

Bank Station Capacity Upgrade – fact sheet 7 Noise and vibration (construction)

Introduction

London Underground is committed to minimising the impact of noise and vibration levels on neighbours. Noise and vibration arising from the construction works will be controlled through the application of 'Best Practicable Means' (BPM), and monitored throughout the construction period.

The project will adhere to a detailed Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) which sets out measures to minimise the adverse effects of the construction activities, including BPM to reduce noise and vibration. London Underground and our contractor, Dragados, will continue to liaise with the Corporation of London's Pollution Control Team to agree the application of BPM and to ensure the CoCP represents the most suitable arrangements to reduce adverse construction effects.

Working hours

Control of working hours is a fundamental means of managing noise and vibration effects. Dragados will undertake the works as far as practicable during standard working hours. These are:

- 08:00 - 18:00 hrs on weekdays (excluding Public Holidays)
- 08:00 - 13:00 hrs on Saturdays.

For reasons of safety and engineering practicality, certain elements of construction work may take place 24 hours a day, seven days a week. These works will generally be limited to:

- Below ground activities associated with excavation and tunnelling
- Surface operations undertaken in support of below ground works

In addition, there may be some surface activities that are undertaken outside core project hours including where:

- Works are particularly quiet in nature
- Activities which would have a greater impact if undertaken during core hours
- A continuous construction process is required and the activity cannot be completed during core hours.

Noise and vibration control measures

The application of mitigation for potential noise and vibration effects will be considered and implemented in the following order:

First, noise and vibration minimisation at source: for example the selection of quiet or low vibration equipment, review of construction methodology to consider quieter methods and the use of less intrusive reversing alarms on vehicles

Second, screening and positioning: for example local screening of equipment or perimeter hoarding; as well as the location of equipment on site.

Minimisation at source

Where appropriate and practicable, the measures adopted to minimise noise and vibration levels will include:

- Employing only modern, quiet and well-maintained equipment
- Careful planning of the sequence of work
- Using low vibration equipment in the tunnelling works
- Use of mains electricity in preference to petrol or diesel powered generators
- Careful handling of materials and waste, including when loading/unloading
- Avoidance of unnecessary noise such as engines idling between operations through effective site management

Screening and positioning

Where noise and vibration control at source is not practicable or adequate, the distance from source to sensitive neighbours will be maximised and screening implemented. This can be achieved through:

- Intelligent siting of loading / unloading areas
- Erecting impervious hoardings
- Use of temporary screening structures
- Erection of acoustic screens or enclosures around static equipment

Stakeholder information

Neighbours will be provided with written information on planned works, including the nature of the works, working hours and the anticipated duration. This information will include a 24 hour telephone helpline that can be contacted in order to obtain additional information, report observations or express concerns. Contact details will be displayed on site hoardings.

Further information

For more information visit: tfl.gov.uk/bank-consultation or email BankSCU@tfl.gov.uk
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