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# Transportation Noise Assessment

Lot 703 Armadale Road, Banjup

Reference: 19054974-01b

Prepared for: LWP Property



Report: 19054974-01b

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## 1 INTRODUCTION

A residential subdivision is proposed at Lot 703 Armadale Road, Treeby, as shown in *Figure 1-1*. To the south of the site is Armadale Road and as such, potential noise impacts from transportation (road traffic) must be considered. The site is also within the Frame Area of Jandakot airport and therefore aircraft noise must also be considered.

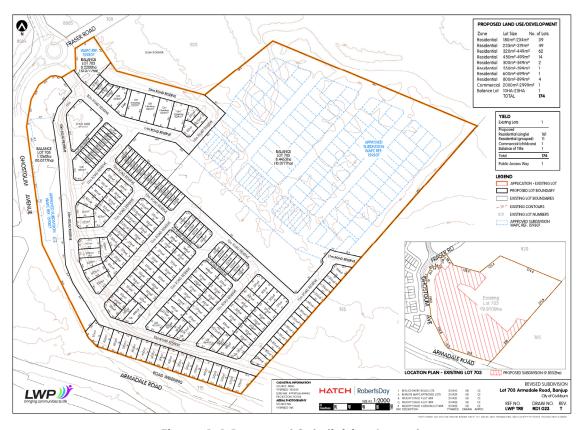


Figure 1-1 Proposed Subdivision Layout

Appendix B contains a description of some of the terminology used throughout this report.

### 2 CRITERIA

#### 2.1 Road Traffic Noise

The criteria relevant to this assessment is provided in *State Planning Policy No. 5.4 Road and Rail Noise* (hereafter referred to as SPP 5.4) produced by the Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC). The objectives of SPP 5.4 are to:

- Protect the community from unreasonable levels of transport noise;
- Protect strategic and other significant freight transport corridors from incompatible urban encroachment;
- Ensure transport infrastructure and land-use can mutually exist within urban corridors;
- Ensure that noise impacts are addressed as early as possible in the planning process; and
- Encourage best practice noise mitigation design and construction standards

Table 2-1 sets out noise targets that are to be achieved by proposals under which SPP 5.4 applies. Where the targets are exceeded, an assessment is required to determine the likely level of transport noise and management/mitigation required.

Table 2-1 Noise Targets for Noise-Sensitive Land-Use

Outdoor N	oise Target	Indoor Noise Target		
55 dB L <sub>Aeq(Day)</sub>	50 dB L <sub>Aeq(Night)</sub>	40 dB L <sub>Aeq(Day)</sub> (Living and Work Areas)	35 dB L <sub>Aeq(Night)</sub> (Bedrooms)	

#### Notes:

- Day period is from 6am to 10pm and night period from 10pm to 6am.
- The outdoor noise target is to be measured at 1-metre from the most exposed, habitable<sup>1</sup> facade of the noise sensitive building.
- For all noise-sensitive land-use and/or development, indoor noise targets for other room usages may be reasonable drawn from
  Table 1 of Australian Standard/New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 2107:2016 Acoustics Recommended design sound levels and
  reverberation times for building interiors (as amended) for each relevant time period.
- Outdoor targets are to be met at all outdoor areas as far as is reasonable and practicable to do so using the various noise mitigation measures outlined in the Guidelines.

The application of SPP 5.4 is to consider anticipated traffic volumes for the next 20 years from when the noise assessment is undertaken.

In the application of the noise targets, the objective is to achieve:

- indoor noise levels specified in *Table 2-1* in noise-sensitive areas (e.g. bedrooms and living rooms of houses and school classrooms); and
- a reasonable degree of acoustic amenity for outdoor living areas on each residential lot. For non-residential noise-sensitive developments, for example schools and childcare centres, the design of outdoor areas should take into consideration the noise target.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A habitable room is defined in State Planning Policy 3.1 as a room used for normal domestic activities that includes a bedroom, living room, lounge room, music room, sitting room, television room, kitchen, dining room, sewing room, study, playroom, sunroom, gymnasium, fully enclosed swimming pool or patio.

#### 2.2 Aircraft Noise

The relevant planning policy in Western Australia in relation to aircraft noise from Jandakot Airport is *State Planning Policy 5.3: Land Use Planning in the Vicinity of Jandakot Airport*; January 2017, Western Australian Planning Commission (hereafter referred to as SPP 5.3). SPP 5.3 applies to any land within the 'Frame' area, defined by Roe Highway, Ranford Road, Warton Road, Armadale Road and the Kwinana Freeway as shown in *Figure 2-1*. SPP 5.3 defines 3 noise exposure zones being:

- Areas below 20 ANEF;
- Areas between 20 ANEF and 25 ANEF; and
- Areas above 25 ANEF.

In this instance, the subject site is outside the 20 ANEF contour (refer Figure 2-2), but within the Frame.

