

# Transport and Environment Committee

10:00am, Tuesday, 2 June 2015

## Update on Second Round of Noise Mapping

<b>Item number</b>	7.12
<b>Report number</b>	
<b>Executive/routine</b>	Executive
<b>Wards:</b>	All Wards

### Executive summary

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The Environmental Noise (Scotland) Regulations 2006 implement the European Noise Directive 2002/49/EC. They describe a two stage process to manage environmental noise. The first stage is the production of strategic noise maps and the second, the production and implementation of Action Plans. This process is repeated every five years.

The Edinburgh Noise Action Plan was published and consulted upon by the Scottish Government in 2008. A report was presented to the Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee in 2008, which supported the Draft Noise Action Plan. A further update was presented to the Transport and Environment Committee on 26 August 2014, which approved 3 Noise Management Areas (NMAs) and 10 Quiet Areas (QAs), identified as part of round 1 mapping. The Scottish Government was then advised of this decision.

Following the round 2 noise mapping, a further 18 proposed Noise Management Areas and 10 proposed Quiet Areas have been identified in the city by the Edinburgh Agglomeration Working Group. Committee is asked to support these recommended areas so that the Scottish Government and Scottish Ministers can be informed.

### Links

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**Coalition pledges** CP48

**Council outcomes** CO22

**Single Outcome Agreement** SO2

## Update on Second Round of Noise Mapping

### Recommendations

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It is recommended that the Transport and Environment Committee:

- 1.1 Approves the 18 Noise Management Areas (NMAs) and 10 Quiet Areas (QAs) recommended by the Edinburgh Agglomeration Working Group in relation to round 2 of the Scottish Government noise mapping process.
- 1.2 Discharges the remit from the Transport and Environment Committee of 26 August 2014 to provide an update on the second round of noise mapping.

### Background

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- 2.1 Noise Action Planning is a Scottish Government led initiative and was developed to support the adoption of EC Directive 2002/49/EC. The Scottish Government transposed this Directive into legislation, the Environmental Noise (Scotland) Regulations 2006.
- 2.2 The Environmental Noise (Scotland) Regulations 2006 describe a two stage process to manage environmental noise. The first stage is to produce strategic Noise Maps, developed by consultants on behalf of the Scottish Government, and the second to produce and implement Noise Action Plans. The Action Plans aim to reduce noise levels where necessary in designated Noise Management Areas, and to preserve environmental noise quality in “Quiet Areas”.
- 2.3 To produce Noise Action Plans, the Scottish Government set up the Scottish Environmental Noise Steering Group. A Working Group specifically for the Edinburgh Noise Action Plan area, the Edinburgh Agglomeration Working Group (comprising the City of Edinburgh Local Authority area and Midlothian and East Lothian Local Authorities), has also been established, which reports to the national group. This Working Group consists of acoustic consultants employed by the Scottish Government, and officers from the Councils’ Noise Team, Planning Service and Transport Service.
- 2.4 The first Noise Action Plan was submitted to the Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee on 29 July 2008. A report update on the outcomes of round 1 noise mapping fieldwork was submitted to the Transport and Environment Committee on 26 August 2014, which approved the first round of identified Noise Management Areas, and Quiet Areas.

- 2.5 The methodology for the identification of Candidate Noise Management Areas (CNMAs) is based upon identifying areas of loud noise levels on the Strategic Noise Maps and, through fieldwork, combining these with areas of high population density and making an adjustment for the annoyance attributable to the noise source and level. The methodology for the identification of Candidate Quiet Areas (CQAs) is developed from guidance given by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) and is based upon the identification of areas of low noise on the Strategic Maps and combining this with a minimum area covered. These potential areas are then subject to fieldwork and assessment and those meeting the set criteria are presented to committee for approval as designated NMAs and QAs.
- 2.6 The Scottish Government is required to update the noise maps every five years, and Local Authorities have been requested to participate in this process. Members of the Noise Team, Planning and Transport within Services for Communities, as part of their role within the Edinburgh Agglomeration Working Group, have reviewed the noise maps for round 2, which have a focus on roads with more than three million vehicle passages per year, and agglomerations with a population of more than 100,000.

