



# Environmental Noise Assessment

The requirement to define the existing noise environment under particular weather conditions and operational situations may be important in:

- Submitting a planning application
- Demonstrating planning compliance
- Investigating a complaint
- Defining design requirements for new buildings or processes

The outcomes of environmental monitoring can help to establish that development can be acceptable in planning terms, and forms an essential ingredient to the assessment of noise impacts. Information may provide early insight into the requirements for noise control measures to either prevent disturbance to others or to guide a proposal into providing sufficient protection against noise.

An environmental noise assessment might require long-term unattended monitoring if it is to establish 'typical' values of ambient and background noise levels under a range of conditions. Monitoring data can also help to establish periodic trends and to identify periods of unpredictable noise.

A requirement to periodically demonstrate compliance with planning noise limits might result either directly from a noise monitoring condition, arise in response to a noise complaint or be the requirement of a quality system adopted by an operator. Under these situations attended monitoring would usually be required so as to ensure unwanted noise interference was avoided and to provide an accurate description of the noise sources.

## What we can provide

We can offer measurement and advice that provides:

- Long-term unattended monitoring with noise analysers that can be programmed to capture both events and the ambient noise averages needed to determine representative background noise levels
- Attended noise monitoring using equipment that can provide more detailed frequency analysis and audio recording
- Reports that incorporate data and event analysis, provide tabulated averaging, graphical representations of noise over time, level versus frequency or statistical expression of level variation