

**REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – NET**

**NOISE ON NOEL STREET**

A letter was received in November 2003 from Mr John Macdonald, Chairman of the Linda Macdonald Trust, who are landlords of nos. 22 and 24 Noel Street. He has received complaints from his tenants concerning the disturbance caused to them by tram noise and vibrations. The properties are located at the junction of Noel Street and Terrace Street, to the north of the track crossover.

A response was sent, stating that testing of noise and vibration was ongoing and that BCC would investigate the possibility of introducing remedial measures if compliance with the system specification or with statutory legislation cannot be met. The complainant was advised that it is possible that they may be eligible to compensation under Part I of the Land Compensation Act 1973, but that claims cannot be made until the tram has been fully operational for twelve months.

Since the date of this response, noise surveys have been undertaken along the route in order to establish a scheme providing for the making of grants towards the cost of insulating buildings against noise caused by the tram. This is in accordance with Section 57 of the GNLRT Act and the Noise Insulation (Railways and Other Guided Transport Systems) Regulations 1996. The results of the surveys indicate that nos. 22 and 24 fall outside the zone that will qualify for noise insulation under the scheme. The neighbouring row of properties (nos. 8-20), which are closer to the track crossover, do qualify for insulation.

The Contractor is continuing to investigate methods of reducing noise and vibration at this location.

**Recommendations:**

**It is recommended that this report be noted**

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF NET**

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**30 January 2014**

**Our Ref: ACH/THD/034**

Mr J Macdonald  
The Linda Macdonald Trust  
The Nook  
24 Main Street  
Papplewick  
Nottinghamshire  
NG15 8FD

**Contact: Andrew Holdstock**

**Direct Line: 0115 915 6520**

Dear Mr Macdonald,

**Nottingham Express Transit – Line One  
Properties at 22 and 24 Noel Street**

I refer to your letter of 13 November 2003 addressed to the Greater Nottingham Light Rapid Transit Advisory Committee concerning disturbance experienced by your tenants at the above properties caused by the passing of trams.

As you may be aware, design and construction of NET Line One is being undertaken by the Bombardier Carillion Consortium (BCC). The system specification, produced by the Promoters (Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire County Councils), stipulates the maximum limits of noise and vibration with which the system must comply. Testing to confirm compliance with the specification is currently being undertaken along the route by BCC.

With respect to noise / vibration resulting from trams traversing the trackwork diamond at the Noel Street / Terrace Street junction, BCC have informed me that technical experts from the manufacturer of the diamond have visited the site to produce recommendations on how to reduce these effects. Equipment is currently being manufactured that will enable the running surfaces of the trackwork at this location to be reshaped and it is hoped that this work will be completed within the next two to three weeks.

In order to mitigate noise caused by trams traversing the curve from Terrace Street into Noel Street BCC have now undertaken manual lubrication of the rail and their site observations indicate that this has been effective in significantly reducing noise. It can be expected that further wear and regular use of tram-mounted lubrication equipment as the system settles down to timetable running will further improve the situation.

With reference to the “basic / ordinary” noise of the trams travelling down Noel Street and behind Asda, BCC are continuing to monitor this situation and, as stated above, will have to demonstrate that the noise and vibration produced by the tram meets the limits set down in the specification. Where they do not, then remedial measures will need to be investigated.

For your information, if your properties continue to experience adverse effects from noise or vibration once full tram services have commenced, it is possible that you may be entitled to compensation under Part I of the Land Compensation Act 1973. Claims cannot be made until the tram has been fully operating for twelve months. You may also be able to claim for noise insulation under the Railway Noise Insulation Regulations 1996. A leaflet explaining the procedure for making a claim can be obtained from the Department for Transport (Tel. 0870 122 6236).

I trust that the above information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,  
for and on behalf of Nottingham City Council  
and Nottinghamshire County Council

**P.J. Armstrong**

**Promoters Representative**

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