## Main report

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### **Stage 1 – Strategic Noise Mapping**

- 3.1 Strategic Noise Maps are based on an assessment of noise exposure in a given area, due to different noise sources and / or overall predictions for such an area. The maps are created by acoustic consultants on behalf of the Scottish Government using specialised noise prediction modelling software. The data required for the calculation of noise levels has been determined through consultation with various organisations including Transport Scotland, Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA), Network Rail, British Airports Authority and Local Authorities.
- 3.2 In the second round of noise mapping within the Edinburgh Noise Action Plan area, the Strategic Noise Maps identified 38 CNMAs, which met the criteria outlined in 2.5, and 12 CQAs, which met the technical guidance as set out by DEFRA. These areas are all contained within the City Of Edinburgh Council boundary.

### **Candidate Noise Management Areas (CNMAs)**

- 3.3 The 38 CNMAs identified in Edinburgh have been further assessed by the Council's Noise Team as part of the Edinburgh Agglomeration Working Group. The scrutiny included field visits to each of the locations to assess the validity of data (noise levels, traffic counts, building positions etc.) used in the calculation that identified the candidate areas.

3.4 From this assessment, 18 of these candidate areas have been recommended for progression to full NMAs. The other CNMAs were discounted as the fieldwork identified that the modelled data provided in the Strategic Noise Maps did not reflect the measured data from the site visits. These areas will not be reconsidered in further rounds, unless future Strategic Noise Mapping modelling indicates this is necessary. The 38 CNMAs and those 18 which are recommended for progression are:

<b>CNMA</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>NMA</b>
1	<i>Calder Gardens, Sighthill / Gorgie</i>	No
2	<i>A71 at Westfield Road, Fountainbridge / Craiglockhart</i>	No
3	<i>A70 at Moat Street, Fountainbridge / Craiglockhart</i>	Yes
4	<i>A71 at Gorgie Road near Robertson Avenue, Fountainbridge / Craiglockhart</i>	Yes
5	<i>A70 at Slateford Road, Fountainbridge / Craiglockhart</i>	Yes
6	<i>A71 at Gorgie Road near Newton Street, Sighthill / Gorgie</i>	No
7	<i>A702 at Comiston Road, Meadows / Morningside</i>	No
8	<i>A702 at Morningside Road, near Steel's Place, Meadows / Morningside</i>	Yes
9	<i>Woodburn Terrace and Canaan Lane, Meadows / Morningside</i>	No
10	<i>A8 at Roseburn Gardens, Roseburn Street, Corstorphine / Murrayfield</i>	Yes
11	<i>A70 at Orwell Place, West Park Place, Sighthill / Gorgie</i>	Yes
12	<i>Dundee Street, Fountainbridge / Craiglockhart</i>	No
13	<i>Grove Street, City Centre</i>	No
14	<i>Morrison Street, West Approach Road, City Centre</i>	No
15	<i>A702 at Semple Street, City Centre</i>	No
16	<i>A702 at Gilmore Place, Home Street, Lochrin Terrace, West Tollcross, City Centre</i>	Yes
17	<i>Lauriston Place at Glen Street, City Centre</i>	Yes
18	<i>East Fountainbridge, West Port at Lady Lawson Street, City Centre</i>	Yes
19	<i>Cockburn Street, High Street, City Centre</i>	No
20	<i>At West Nicolson Street, Southside / Newington</i>	Yes
21	<i>Drummond Street at Roxburgh Place, City Centre</i>	No
22	<i>West Preston Street at Blackwood Crescent, Southside / Newington</i>	No
23	<i>Deanhaugh Street, Raeburn Place, Inverleith</i>	Yes
24	<i>Rodney Street, at Heriot Hill Terrace, City Centre</i>	No
25	<i>Broughton Road at Dunedin Street, Leith Walk</i>	Yes
26	<i>Bonnington Road at Bonnington Road Lane, Leith Walk</i>	No
27	<i>Abbeyhill, Abbeymount, City Centre</i>	No

28	<i>Easter Road at London Road, City Centre</i>	Yes
29	<i>Brunswick Road, Easter Road, Leith Walk</i>	Yes
30	<i>Meadowbank, London Road, Portobello Road, Craigentiny / Duddingston</i>	No
31	<i>Lower Granton Road, Trinity Road, Forth</i>	No
32	<i>A902 at Ferry Road, Forth</i>	Yes
33	<i>Lindsay Road at Portland Street, Leith</i>	Yes
34	<i>Ferry Road at Madeira Street, Leith Walk</i>	Yes
35	<i>Great Junction Street at Bangor Road, Leith</i>	Yes
36	<i>Commercial Street at Dock Street, Leith</i>	No
37	<i>Bernard Street at Timber Bush, Leith</i>	No
38	<i>Salamander Street at Elbe Street, Leith</i>	No

- 3.5 If approved, the Edinburgh Action Plan will be updated to include the NMAs. The Action Plan aims to reduce noise levels in these areas where possible, and to have NMAs taken into consideration in future planning, transport and any other related decisions.

