

Ref: VA4894.250529.L1



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Dear Harry

**VA4894 32A QUEENS VIEW, NETLEY**

**Extended Opening Hours**

Condition 23 of the planning consent, ref F/23/96224, for 32A Queens View states:

*The shop unit hereby permitted shall be closed to and vacated by the public outside the hours of 06:00 and 18:00 daily. Newspaper deliveries shall take place no earlier than 05:45am on any day.*

Future tenants have requested that the opening hours are extended to make the let a viable option.

The shop in the previous scheme did not have any restrictions on hours of use, but had started to close at 18:00 by choice, and it is understood that this was the basis for the setting of the above hours of use.

Discussions with the Planners and Environmental Health have indicated that the extension of operational hours is broadly acceptable, but that it should be supported by an analysis of the evening noise levels, to ensure that the level of impact would not increase due to the extended hours.

It is understood that an extension until 22:00 is sought.

Visual inspection of the time histories (appended to this letter) shows that the background noise levels in the area remain broadly similar between 17:00 – 18:00, and the later hours up until 22:00, with the  $L_{A90}$  noise levels slightly tapering off later in the evening.

Considering that the customers using the shop are discrete events, rather than an average noise level, comparison of the background noise levels for this appraisal would be the most accurate representation of how noise could impact the nearby residents, as it would relate to noise against this background noise climate.

A numerical analysis has been undertaken on an hour by hour basis, the results of which are shown in Table 1, with the consented hours shown in green, and the proposed extended hours shown in orange.

| Period      | L <sub>A90</sub> , T typical <sup>1</sup> | Difference from 17:00-18:00 |
|-------------|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 17:00-18:00 | 36                                        |                             |
| 18:00-19:00 | 36                                        | 0                           |
| 19:00-20:00 | 35                                        | -1                          |
| 20:00-21:00 | 34                                        | -2                          |
| 21:00-22:00 | 33                                        | -3                          |

**Table 1 – Comparison from consented and proposed extended hours**

<sup>1</sup> The typical L<sub>A90</sub> value is taken as the 10<sup>th</sup> percentile of all L<sub>A90</sub> values measured during the relevant period.

The results show that although the background noise levels do reduce slightly, the amount by which they reduce is less than 3dB, which is typically reported as the minimum difference that the human ear can perceive, with the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment [IEMA] considering the impact of such a long-term change to fall within a negligible category.

The small change in the background noise levels would indicate that the level of impact from customers using the shop later in the evening would have a negligible change in impact on the nearby residents, and hence it is offered that the proposed extension of hours would be acceptable whilst maintaining residential amenity.

We trust the above to be of assistance. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any queries you may have.

Yours sincerely  
on behalf of Venta Acoustics

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