external façade and a 1.5m^2 window. Calculations were carried out using a reverberation time (RT60) of 0.5 seconds across all frequency bands.		

Table 6.1 Building envelope proposed construction – Broadwater Façade Façade

As can be seen from Table 6.1, to meet the requirements of BS8233:2014, a glazing system achieving a rating of not less than R_w 35 dB will be required on the façade overlooking Broadwater Road.

The ventilation requirements of Approved Document F will need to be satisfied via mechanical ventilation, as a passive strategy is likely to lead to unacceptable internal noise levels.

Rear Façade

As the rear façade is screened from the main road, standard double glazed units e.g. 4/6/4 Pilkingotn Glazing will be sufficient to protect the residential amenity of The Property..

7. Conclusions

Trace has been appointed by Ganco Assets to provide acoustic consultancy services to assist in developing residential property at 5 Broadwater Road, West Worthing (The Property).

An assessment is required at The Property to establish the suitability of using the top floor/loft area of The Property for residential development. In particular, in this report, external noise levels impinging upon the property have been measured and used to assess the impact on prospective residents. These noise levels have been used to establish the need for acoustically-rated façade elements. The requirement for mechanical ventilation has been identified to prevent excessive internal ambient noise levels, per national standards.

An unattended acoustic survey was carried out by Trace between 14:00 on Tuesday 11 February, and 14:00 on Wednesday, 12 February 2025. The prevailing daytime $L_{Aeq,16hour}$ sound level on the worst affected façade of The Property has been measured to be 69 dB. The nighttime sound level impacting the property on the Broadwater Road façade was measured to be 63 dB $L_{Aeq,8hr}$ while nighttime typical maximum sound levels were 80 dB $L_{Amax,15min}$

As can be seen from Table 6.1 to meet the requirements of BS8233:2014 within properties overlooking Broadwater Road, a glazing system achieving a rating of not less than R_w 35 dB will be required. For example a 10/6/4 Glazing Pilikington glazing system. Measurements to the rear suggest that simple double glazed units for example 4/6/4 Pilkington Glazing, will be sufficient.

To mitigate against the impact of nearby commercial activities during summer months, e.g. local beer gardens, it is recommended that the ventilation requirements of Approved Document F be satisfied with the use of mechanical ventilation.

