

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Planning Committee

11 May 2011

AUTHOR/S: Executive Director / Corporate Manager – Planning and Sustainable Communities

**S/1689/10 – Great Shelford
Tesco Stores Ltd**

Recommendation: Approval

Date for Determination: 29th November 2010

A. Update to the report

Agenda report paragraph number 22 – Richard Collman (Acoustic Engineer)

Despite several concerns regarding the application of the ISO 9613-2 methodology to this assessment, the selection of criteria, and the selection of noise sensitive locations, there is sufficient information in the report to demonstrate that noise from the plant, as proposed, will not adversely affect the amenity of neighbouring residents to a significant extent.

Agenda report paragraph number 47 – Residential Amenity (Noise)

The acoustic report submitted with the application applies the widely recognised ISO 9613 Part 2 methodology to calculate the sound level at the identified noise receptors. However, there are errors in this analysis, which are likely to result in a higher than expected level of noise from the refrigeration condenser and a lower than expected level of noise from the air conditioning condensing units. The analysis appears to allow a level of 3dB for reflection of sound from the wall against which the equipment will be located, but ignores reflections from other surfaces.

In the case of the proposed condenser the overall result of reflected sound would result in an increase in the sound level at the identified noise sensitive locations by a few decibels, but given the low noise level that the report advocates and the lower noise level that the condenser is calculated to produce, this is considered to be a concern with regard to amenity. In the case of the proposed air conditioning units it is expected that the increased screening and directivity attenuation to more than offset the likely reverberant increase. This would result in a slightly lower than calculated noise level at the identified noise sensitive location.

The barrier calculation appears to assume a single (infinitely thin) barrier rather than the presence of the buildings. Particularly in the case of the air conditioning condensing units, the building will significantly increase the attenuation to sound from these units at the identified noise sensitive windows.

In conclusion the advice afforded by the independent acoustic noise consultant concurs with that of the Environmental Health Officer, in that the proposed plant and machinery would not result in any adverse affect upon the amenity of neighbouring residential amenity.

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