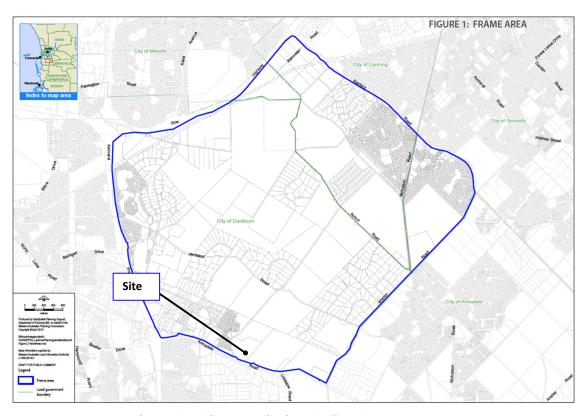


Figure 2-1 Site Locality in Relation to Frame Area

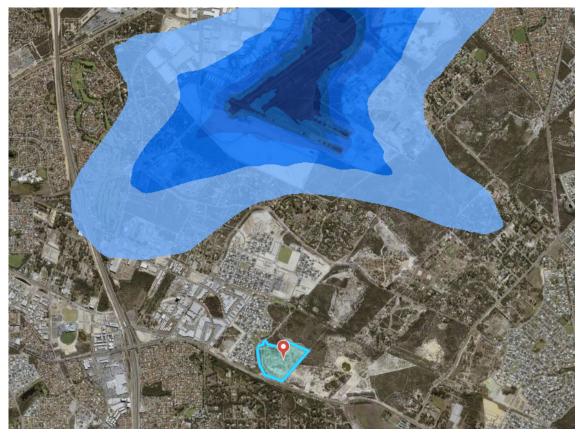


Figure 2-2 Site Locality in Relation to ANEF Contours

# 3 METHODOLOGY

Noise modelling has been undertaken generally in accordance with the requirements of SPP 5.4 and associated Guidelines<sup>2</sup> as described in the following sections. Lloyd George Acoustics has been involved with the Armadale Road Upgrade (ARU) and the Armadale Road North Lake Road (ARNLR) projects and thus, information from these reports has been used for the purposes of this assessment.

As the noise model has been adapted from the road upgrade project, it is already calibrated by noise measurement data.

The computer programme *SoundPLAN 8.1* was utilised incorporating the *Calculation of Road Traffic Noise* (CoRTN) algorithms, modified to reflect Australian conditions. The modifications included the following:

Vehicles were separated into heavy (Austroads Class 3 upwards) and non-heavy (Austroads Classes 1 & 2) with non-heavy vehicles having a source height of 0.5 metres above road level and heavy vehicles having two sources, at heights of 1.5 metres and 3.6 metres above road level, to represent the engine and exhaust respectively. By splitting the noise source into three, allows for less barrier attenuation for high level sources where barriers are to be considered.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Road and Rail Noise Guidelines, September 2019

• Note that a -8.0 dB correction is applied to the exhaust and -0.8 dB to the engine (based on Transportation Noise Reference Book, Paul Nelson, 1987), so as to provide consistent results with the CoRTN algorithms for the no barrier scenario;

Predictions are made at heights of 1.4 m above ground floor level for single storey houses and 4.2 m for double storey houses. The noise is predicted at 1.0 metre from an assumed building facade resulting in a + 2.5 dB correction due to reflected noise.

Various input data are included in the modelling such as ground topography, road design, traffic volumes etc. These model inputs are discussed in the following sections.

#### 3.1 Ground Topography

Topographical and road design data for this project was adapted from file data for the Armadale Road Upgrade Project.

Buildings have also been included as these can provide barrier attenuation when located between a source and receiver, in much the same way as a hill or wall provides noise shielding. All buildings are assumed to be single storey with a height of 3.5 metres.

Finished lot levels were designed by Cossill & Webley and provided by the design team via email on 10 September 2021. The road design for Armadale Road includes future upgrade projects and traffic data, sourced from on file project data. The adjoining lots for the Lot 705 subdivision to the east and a 2.4m high wall have also been included as indicated in *Figure 3-1*.

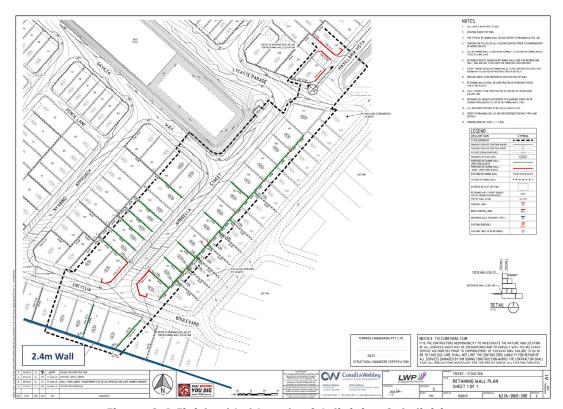


Figure 3-1 Finished Lot Levels of Adjoining Subdivision

#### 3.2 Traffic Data

Traffic data includes:

• Road Surface – The noise relationship between different road surface types is shown in *Table 3-1*.

Table 3-1 Noise Relationship Between Different Road Surfaces

	Road Surfaces						
	Chip Seal				Asp	halt	
14mm	10mm	5mm	Slurry	Dense Graded	Novachip	Stone Mastic	Open Graded
+3.5 dB	+2.5 dB	+1.5 dB	+1.0 dB	0.0 dB	-0.2 dB	-1.5 dB	-2.5 dB

The future road surface is stone mastic asphalt.

- Vehicle Speed The existing and future posted speeds are 70km/hr.
- Traffic Volumes Forecast (2031) traffic volumes were provided by Main Roads WA and have been adapted from documents for the Armadale Road Upgrade and Armadale Road Northlake Road Projects. As part of this latter project, the year 2041 scenario was projected by applying a 20% growth factor to 2031 traffic estimates.

Table 3-2 Traffic Information Used in the Modelling

	Scenario Future – 2041*			
Parameter				
	Eastbound	Westbound		
24 Hour Volume	37,200	36,000		
% Heavy	8	8		

<sup>\*</sup>Derived by applying a 20% growth factor to 2031 traffic volumes as per project requirements.