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Appendix A Figures



Figure A.1 Survey Results Rear Façade

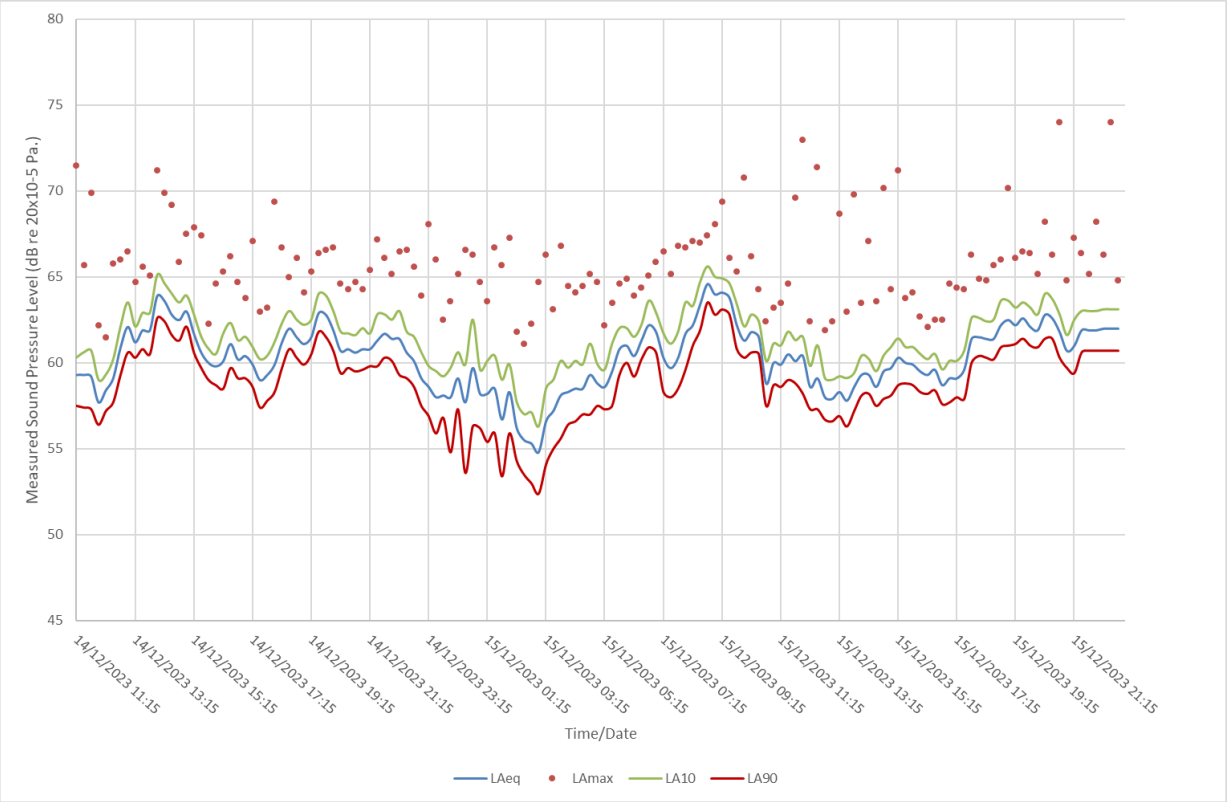


Figure A.2 Survey Results Broadwater Façade

Appendix B Tables

Project	5 Broadwater Road	Date	4-Mar-2024
Façade	Broadwater Road	By	BG
Room	All	Checked	DG

Symbol	Description	Ref	Units	Single Figure Rating	Octace Band Centre Frequency, Hz				
					125	250	500	1000	2000
S_f	Total façade area of room		m^2	15.0					
S_{wi}	Area of windows in façade		m^2	3.0					
S_{ew}	Area of external wall in façade		m^2	12.0					
S_{rr}	Area of ceiling exposed to external noise		m^2	0.0					
S	Total area of elements through which sound enters room		m^2	15.0					
A_0	Reference absorption area given in BS EN 20140-10		m^2	10.0					
	A-weighted free-field equivilent sound pressure level at measurement position		dB						
	Total propogation and angle of view correction from measurement to façade		dB	0.0					
$L_{Aq,ff}$	A-weighted free-field equivilent sound pressure level outside façade		dB	**69.0**					
$L_{TRAFFIC}$	Normalised road traffic noise spectrum derived from BS1793-3		dB						
$L_{eq,ff}$	Linear free-field equivilent sound pressure level outside façade		dB	**72.4**	**66**	**62**	**64**	**68**	**65**
$D_{n,e}$	Brick and block external wall (BS8233 - 2014)	9	dB		40	44	45	51	56
R_{wi}	Sound reduction index of windows - 10/6/4 Glazing Pilikington	115	dB		24	21	32	39	42
R_{ew}	Sound reduction index of the external wall - Brick and block external wall (BS82	9	dB		40	44	45	51	56
R_{rr}	Sound reduction index of the roof/ceiling	94	dB		28	34	40	45	49
α	Room average alpha co-efficients (acoustically hard room)		-						
S_{room}	Room surface area		m2						
A	Equivilent absorption area of room		m^2		9	9	9	9	9
$L_{eq,2}$	Linear Internal reverberant sound pressure level in room		dB	43.4	41	39	31	29	23
	A-weighting Network				-16	-9	-3	0	1
$L_{eq,3}$	A-weighted internal reverberant sound pressure level in room		dB(A)	34.6	24.8	29.8	28.1	28.8	23.7
	Internal Criteria		dB(A)	**35.0**					
	Excess over criteria		dB(A)						

Table B.1 Daytime internal ambient sound levels

Project	5 Broadwater Road	Date	4-Mar-2024
Façade	Broadwater Road	By	BG
Room	All	Checked	DG

