

PLANNING AND NOISE

-  Noise and Vibration
-  Air Quality
-  Wind Microclimate
-  Resiliency Planning
-  Renewable Energy
-  Feasibility Studies
-  Land Use Planning
-  Regulatory Compliance Support
-  Environmental Impact Assessments
-  Masterplanning

The National Planning Policy Framework requires Local Planning Authorities to produce policies and decisions that aim to minimise the impacts of noise from new developments on health and quality of life. However, the Noise Policy Statement for England and Planning Practice Guidance for Noise (PPG-N) are limited and do not provide explicit guidance on acceptable noise levels at the project or site level.

Successful planning applicants must interpret these policies and apply appropriate assessment criteria and mitigation – which is where specialist guidance can be of assistance.

What We Offer

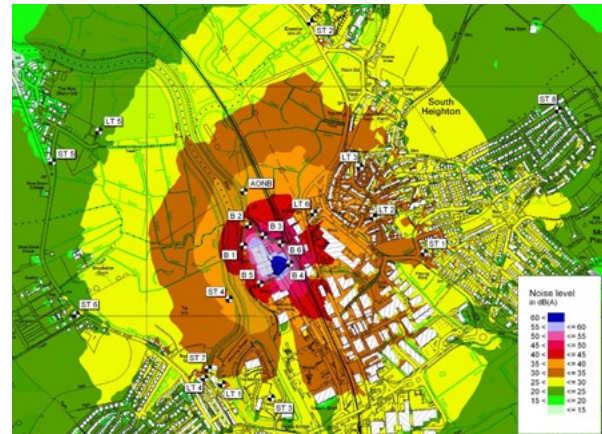
We strive for a successful and seamless planning application process by leveraging the expertise and extensive experience of our acoustics specialists who routinely deal with complex planning issues where noise and vibration is a material consideration. Our successes span diverse sectors, including:

- residential, industrial, education, healthcare, commercial, and leisure developments of various sizes; and
- large and nationally significant infrastructure projects (including highway, railway, power generation, water and waste management schemes)

We provide comprehensive assessments in accordance with policies, standards, and guidance at International, European, National or Local Authority levels.

We guide you through:

- compliance with regulatory and policy requirements;

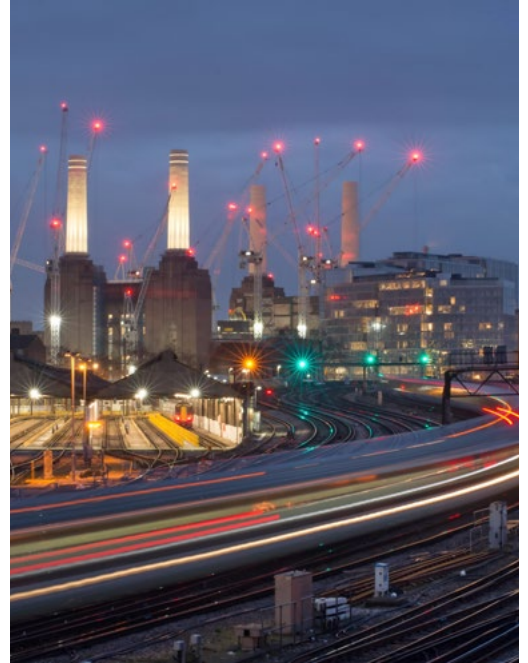


- applying good acoustic design at the earliest stage of the scheme development;
- identifying and mitigating adverse noise and/or vibration effects during construction and operation phases;
- demonstrating achievement of acoustical design objectives; and
- negotiating and discharging planning conditions associated with planning consents.

Advice at All Project Stages

Our services include:

- masterplanning and feasibility;
- conceptual designs (site layout design, optimisation, soundscape, risk assessments, and optioneering);
- screening opinions and scoping reports;
- consultation and pre-application inputs;
- outline/detailed planning applications;
- licensing/environmental permitting;
- post-planning (condition discharge);
- detailed design; and
- formal and informal hearings (e.g., public inquiries and DCO hearings).



Expert Witness

Where projects require expert representation during the planning process, we provide in-house subject matter experts including expert witnesses with experience in all forums.

Accreditations

Southdowns is a corporate member of the Association of Noise Consultants, and all senior consultants are corporate members of the Institute of Acoustics.

Our Quality Management System is operated and certified to BS EN ISO 9001:2015 by a UKAS accredited organisation for the provision of core environmental consultancy and monitoring services. We also operate an Environmental Management System that is certified to ISO 14001:2015.

Testimonials

'The written reports provided were the best I have ever received from any consultant and the communication to both Council officers and the public was outstanding, being clear, informative and persuasive.'

London Borough of Lewisham

Want to Know More?

Please contact us for a complementary initial consultation of your project's noise, vibration, and acoustical needs.

Contact enquiries@southdowns.eu.com or visit www.southdowns.eu.com/contact

Looking for other services? Our recent merger with RWDI, an international leader in climate and performance engineering, allows us to offer a wide range of related services for planning.

Contact solutions@rwdi.com or visit rwdi.com for a comprehensive project assessment.