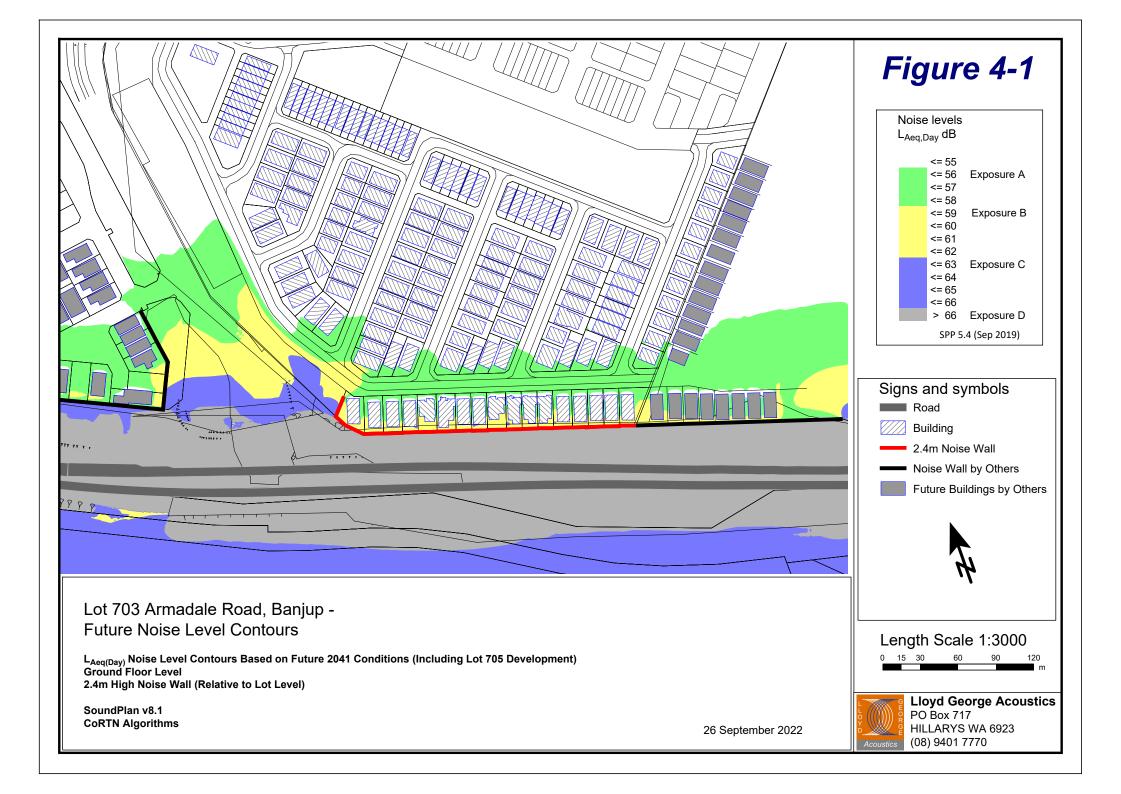
#### 3.3 Ground Attenuation

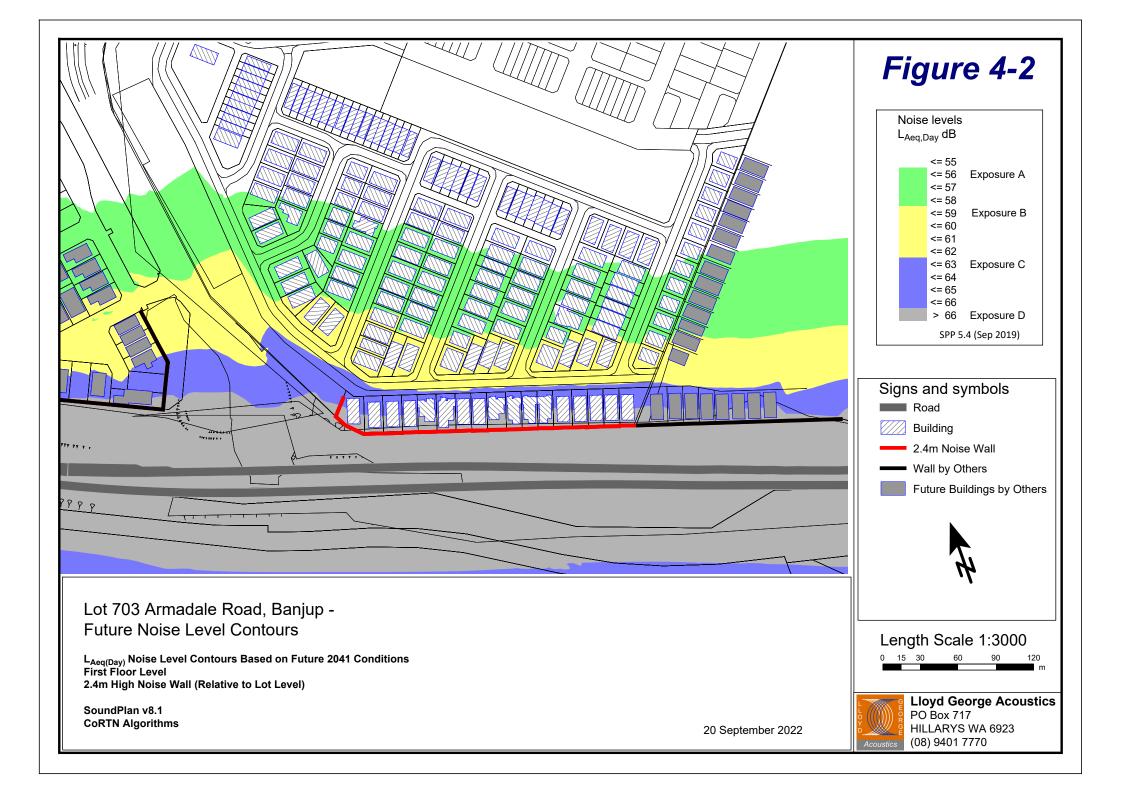
The ground attenuation has been assumed to be 0.0 (0%) for the road, 0.5 (50%) throughout the subdivision, except for the public open space, which was set to 1.00 (100%). Note 0.0 represents hard reflective surfaces such as water and 1.00 represents absorptive surfaces such as grass.

