# SHARPS REDMORE

ACOUSTIC CONSULTANTS



# Report

### Centro House – Mandela Street

Noise assessment of plant serving restaurant

Prepared by
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A. Noise survey results

### 1.0 Introduction

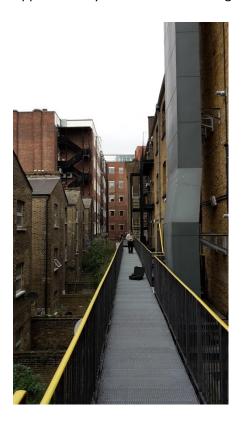
- 1.1 Sharps Redmore (SR) has been instructed to undertake an environmental noise assessment of the plant serving the staff restaurant at Centro House, Mandela Street, Camden, as part of planning application for dual use (Class B1/A3).
- 1.2 At present the restaurant trades between 0700 and 1700 hours Monday to Friday, in-line with the general Centro House office hours. The proposed change of use will enable the restaurant to trade independently of the office.
- 1.3 As part of the Planning Pre-application advice ref 2014/5185/PRE, the following comments were received from Camden Development Control Planning Services regarding amenity:

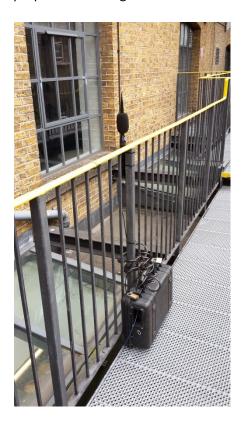
"The amenity of neighbouring occupiers would be a key consideration in any future application of this nature. The site context has changed since the 2008 permission with 7 residential units approved in 2013 at 13 Mandela Street, in 2008 and 2013 for 1 residential unit at 25 Mandela Street and for 7 live work units in 2009 at 14/15 Mandela Street. As such refer to policies CS5 (Managing the impact of growth and development), DP26 (Managing the impact of development on occupiers and neighbours) and CPG6 (amenity) for further guidance. The following information should be submitted with any planning application:

- Existing and proposed hours of operation
- Whether any physical alterations are proposed that could have amenity impacts, such as windows, outside seating areas etc.
- Whether there are any changes proposed to serving or car parking etc.
- Whether any proposed ventilation/extract ducts are required and further details of this. It is acknowledged that planning permission was granted in 2004 for plant and ducting and it is not clear whether this was implemented.
- 1.4 The objective of the assessment is to determine how noise from plant serving the restaurant may impact the amenity of nearby residents in the event of consent being granted.
- 1.5 The plant serving the restaurant is all located on the 4th floor roof. The plant consists of the kitchen extract system which is ducted from roof level to the ground floor, and air conditioning and refrigeration condensers.
- 1.6 The nearest residential properties potentially affected by noise from the changes to the use of the restaurant are located in Mandela Street, and Camden Street, which are generally 3 storey's in height, therefore significantly lower than the height of the roof mounted plant.

### 2.0 Noise survey details

- 2.1 As stated above, the restaurant currently trades between 0700 and 1700 hours, and the plant serving the restaurant will operate accordingly. To assess the potential impact from the plant in the event of the plant operating outside of these hours, an environmental noise survey was undertaken.
- 2.2 The noise survey was undertaken between 10:50 hours on 13th April until 10:00 hours on 14th April 2015. The microphone was secured to a fire escape / walkway at the rear of the property in Mandela Street/Camden Street, at approximately 1<sup>st</sup> Floor window height of the properties fronting Camden Street.





- 2.3 The microphone was set up approximately 3.5 metres from the kitchen extract duct, so that any impact from plant being turned on / off for the trading hours of the restaurant could be identified.
- 2.4 Noise measurements were taken using a Norsonic 140 sound level meter fitted with an environmental microphone kit. The sound level meter was calibrated at the start and end of the survey and no variation in level noted.
- 2.5 The sound level meter was set up to continuously store 15 minute samples over the duration of the survey. Weather conditions during the survey were generally dry, with light and variable winds, as such would have no adverse impact on the survey results.

- 2.6 Based on our observations the survey location was representative of the existing noise climate of the nearest residential properties in both Mandela Street and Camden Street.
- 2.7 The existing noise climate is a combination of local and distant traffic, and general plant noise from neighbouring properties / boiler flues etc.
- 2.8 Subjectively noise from the roof mounted plant serving the restaurant was having no adverse impact on the noise climate at the nearest residential properties in Camden Street or Mandela Street.
- 2.9 The survey data indicates that there is no meaningful change in the background noise climate ( $L_{A90}$ ) at any time during the survey period, during which time plant would have been turned on / off during the trading hours of the restaurant. See survey data presented graphically in Appendix A.

### 3.0 Assessment conclusions

- 3.1 Based on our site observations, noise from the roof mounted plant is having no adverse impact on the noise climate at the nearest residential properties in Mandela Street and Camden Street.
- 3.2 The survey data indicates that there is no meaningful change in the background noise climate ( $L_{A90}$ ) at any time during the survey period, during which time plant would have been turned on / off during the trading hours of the restaurant.
- 3.3 SR is therefore of the opinion that any changes to the operational use of the restaurant will have no adverse impact on the amenity of the surrounding residential properties in Mandela Street or Camden Street.

## **APPENDIX A**

## **ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEY DATA**

