

Consultation Response from: KC Environmental Health (Pollution & Noise Control)		
2025/92913 - 393 Bradford Road, Fartown, Huddersfield, HD2 2QY		
Change of use of dwelling (Use Class C3) for provision of education hall or meeting place for the principal use of the local community (Use Class F1) including erection of open sided structure to rear		
Responding Date: 22 January 2026	Responding Officer: Mohammed Nasim	Responding Ref: WK2025
<p>The applicant has submitted an undated and unreferenced Planning Statement along with a Noise Impact Assessment (NIA) authored by Noise Assessments Ltd dated 28 November 2025 Ref NALPRO191125.01 in support of the proposal.</p> <p>The Planning Statement states the proposed hours are -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the month of Muharram and Ramadhan, and occasional religious gatherings - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Sunday to Thursday - 1630hrs to 2130hrs – Friday and Saturday - 1100hrs to 2130hrs • Rest of the year - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Sunday to Friday - 1630hrs to 1930hrs – Saturday - 1100hrs to 1930hrs <p>The applicant proposes to limit the number of users to 40 individuals.</p> <p>The NIA describes the proposal as break out rooms, offices, meeting rooms, toilet facilities, and a get-together open hall for socials with worst case number of visitors to be 25 (and up to 40, 2-3x a year) utilising the ground and first floors. However, most gatherings will be in the main hall on the ground floor.</p> <p>Attended background noise measurements were undertaken on 21st November 2025 from a single monitoring position to the rear as shown in figure 1 with comment made that the noise climate around the site is dominated by noise from nearby road traffic throughout the day and evening including cars and HGVs/LGVs.</p> <p>Section 12 states the dominant noise source on-site will be voices of visitors and background music within the site and that noise breakout will occur through the weakest part of the external façade i.e. the double glazing with doors closed. It uses library data from a similar site but no specific detail is given. Para 12.3 tabulates human voice and music but again, no specific detail is given on numbers nor volume levels. Based upon their reasoning, the author predicts the noise level will be below the measured background level resulting in a low impact.</p> <p>Section 14 considers the internal adjoining wall describing its construction as brick and plasterboard with a Rw value of 38. A recommendation is made for this to be upgraded as per the construction in Appendix H which would ensure it achieves 63dB $D_{nTw} + C_{tr}$ which would be accepted.</p>		

A noise management plan is proposed but this is brief in detail.

The report is rejected as the submitted information is inadequate to assess the impact of the proposal.

Comments

In considering the proposal, there are a number of uncertainties within the application. The proposed hours of use are vague and unenforceable via condition as the timings of the religious months are not fixed and the morning and evening prayers are dependent upon the daylight hours and therefore likely to be outside of the proposed hours.

There is some contradiction on the number of users as the Planning Statement refers to 40 whereas the NIA is based upon the worst case number of visitors of 25 and up to 40, 2-3x a year (para 1.3). No information is given on how the numbers would be controlled and this is likely to be exceeded at 'occasional religious gatherings' i.e. Eid when the timings of the prayers and numbers of attendees would likely be contrary to the proposal, again making it unenforceable via condition.

The report refers to a similar site in London but no detail is given on that use. No detail is given on the volume levels used nor on the control measures on the use of any amplified equipment. Singing has been mentioned but this has not been referred to in the NIA exercise.

Whilst the NIA recommends works to the party wall, it is unclear if this is to the ground floor only. There is some uncertainty on the numbers of users upstairs so this work will be required to both floors in order to prevent flanking sound transmission to the neighbouring property.

The Planning Statement refers to a 'single-storey open-sided structure' but no detail has been given on the use of the external amenity area and this has not been considered in the NIA. Objections have been raised on the congregating of individuals which may lead to a loss of amenity.

The noise management plan does not detail any measures to control noise which could lead to a loss of amenity from any defined use.

Based upon the above reasoning, we are unable to support this application.