## 4 RESULTS

With no boundary walls, future noise levels are predicted to be above the outdoor noise target. Achieving the outdoor noise target at proposed residences will require noise walls in excess of 5.0 metres in height, which is not considered reasonable or practicable. As such, a combination of noise walls and architectural upgrades are proposed, in order to achieve the indoor noise targets.

For consistency with the nearby Calleya Estate, a maximum wall height of 2.4 metres has been chosen for those lots adjoining Armadale Road. The noise contours across the site with this noise wall are shown on *Figure 4-1* and *Figure 4-2* being for ground floor and first floor (should one exist) respectively, again noting this also includes a 2.4m high wall for the subdivision to the east and their future dwellings.





# **5 ASSESSMENT**

#### 5.1 Road Traffic Noise

The objectives of SPP 5.4 are to achieve:

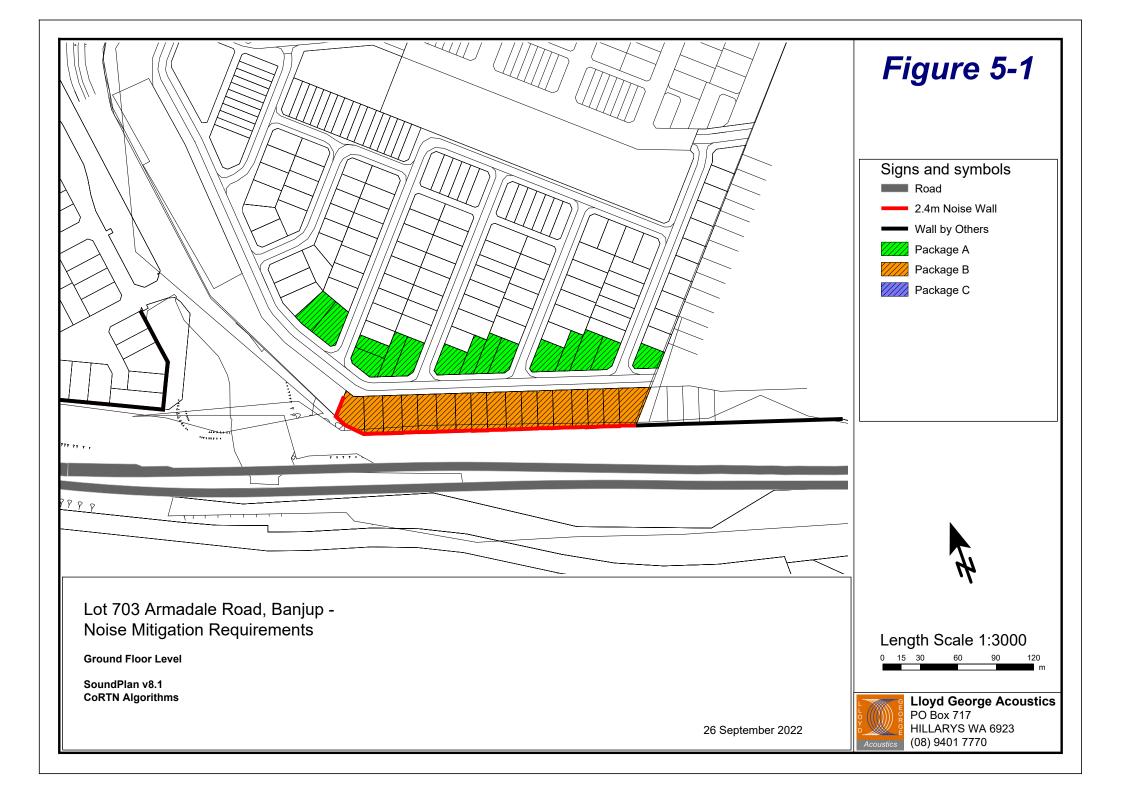
- indoor noise levels specified in *Table 2-1* in noise-sensitive areas (e.g. bedrooms and living rooms of houses and school classrooms); and
- a reasonable degree of acoustic amenity for outdoor living areas on each residential lot.

