

Application No:	Consultees Name:	Received:	Comment:	Response:
2024/4503/P	Manuela	27/11/2024 20:34:28	INT	<p>This letter serves as a formal objection to this planning application because of noise Concerns at 59 Hillfield Road Regarding the Proposed Condensing Unit at 57 Hillfield Road As the owner-occupier of 59 Hillfield Road, I wish to express serious concerns about the noise implications of the proposed condensing unit at 57 Hillfield Road. My primary concern is the impact on the rear windows of my property, which, according to the acoustic report, are approximately 8 meters from the proposed installation site. While the report attempts to downplay the potential noise impact by focusing on a first-floor window, it fails to adequately address the cumulative noise burden and potential vibration issues that could arise from this installation, particularly in light of pre-existing noise pollution emanating from the non acoustically insulated boiler room, flue pipe and water pipes of the neighboring property.</p> <p>The report confidently asserts that the proposed condensing unit, when equipped with acoustic louvres, will achieve a plant-specific sound level of 22 dB at the nearest receptor. However, this assessment is based on a single noise source and disregards the already significant noise pollution originating from the existing boiler room at 57 Hillfield Road. This boiler room, positioned directly against the boundary wall, currently operates at noise levels exceeding 50 dB during the night, severely impacting the enjoyment of both ground and first-floor bedrooms in my rear extension.</p> <p>The cumulative noise generated by the existing boiler room and the proposed condensing unit raises serious concerns about exceeding the permissible noise level of 23 dB during the night as stipulated by Camden Local Plan Appendix 3. The report's failure to consider the combined noise impact of these two sources renders its conclusions incomplete and potentially misleading.</p> <p>Furthermore, the report offers no concrete details about the implementation of vibration control measures for the proposed condensing unit. While it recommends the use of isolation techniques, it lacks specifics regarding the chosen methods and their effectiveness in mitigating noise propagation. The absence of detailed information on vibration control, coupled with the applicant's previous disregard for noise mitigation as evidenced by the disruptive boiler room, amplifies concerns about potential sleep disturbance and the overall impact on the well-being of occupants at 59 Hillfield Road.</p> <p>Therefore, I strongly urge the council to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↳ Demand a comprehensive noise assessment that considers the combined impact of the existing boiler room and the proposed condensing unit. This assessment should accurately identify all affected receptors, including the rear windows at 59 Hillfield Road, and realistically evaluate the cumulative noise burden during both daytime and nighttime hours. ↳ Require the applicant to provide detailed and specific plans for vibration control measures. These plans should clearly outline the chosen isolation techniques, their expected effectiveness, and a commitment to ensuring that structure-borne noise and vibration are minimized to prevent any adverse impact on neighboring properties. ↳ Mandate a thorough acoustic insulation of the existing boiler room to address the ongoing noise pollution affecting 59 Hillfield Road. This step is crucial to mitigate the current noise disturbance and ensure that the addition of a condensing unit does not exacerbate an already unacceptable situation. <p>The applicant's track record of disregarding noise mitigation efforts and the potential for significant combined noise levels necessitate a cautious approach to this application. The council must prioritize the well-being and quiet enjoyment of existing residents by demanding a comprehensive assessment of noise and vibration impacts and ensuring the implementation of robust mitigation measures.</p> <p>Kind regards</p>