



# Traffic and Vehicle Noise Assessment

Measuring the noise from traffic or from specific vehicles may be required for a number of reasons, including:

- To provide confirmation of baseline noise level for traffic modelling predictions
- To provide pre-development and post-development data
- To provide data to justify measures under Noise Action Planning
- To establish eligibility for traffic noise compensation
- To establish legal compliance with vehicle noise limits
- To provide information to support competitive vehicle registration

The proposed development of new highways will require consideration of the existing noise environment at noise sensitive locations in order to assess noise impact and eligibility for noise compensation and acoustic insulation grants. Noise level data may be necessary when residents apply for compensation if their property value goes down as a result of a new or altered road.

Noise Action Planning requires highway authorities to put in place measures to consider and reduce the noise from traffic affecting residential locations. Noise mapping will have identified First Priority Locations that require noise control measures to be instigated. Noise monitoring can confirm if the categorisation of these locations is valid. Advice and measurement can be provided to detail control measures and assess the improvements achieved.

There have been limits to the amount of noise that any vehicle can make on public roads since 1929 when the Motor Cars (Excessive Noise) Regulations were introduced. Measurements can support the police in taking action against vehicle modifications or drivers that create noise that exceeds that defined during vehicle 'type approval'. Vehicle noise emission data may be required by drivers of high performance vehicles if they are to demonstrate that emissions comply with the noise limits defined by a specific track or racing association.

## What we can provide

We can offer measurement and advice that provides:

- Unattended long-term environmental noise surveys
- Traffic noise impact assessment
- Vehicle noise testing to specific requirements or EU Directive 92/97