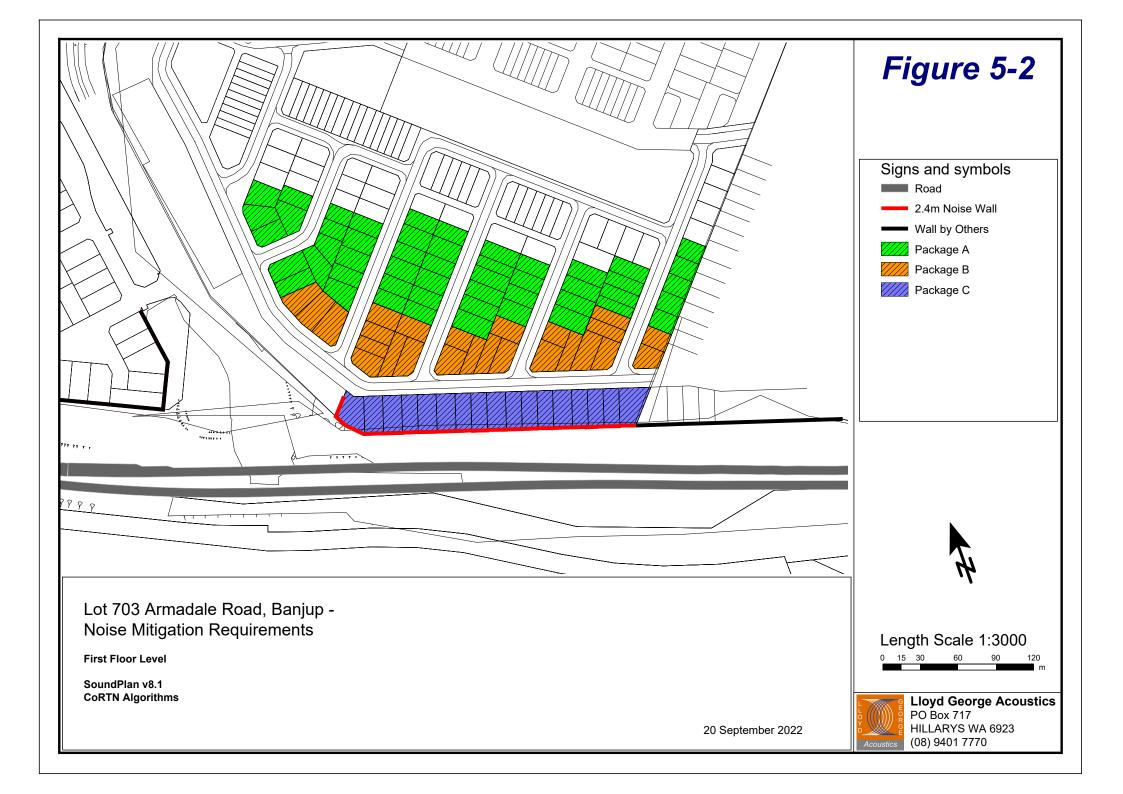
Where the outdoor noise targets of *Table 2-1* are achieved, no further controls are necessary.

With reference to the predicted noise levels in *Section 4*, it is evident the outdoor noise target will be exceeded. As such, the following is recommended:

- Construct a noise wall of 2.4 metres high, relative to finished lot level. The noise wall is to be solid, free of gaps and of minimum surface mass 15 kg/m<sup>2</sup>.
- Where lots are still above the outdoor noise target, the following Packages (refer *Appendix A*) are required:
  - o Package A where noise levels are between 56 dB and 58 dB LAeq(Day);
  - Package B where noise levels are between 59 dB and 62 dB LAeq(Dav);
  - Package C where noise levels are between 63 dB and 66 dB L<sub>Aeq(Day)</sub>;
    - Alternative constructions from the deemed to satisfy packages may be acceptable if supported by a report undertaken by a suitably qualified acoustical consultant (member firm of the Association of Australasian Acoustical Consultants (AAAC)), once the lots specific building plans are available.
- All affected lots are to have notifications on lot titles as per SPP 5.4 requirements refer Appendix A.

The proposed noise mitigation is provided on *Figure 5-1* and *Figure 5-2*, being for the ground and first floor respectively.





#### 5.2 Jandakot Aircraft Noise

With the site being within the Frame Area but outside the 20 ANEF contour, there are no specific noise mitigation requirements, however SPP 5.3 does require the following:

- A notification on title is required, similar to that for road traffic, stating the property is situated
  in the vicinity of Jandakot Airport and is currently affected, or may be affected in the future
  by aircraft noise. Noise exposure levels are likely to increase in the future as a result of an
  increase in the aircraft using the airport, changes in aircraft type, or other operational
  changes.
- Residents should be aware that thicker glass will perform better acoustically as will awning/casement style windows in comparison to sliding windows. The benefit of such windows will require them to be closed and as such, forced ventilation can be considered. These noise controls are not mandatory but for advice only.

Appendix A

**Quiet House Packages** 

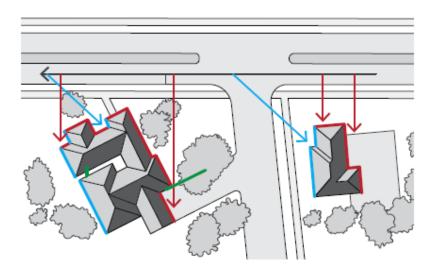
The packages and information provided on the following pages are taken from *Road and Rail Noise Guidelines* (September 2019).

Where outdoor and indoor noise levels received by a noise-sensitive land-use and/or development exceed the policy's noise target, implementation of quiet house requirements is an acceptable solution.

The quiet house packages are not the only solution to achieving acceptable internal transport noise levels. A suitably qualified acoustical engineer or consultant may also determine more tailored acoustic design requirements for buildings in a transport noise corridor by carrying out acoustic design in accordance with relevant industry standards. This includes the need to meet the relevant design targets specified in AS/NZS 2107:2016 for road traffic noise.

With regards to the packages, the following definitions are provided:

- Facing the transport corridor (red): Any part of a building façade is 'facing' the transport corridor if any straight line drawn perpendicular (at a 90 degree angle) to its nearest road lane or railway line intersects that part of the façade without obstruction (ignoring any fence).
- **Side-on** to transport corridor (blue): Any part of a building façade that is not 'facing' is 'side-on' to the transport corridor if any straight line, at any angle, can be drawn from it to intersect the nearest road lane or railway line without obstruction (ignoring any fence).
- Opposite to transport corridor (green): Neither 'side on' nor 'facing', as defined above.



