

Application No:	Consultees Name:	Received:	Comment:	Response:
2023/3376/P	Peter Singer & Linda Davies	04/10/2023 14:35:47	OBJ	<p>We live at 27 Glenmore Road, next door to the recently installed air source heat pump at 25 Glenmore Road, and write to object to the current application for retrospective planning permission for this installation.</p> <p>Noise nuisance.</p> <p>It is clear from the technical data provided by the applicant that the equipment is not just an air conditioning unit but can provide both heating in cold weather and air conditioning in the summer, and thus may be in use at any time of the year, or all the year round.</p> <p>The system generates significant noise and vibration: when in use as an air conditioner during the recent summer months it produced a level of noise and vibration in our garden reminiscent of a fully loaded washing machine on its spin cycle. Presumably the noise is similar when it operates in heating mode.</p> <p>Our attention has been drawn to the advice of the Institute of Acoustics, which says:</p> <p>“Heat pumps are part of the Government's strategy to reach net zero carbon emissions by 2050. However, the technology generates noise, and it can operate during the night and day. As a result, it has the potential to cause significant adverse effects to people living nearby.” [(Institute of Acoustics Briefing Note – Heat Pumps (November 2022) briefing_note_-_heat_pumps_-_publication_11.pdf (ioa.org.uk)]</p> <p>We are certainly on the receiving end of these “significant adverse effects”. We treasure our garden as a place to read in peace and (relatively) fresh air. It has come as a shock that after living here for 34 years this facility has been arbitrarily taken away. We chose to live in what has hitherto been a quiet backwater, a conservation area with little traffic noise, rather than on a busy high street or beside a factory. We don't think other residents in our area should be entitled to radically worsen the nature of the local environment for their own personal convenience.</p> <p>Planning policy.</p> <p>It is clear from both the Camden Local Plan and the Council's Planning Guidance that except in exceptional circumstances (which have not been demonstrated in this case) Camden Council is opposed in principle to the installation of air conditioning and is committed to discouraging its use. The more this principle is eroded, the more any successful application will be cited as a precedent by future applicants.</p> <p>Siting.</p> <p>We note that the equipment was installed without planning permission being secured in advance. We understand that in certain circumstances such developments are acceptable without planning permission (“permitted development”) subject to various conditions. Among these conditions we observe:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. the volume of the air source heat pump's outdoor compressor unit (including housing) must not exceed 0.6 cubic metres: In this case, the unit is 1685mm x 765mm x 93mm, i.e. 1.19878 cubic metres, almost twice the prescribed maximum and the “shed” erected around it is (according to the application) 2.1m x 1.36m x 1.2m (3.4272 cubic metres);</li> </ol>

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				<p>2. all parts of the air source heat pump should be at least 1 metre from the property's boundary: in this case the equipment has been positioned right on the property's boundaries, within inches of both 27 Glenmore Road and 30 Howitt Road. It is sited approximately 6 metres from our dining room windows and a similar distance from the windows of our principal bedroom on the first floor, meaning that it can be easily heard in all the back rooms of our house when it is running.</p> <p>It therefore appears that the applicant was not expecting to take advantage of the "permitted development" provisions; and should the Council be minded to grant planning approval we would suggest that conditions no less stringent than the "permitted development" rules would need to be applied.</p> <p>We urge the Council to stick to its principles, preserve the peace of Glenmore Road and Howitt Road, and not to grant planning permission in this case.</p> <p>Linda Davies &amp; Peter Singer</p>

2023/3376/P	Anna	07/10/2023 23:16:44	OBJ	Extremely disturbing, unacceptable level on noise reported by neighbours which impacts on the ability of relaxing in a garden and inside the house. One neighbour mentions impact on her wellbeing and causing her unnecessary stress and stress-related health issues. Part of the charm of living in this area is comparative lack of noise pollution and we are worried that precedence might be set and similar in necessary devices might be causing nuisance for other neighbours too.
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2023/3376/P	Lisa Thomspson	01/10/2023 08:37:19	OBJ	There is a very loud noise coming from the heat pump inclosure that has been installed in the back garden of number 25. We were not consulted about this prior to installation and it has really reduced our quality of life as we cannot enjoy sitting in our back garden. We can hear it in our kitchen and lounge when we have the windows and back door open.