Symbol	Description	Ref	Units	Single Figure Rating	Octace Band Centre Frequency, Hz				
					125	250	500	1000	2000
S_f	Total façade area of room		m^2	12.0					
S_{wi}	Area of windows in façade		m^2	4.0					
S_{ew}	Area of external wall in façade		m^2	8.0					
S_{rr}	Area of ceiling exposed to external noise		m^2	0.0					
S	Total area of elements through which sound enters room		m^2	12.0					
A_0	Reference absorption area given in BS EN 20140-10		m^2	10.0					
	A-weighted free-field equivilent sound pressure level at measurement position		dB						
	Total propogation and angle of view correction from measurement to façade		dB	0.0					
$L_{Aq,ff}$	A-weighted free-field equivilent sound pressure level outside façade		dB	**63.0**					
$L_{TRAFFIC}$	Normalised road traffic noise spectrum derived from BS1793-3		dB						
$L_{eq,ff}$	Linear free-field equivilent sound pressure level outside façade		dB	**64.0**	**56**	**55**	**56**	**60**	**57**
$D_{n,e}$	Brick and block external wall (BS8233 - 2014)	9	dB		40	44	45	51	56
R_{wi}	Sound reduction index of windows - 10/6/4 Glazing Pilikington	115	dB		24	21	32	39	42
R_{ew}	Sound reduction index of the external wall - Brick and block external wall (BS82	9	dB		40	44	45	51	56
R_{rr}	Sound reduction index of the roof/ceiling	94	dB		28	34	40	45	49
α	Room average alpha co-efficients (acoustically hard room)		-						
S_{room}	Room surface area		m2						
A	Equivilent absorption area of room		m^2		9	9	9	9	9
$L_{eq,2}$	Linear Internal reverberant sound pressure level in room		dB	36.3	32	34	24	22	15
	A-weighting Network				-16	-9	-3	0	1
$L_{eq,3}$	A-weighted internal reverberant sound pressure level in room		dB(A)	28.0	15.9	24.5	21.3	21.5	16.1
	Internal Criteria		dB(A)	**30.0**					
	Excess over criteria		dB(A)						

Table B.2 Nighttime internal ambient sound levels

Project	5 Broadwater Road					Date		4-Mar-2024	
Façade	Broadwater Road					By		AF	
Room	Living Room					Checked		DG	

Symbol	Description	Ref	Units	Single Figure Rating					
S_f	Total façade area of room		m^2	12.0					
S_{wi}	Area of windows in façade		m^2	4.0					
S_{ew}	Area of external wall in façade		m^2	8.0					
S_{rr}	Area of ceiling exposed to external noise		m^2	0.0					
S	Total area of elements through which sound enters room		m^2	12.0					
A_0	Reference absorption area given in BS EN 20140-10		m^2	10.0					
	A-weighted free-field equivilent sound pressure level at measurement position		dB						
	Total propogation and angle of view correction from measurement to façade		dB	0.0	Octace Band Centre Frequency, Hz				
$L_{Aq,ff}$	A-weighted free-field equivilent sound pressure level outside façade		dB	**82.0**	**125**	**250**	**500**	**1000**	**2000**
$L_{TRAFFIC}$	Normalised road traffic noise spectrum derived from BS1793-3		dB						
$L_{eq,ff}$	Linear free-field equivilent sound pressure level outside façade		dB	**81.2**	**73**	**72**	**73**	**77**	**74**
$D_{n,e}$	Brick and block external wall (BS8233 - 2014)	9	dB		40	44	45	51	56
R_{wi}	Sound reduction index of windows - 10/6/4 Glazing Pilikington	115	dB		24	21	32	39	42
R_{ew}	Sound reduction index of the external wall - Brick and block external wall (BS82	9	dB		40	44	45	51	56
R_{rr}	Sound reduction index of the roof/ceiling	94	dB		28	34	40	45	49
α	Room average alpha co-efficients (acoustically hard room)		-						
S_{room}	Room surface area		m2						
A	Equivilent absorption area of room		m^2		9	9	9	9	9
$L_{eq,2}$	Linear Internal reverberant sound pressure level in room		dB	53.3	49	51	41	39	32
	A-weighting Network				-16	-9	-3	0	1
$L_{eq,3}$	A-weighted internal reverberant sound pressure level in room		dB(A)	45.0	32.9	41.5	38.3	38.5	33.1
	Internal Criteria		dB(A)	**45.0**					
	Excess over criteria		dB(A)	**0.0**					

Table B.3 Nighttime internal L_{Amax} Levels