Quiet House Package A

Element	Orientation	Room				
		Bedroom	Indoor Living and Work Areas			
External Windows	Facing	<ul> <li>Up to 40% floor area (R<sub>w</sub> + C<sub>tr</sub> ≥ 28):</li> <li>Sliding or double hung with minimum 10mm single or 6mm-12mm-10mm double insulated glazing;</li> <li>Sealed awning or casement windows with minimum 6mm glass.</li> <li>Up to 60% floor area (R<sub>w</sub> + C<sub>tr</sub> ≥ 31):</li> <li>Sealed awning or casement windows with minimum 6mm glass.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Up to 40% floor area (R<sub>w</sub> + C<sub>tr</sub> ≥ 25):         <ul> <li>Sliding or double hung with minimum 6mm single or 6mm-12mm-6mm double insulated glazing;</li> </ul> </li> <li>Up to 60% floor area (R<sub>w</sub> + C<sub>tr</sub> ≥ 28);</li> <li>Up to 80% floor area (R<sub>w</sub> + C<sub>tr</sub> ≥ 31).</li> </ul>			
	Side On	As above, except $R_{\text{w}}$ + $C_{\text{tr}}$ values may be 3 dB less or max % area increased by 20%.				
	Opposite	No specific r	equirements			
External Doors	Facing	• Fully glazed hinged door with certified $R_w + C_{tr} \ge 28$ rated door and frame including seals and 6mm glass.	<ul> <li>Doors to achieve R<sub>w</sub> + C<sub>tr</sub> ≥ 25:</li> <li>35mm Solid timber core hinged door and frame system certified to R<sub>w</sub> 28 including seals;</li> <li>Glazed sliding door with 10mm glass and weather seals.</li> </ul>			
	Side On	As above, except R <sub>w</sub> + C <sub>tr</sub> values may be 3 dB less.				
	Opposite	No specific requirements				
External Walls	All	<ul> <li>R<sub>w</sub> + C<sub>tr</sub> ≥ 45:</li> <li>Two leaves of 90mm thick clay brick masonry with minimum 20mm cavity; or</li> <li>Single leaf of 150mm brick masonry with 13mm cement render on each face; or</li> <li>One row of 92mm studs at 600mm centres with:</li> <li>Resilient steel channels fixed to the outside of the studs; and</li> <li>9.5mm hardboard or fibre cement sheeting or 11mm fibre cement weatherboards fixed to the outside;</li> <li>75mm thick mineral wool insulation with a density of at least 11kgkg/m³; and</li> <li>2 x 16mm fire-rated plasterboard to inside.</li> </ul>				
Roofs and Ceilings	All	R <sub>w</sub> + C <sub>tr</sub> ≥ 35:     Concrete or terracotta tile or metal sheet roof with sarking and at least 10mm plasterboard.				
Outdoor Living Areas		At least one outdoor living area located on the opposite side of the building from the transport corridor and/or at least one ground level outdoor living area screened using a solid continuous fence or other structure of minimum 2 metres height above ground level.				

Quiet House Package B

Element	Orientation	Room				
		Bedroom Indoor Living and Work Areas				
External Windows	Facing	<ul> <li>Up to 40% floor area (R<sub>w</sub> + C<sub>tr</sub> ≥ 31):         <ul> <li>Fixed sash, awning or casement with minimum 6mm glass or 6mm-12mm-6mm double insulated glazing.</li> <li>Up to 60% floor area (R<sub>w</sub> + C<sub>tr</sub> ≥ 34):                 <ul> <li>Fixed sash, awning or casement with minimum 10mm glass or 6mm-12mm-10mm double insulated glazing.</li> <ul> <li>Up to 60% floor area (R<sub>w</sub> + C<sub>tr</sub> ≥ 31);</li> <li>Up to 60% floor area (R<sub>w</sub> + C<sub>tr</sub> ≥ 31);</li> <li>Up to 80% floor area (R<sub>w</sub> + C<sub>tr</sub> ≥ 34).</li> </ul> </ul></li> </ul> </li> </ul>				
	Side On	As above, except R <sub>w</sub> + C <sub>tr</sub> values may be 3 dB less or max % area increased by 20%.				
	Opposite	As above, except $R_w$ + $C_{tr}$ values may be 6 dB less or max % area increased by 20%.				
External Doors	Facing	<ul> <li>Fully glazed hinged door with certified R<sub>w</sub> + C<sub>tr</sub> ≥ 31 rated door and frame including seals and 10mm glass.</li> <li>Doors to achieve R<sub>w</sub> + C<sub>tr</sub> ≥ 28:         <ul> <li>40mm Solid timber core hinged door and frame system certified to R<sub>w</sub> 32 including seals;</li> <li>Fully glazed hinged door with certified R<sub>w</sub> + C<sub>tr</sub> ≥ 28 rated door and frame including seals and 6mm glass.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>				
	Side On	As above, except $R_{\rm w}$ + $C_{\rm tr}$ values may be 3 dB less or max % area increased by 20%.				
	Opposite	As above, except $R_{\text{w}}$ + $C_{\text{tr}}$ values may be 6 dB less or max % area increased by 20%.				
External Walls	All	<ul> <li>R<sub>w</sub> + C<sub>tr</sub> ≥ 50:</li> <li>Two leaves of 90mm thick clay brick masonry with minimum 50mm cavity between leaves and 25mm glasswool or polyester (24kg/m³). Resilient ties used where required to connect leaves.</li> <li>Two leaves of 110mm clay brick masonry with minimum 50mm cavity between leaves and 25mm glasswool or polyester insulation (24kg/m³).</li> <li>Single leaf of 220mm brick masonry with 13mm cement render on each face.</li> <li>150mm thick unlined concrete panel or 200mm thick concrete panel with one laye of 13mm plasterboard or 13mm cement render on each face.</li> <li>Single leaf of 90mm clay brick masonry with:         <ul> <li>A row of 70mm x 35mm timber studs or 64mm steel studs at 600mm centres</li> <li>A cavity of 25mm between leaves;</li> <li>50mm glasswool or polyester insulation (11kg/m³) between studs; and</li> <li>One layer of 10mm plasterboard fixed to the inside face.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>				
Roofs and Ceilings	All	R <sub>w</sub> + C <sub>tr</sub> ≥ 35:     Concrete or terracotta tile or metal sheet roof with sarking and at least 10mm plasterboard ceiling with R3.0+ fibrous insulation.				
Outdoor Living Areas		At least one outdoor living area located on the opposite side of the building from the transport corridor and/or at least one ground level outdoor living area screened using a solid continuous fence or other structure of minimum 2.4 metres height above ground level.				

