

Noise (see also Chapters 11, 13 and 14)

6.7 Noise has the capacity to irritate, annoy, interrupt sleep, increase stress, disrupt concentration and even to damage one's health. The sources of noise in the Borough are widespread and they often have a major impact on the local environment. Where necessary, the Council will use its powers under relevant legislation to deal with noise from neighbours, industrial and trade processes and installations, construction sites, mineral workings and other associated activities such as ready mix concrete operations, waste disposal and processing and sporting, recreation and entertainment activities. To minimise the adverse impact of noise pollution, noise sources are categorised in terms of their noise levels, as set out in Planning Policy Guidance PPG 24: Planning and Noise, (September 1994). As far as possible, noise sensitive developments should be sited in areas where noise exposure from existing sources, as detailed in PPG 24, is not considered to be significant. Where this is not achievable, effective sound insulation schemes are required to mitigate the effect of noise. Under the Town and Country Planning (Applications) Regulations 1988, the LPA may require a developer to provide an acoustic assessment of the impact the proposed development may have on the locality. For noise sensitive development, an acoustic assessment of the existing ambient noise levels may be required. The Local Planning Authority will use its power to ensure that new developments which have the potential to cause noise nuisance are appropriately located and incorporate measures to reduce noise emissions in accordance with PPG24. The local planning authority is currently preparing supplementary planning guidance to assist in the implementation of Policies OE3, OE4 and OE5.

OE3 BUILDINGS OR USES WHICH HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO CAUSE NOISE ANNOYANCE WILL ONLY BE PERMITTED IF THE IMPACT IS MITIGATED WITHIN ACCEPTABLE LEVELS BY ENGINEERING, LAY-OUT OR ADMINISTRATIVE MEASURES.

~~6.8 — Transport noise is a serious source of disturbance in the Borough. As far as possible, new roads and railways will be routed to avoid noise-sensitive locations. Where this is not possible, the Local Planning Authority will seek to ensure, as far as practicable, that its effects are mitigated by better road or railway track design, use of quieter rolling stock on railways and use of noise screens, barriers and tunnels, in accordance with PPG24, in particular Annexes 1,3,5 and 6.~~

~~**OE4 IN THE CASE OF NEW OR IMPROVED ROADS OR RAILWAYS THE LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY WILL WISH TO BE SATISFIED THAT AS FAR AS PRACTICABLE MEASURES ARE TAKEN TO MITIGATE THE EFFECTS OF NOISE AND VIBRATION ON NEARBY BUILDINGS SO THAT INTERNAL SOUND LEVELS CONFORM TO ACCEPTABLE CRITERIA.**~~