

LADACAN response to NO.2.17 in ExQ2:

Our concern arises because of the less substantial nature of the older McFarland Park Homes on Half Moon Lane, compared to brick-built houses with slate or tiled roofs.

A noise assessment based on a contour model only estimates external noise impacts, whereas the key is an accurate understanding of noise inside the properties, particularly at night. Because the noise attenuation of the mobile homes is likely to be less than that of a permanent brick-built structure, it is reasonable to treat such dwellings as a special case. In other words, if a substantial brick building were to be placed next to an older Park Home on the Half Moon site, would the residents of the Park Home experience higher levels of noise than those inside the house? It is reasonable to suppose that they would.

This is why we have requested a noise survey at the site, inside the older properties, to ascertain the actual noise levels to which the residents are exposed when overflown by departing aircraft compared to the noise outside, to assess the attenuation achieved by the structure. This can then be used to assess whether these residents are being or would be subject to noise levels above the SOAEL, either by day or at night or both.

Only at that point is it possible to determine whether the noise would need to be avoided, rather than simply mitigated as far as reasonably practicable, for the sake of their health and well-being. The outcome may necessitate extension of the compensation provisions.

(This response also forms part of our comments on Deadline 6 submissions, under ID 7)