Quiet House Package C

QUIEI	110036	ruckuge C				
Element	Orientation	Room				
		Bedroom Indoor Living and Work Areas				
External Windows	Facing Side On	<ul> <li>Up to 20% floor area (R<sub>w</sub> + C<sub>tr</sub> ≥ 31):         <ul> <li>Fixed sash, awning or casement with minimum 6mm glass or 6mm-12mm-6mm double insulated glazing.</li> <li>Up to 40% floor area (R<sub>w</sub> + C<sub>tr</sub> ≥ 34):                  <ul></ul></li></ul></li></ul>				
	Opposite	As above, except R <sub>w</sub> + C <sub>tr</sub> values may be 6 dB less or max % area increased by 20%.				
External Doors	Facing	<ul> <li>Not recommended.</li> <li>Doors to achieve R<sub>w</sub> + C<sub>tr</sub> ≥ 30:         <ul> <li>Fully glazed hinged door with certified R<sub>w</sub> + C<sub>tr</sub> ≥ 31 rated door and frame including seals and 10mm glass;</li> <li>40mm Solid timber core side hinged door, frame and seal system certified to R<sub>w</sub> 32 including seals. Any glass inserts to be minimum 6mm.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>				
	Side On	As above, except $R_{\rm w}$ + $C_{\rm tr}$ values may be 3 dB less or max % area increased by 20%.				
	Opposite	As above, except $R_{\text{w}}$ + $C_{\text{tr}}$ values may be 6 dB less or max % area increased by 20%.				
External Walls	All	<ul> <li>R<sub>w</sub> + C<sub>tr</sub> ≥ 50:         <ul> <li>Two leaves of 90mm thick clay brick masonry with minimum 50mm cavity between leaves and 25mm glasswool or polyester insulation (24kg/m³). Resilient ties used where required to connect leaves.</li> <li>Two leaves of 110mm clay brick masonry with minimum 50mm cavity between leaves and 25mm glasswool or polyester insulation (24kg/m³).</li> <li>Single leaf of 220mm brick masonry with 13mm cement render on each face.</li> <li>150mm thick unlined concrete panel or 200mm thick concrete panel with one layer of 13mm plasterboard or 13mm cement render on each face.</li> <li>Single leaf of 90mm clay brick masonry with:</li></ul></li></ul>				
Roofs and Ceilings	All	<ul> <li>R<sub>w</sub> + C<sub>tr</sub> ≥ 40:</li> <li>Concrete or terracotta tile roof with sarking, or metal sheet roof with foil backed R2.0+ fibrous insulation between steel sheeting and roof battens;</li> <li>R3.0+ insulation batts above ceiling;</li> <li>2 x 10mm plasterboard ceiling or 1 x 13mm sound-rated plasterboard affixed using steel furring channel to ceiling rafters.</li> </ul>				
Outdoor Living Areas		At least one outdoor living area located on the opposite side of the building from the transport corridor and/or at least one ground level outdoor living area screened using a solid continuous fence or other structure of minimum 2.4 metres height above ground level.				

#### **Mechanical Ventilation requirements**

In implementing the acceptable treatment packages, the following mechanical ventilation / air-conditioning considerations are required:

- Acoustically rated openings and ductwork to provide a minimum sound reduction performance of R<sub>w</sub> 40 dB into sensitive spaces;
- Evaporative systems require attenuated ceiling air vents to allow closed windows;
- Refrigerant based systems need to be designed to achieve National Construction Code fresh air ventilation requirements;
- Openings such as eaves, vents and air inlets must be acoustically treated, closed or relocated to building sides facing away from the corridor where practicable.

#### Notification

Notifications on title advise prospective purchasers of the potential for noise impacts from major transport corridors and help with managing expectations.

The Notification is to state as follows:

This lot is in the vicinity of a transport corridor and is affected, or may in the future be affected, by road and rail transport noise. Road and rail transport noise levels may rise or fall over time depending on the type and volume of traffic.

Appendix B

**Terminology** 

The following is an explanation of the terminology used throughout this report.

#### Decibel (dB)

The decibel is the unit that describes the sound pressure and sound power levels of a noise source. It is a logarithmic scale referenced to the threshold of hearing.

