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To: [Aftanas, Gina](#)
Subject: H/25/100540 - 11 MERDON AVENUE, CHANDLER'S FORD, EASTLEIGH, SO53 1EH - Pollution Comments
Date: 17 February 2026 10:04:52
Attachments: [image002.png](#)

Good morning Gina,

Thanks for consulting the Pollution Team on the application H/25/100540 for the installation of air source heat pump at the front right of the property, in front of the garage at 11 MERDON AVENUE, CHANDLER'S FORD, EASTLEIGH, SO53 1EH.

I reviewed the proposed drawings and the MCS 020(a) assessment. The MCS 020(a) is above the 37dB criteria and therefor failed. Following the recent Air Source Heat Pumps Professional Advice Note (2026) from Institute of Acoustics from February 2026 when MCS 020(a) fails then a Level 1 assessment is required.

Method		When to apply
PDR+	MCS 020a	Where PDR is unavailable for non-acoustic reasons and no greater caution is needed the installer may offer a calculation to the MCS 020a for consideration by the EHP ¹ .
Level 1	Desktop Calculations	Compliance with 37 dBA* criterion demonstrated through appropriate calculations carried out by an SQA.
Level 2 Full Assessment	Survey and predictions	Use Level 2 in exceptional circumstances only e.g., tranquil areas, or multiple units with significant risk of cumulative impact. The BS 4142 methodology may be used to ensure the adverse impacts are minimised as far as reasonable.

**The sound level threshold of 37 dB(A) is an incident sound pressure level², calculated at 1 m in front of the centre of a window or door to a habitable room as described in MCS 020a.*

This level 1 assessment requires an acoustician to calculate and proposed mitigation and to present the findings in a report for planning.

On the other hand, there are a few potential solutions that may be worth exploring before moving to Level 1 and redo the MCS 020(a):

- Increase the distance between the source and the closest neighbouring residential window;
- Change the proposed location of the ASHP, back of the property rather than the front ? ;
- Install a quieter model of ASHP
- Instead of installing the ASHP in a corner (Step 4A of MCS 020 - Q8) install it next to a wall (Step 4A of MCS 020 - Q4) this would reduce the quarter spherical by -5dB and therefor pass the MCS 020.

Thank you

Andre

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