
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 September 2020 00:08
To: Chan, Mark; Planning
Subject: 2020/2612/P - Follow up comments (colder weather)

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Dear Mr Chan,

The recent colder weather has led to new relevant observations about the fan coil units (FCU's) on Spectrum House. I guess you are in the process of writing up your Report, and understand the comments period ended a number of weeks ago, but thought it would be worth communicating some additional information.

The FCU's seem to be used for cold weather heating, as well as summer cooling. The heating function runs overnight, and intermittently - it seems to be controlled by internal thermostats which do not shut down overnight.

Last night for example (night of 28.09.2020, outside overnight temperature about 15 deg.C) I was awake for a bit noted down this sequence:

- 3.57am: loud FCU noise turns off (on since 11.30pm)
- 4.02am: a more distant FCU turns on
- 4.55am: a loud FCU noise turns on

I could hear the loud low frequency hum of the FCU's through tight-fitting earplugs. As the weather gets much colder, the heating will be on much more overnight to maintain the office temperatures in Spectrum House.

It is also the case that the FCU manufacturer noise profiles for heating are generally somewhat louder than for cooling.

The first approach to heating and uninsulated building and maintaining its temperature should always be to insulate it sufficiently, rather than wasting energy in this way.

To summarise,

- In this way the noise assessment calculations (based on daytime cooling) are not representative of the actual reality (night-time heating) usage: lower background noise at night, and higher levels of noise.
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- Intermittent starts and stops causing disturbance
- For night time assessments a lower background noise values should be used for the -10dB calculations.
- Again this suggests a real-life noise survey would be more useful and true-to-life than the desk study.
- The energy waste of heating instead of adding insulation is not be acceptable under Camden's sustainability policies.

Regards,

Francis Fawcett
(8 Clanfield resident)