#### **Candidate Quiet Areas (CQAs)**

- 3.6 There were 12 CQAs identified within the City of Edinburgh through the strategic noise mapping. These have also been assessed by Council's Noise Team on behalf of the Edinburgh Agglomeration Working Group and 10 CQAs have been recommended for progression to full Quiet Areas. Two areas did not meet the size requirement in terms of publicly accessible quiet space. The 12 CQAs and those 10 recommended for progression are:

<b>CQA</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>QA</b>
1	Corstorphine Hill	No
2	Inverleith Park	Yes
3	Royal Botanic Gardens	Yes
4	Lochend Park	Yes
5	Arthur's Seat Volcano, Holyrood Park and Duddingston Loch	Yes
6	Jewel Park	Yes
7	Craiglockhart Dell	Yes
8	Easter Craiglockhart Hill	Yes
9	Hermitage of Braid / Blackford Hill	Yes
10	Mains Park	No
11	Galachlaw	Yes
12	Burdiehouse Burn Valley Park	Yes

- 3.7 If approved by Committee, these 10 CQA's will be submitted to the Scottish Government and any future actions or decision making which could impact on environmental noise will need to take this status into consideration. The Directive

requires action plans for agglomerations to include measures that aim to protect quiet areas against an increase in noise. The Edinburgh Agglomeration Working Group, which includes planning and transport representatives, will work in conjunction with the Scottish Government to ensure that the action plan is considered in the context of any proposed impact in these areas.

- 3.8 The Edinburgh Agglomeration Working Group will continue to co-ordinate the Action Planning Process and work with the Scottish Environmental Noise Steering Group, and the Scottish Government in its delivery of the requirements of The Environmental Noise (Scotland) Regulations 2006. Within the City of Edinburgh Council area, objectives relating to the reduction of transport noise have been incorporated into the Local Transport Strategy 2014 – 2019. The Edinburgh Agglomeration Working Group is currently developing a prioritisation matrix to rank NMAs within their area.

## Measures of success

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- 4.1 Noise, Planning and Transport Services in Services for Communities have a more joined up approach and environmental noise is given greater consideration in relation to future planning and transport policy.

## Financial impact

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- 5.1 The report does not have any financial implications. However, once developed and if agreed, individual actions may result in costs that would have to be contained within existing budgets.

## Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact

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- 6.1 It is critical that relevant local authorities and other key partners are fully involved and committed to this process. This will ensure that benefits are delivered at a local level, that they are integrated with other measures which may be taking place in the area and support quality of life. The City Of Edinburgh Council risks significant reputational damage should it choose not to participate and would need to formally declare this to the Scottish Government.

## Equalities impact

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- 7.1 Noise Action Planning is a Scottish Government led initiative, developed to support the adoption of EC Directive 2002/49/EC. Local Authority involvement is to confirm desk-top studies of noise levels within their area. Therefore, the assessment of Equalities and Human Rights Impact lies with the Scottish Government. This report also proposes no change to current policies or

procedures, and as such a full impact assessment is not required. The contents have no relevance to the public sector Equality Duty of the Equality Act 2010.

## Sustainability impact

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- 8.1 The impacts of this report have been considered in relation to the three elements of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 Public Bodies Duties. Relevant Council sustainable development policies have also been taken into account.

## Consultation and engagement

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- 9.1 The Scottish Government carried out a public consultation in 2008 on the draft Edinburgh Action Plan. Internal consultation has taken place with Transport and Planning services, who participate as part of the Edinburgh Agglomeration Working Group. The Scottish Government carried out further public consultation in December 2013.

## Background reading / external references

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[Item 10 - Environmental Noise Action Plans - Transport, Infrastructure and Environment Committee 28 July 2008.](#)

[Item 7.2 - Environmental Noise Action Plan Report - Transport and Environment Committee 26 August 2014](#)

[Round 1 Noise Strategic Mapping](#)

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## Links

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<b>Coalition pledges</b>	P48 – Use green flag and other strategies to preserve our green space
<b>Council outcomes:</b>	CO22 – Moving efficiently - Edinburgh has a transport system that improves connectivity and is green, healthy and accessible
<b>Single Outcome Agreement:</b>	SO2 - Edinburgh's citizens experience improved health and wellbeing, with reduced inequalities in health