#### A-Weighting

An A-weighted noise level has been filtered in such a way as to represent the way in which the human ear perceives sound. This weighting reflects the fact that the human ear is not as sensitive to lower frequencies as it is to higher frequencies. An A-weighted sound level is described as L<sub>A</sub> dB.

#### $L_1$

An L<sub>1</sub> level is the noise level which is exceeded for 1 per cent of the measurement period and is considered to represent the average of the maximum noise levels measured.

#### L<sub>10</sub>

An  $L_{10}$  level is the noise level which is exceeded for 10 per cent of the measurement period and is considered to represent the "intrusive" noise level.

#### L<sub>90</sub>

An L<sub>90</sub> level is the noise level which is exceeded for 90 per cent of the measurement period and is considered to represent the "background" noise level.

#### Lea

The L<sub>eq</sub> level represents the average noise energy during a measurement period.

#### L<sub>A10,18hour</sub>

The  $L_{A10,18 \text{ hour}}$  level is the arithmetic average of the hourly  $L_{A10}$  levels between 6.00 am and midnight. The *CoRTN* algorithms were developed to calculate this parameter.

#### L<sub>Aeq,24hour</sub>

The  $L_{Aeq,24 hour}$  level is the logarithmic average of the hourly  $L_{Aeq}$  levels for a full day (from midnight to midnight).

#### LAeq,8hour / LAeq (Night)

The  $L_{Aeq\ (Night)}$  level is the logarithmic average of the hourly  $L_{Aeq}$  levels from 10.00 pm to 6.00 am on the same day.

#### LAeq, 16hour / LAeq (Day)

The  $L_{Aeq\ (Day)}$  level is the logarithmic average of the hourly  $L_{Aeq}$  levels from 6.00 am to 10.00 pm on the same day. This value is typically 1-3 dB less than the  $L_{A10,18hour}$ .

#### Noise-sensitive land use and/or development

Land-uses or development occupied or designed for occupation or use for residential purposes (including dwellings, residential buildings or short-stay accommodation), caravan park, camping ground, educational establishment, child care premises, hospital, nursing home, corrective institution or place of worship.

#### About the Term 'Reasonable'

An assessment of reasonableness should demonstrate that efforts have been made to resolve conflicts without comprising on the need to protect noise-sensitive land-use activities. For example, have reasonable efforts been made to design, relocate or vegetate a proposed noise barrier to address community concerns about the noise barrier height? Whether a noise mitigation measure is reasonable might include consideration of:

- The noise reduction benefit provided;
- The number of people protected;
- The relative cost vs benefit of mitigation;
- Road conditions (speed and road surface) significantly differ from noise forecast table assumptions;
- Existing and future noise levels, including changes in noise levels;
- Aesthetic amenity and visual impacts;
- Compatibility with other planning policies;
- Differences between metropolitan and regional situations and whether noise modelling requirements reflect the true nature of transport movements;
- Ability and cost for mobilisation and retrieval of noise monitoring equipment in regional areas;
- Differences between Greenfield and infill development;
- Differences between freight routes and public transport routes and urban corridors;
- The impact on the operational capacity of freight routes;
- The benefits arising from the proposed development;
- Existing or planned strategies to mitigate the noise at source.

#### About the Term 'Practicable'

'Practicable' considerations for the purposes of the policy normally relate to the engineering aspects of the noise mitigation measures under evaluation. It is defined as "reasonably practicable having regard to, among other things, local conditions and circumstances (including costs) and to the current state of technical knowledge" (Environmental Protection Act 1986). These may include:

- Limitations of the different mitigation measures to reduce transport noise;
- Competing planning policies and strategies;
- Safety issues (such as impact on crash zones or restrictions on road vision);
- Topography and site constraints (such as space limitations);
- Engineering and drainage requirements;
- Access requirements (for driveways, pedestrian access and the like);
- Maintenance requirements;
- Bushfire resistance or BAL ratings;
- Suitability of the building for acoustic treatments.

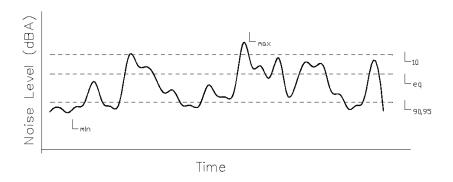
#### $R_w$

This is the weighted sound reduction index and is similar to the previously used STC (Sound Transmission Class) value. It is a single number rating determined by moving a grading curve in integral steps against the laboratory measured transmission loss until the sum of the deficiencies at each one-third-octave band, between 100 Hz and 3.15 kHz, does not exceed 32 dB. The higher the  $R_{\rm w}$  value, the better the acoustic performance.

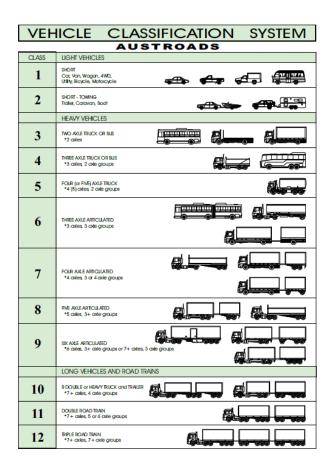
#### $C_{tr}$

This is a spectrum adaptation term for airborne noise and provides a correction to the  $R_w$  value to suit source sounds with significant low frequency content such as road traffic or home theatre systems. A wall that provides a relatively high level of low frequency attenuation (i.e. masonry) may have a value in the order of -4 dB, whilst a wall with relatively poor attenuation at low frequencies (i.e. stud wall) may have a value in the order of -14 dB.

#### **Chart of Noise Level Descriptors**



#### **Austroads Vehicle Class**



### **Typical Noise Levels**

