



S7 – Noise assessment

This document is designed to help you provide evidence for meeting the noise assessment requirement to achieve your FORS Silver accreditation. If you have more than one operating centre (OC), this assessment will need to be carried out at each OC within the current scope of your FORS accreditation. Please feel free to attach further information that would support the evidence provided.

1. Do delivery and servicing activities take place at your operating centre (please tick all that apply):

During the day (07:00 – 23:00):

During the night (23:00 – 07:00):

2. Is your operating centre located in a noise sensitive area?

(Noise sensitive areas are areas adjacent to your operating centre which would be adversely affected by excessive noise levels e.g. hospitals, schools, churches, neighbourhoods, nature reserves, etc)

Yes

No

Please provide a brief description of the location of your operating centre and who, if anyone, is affected by your operations (Top tip: use google earth to highlight areas that may be affected by the noise your operation generates).

The operating centre is in an approved industrial / commercial location and not immediately next to any residential areas.

The noise we generate is minimum and our vehicles are maintained in accordance with manufacturers recommendations.

All our vehicles are fitted with White Noise Reversing alarms. The operating centres has a minimal noise electronic gate and we do not have any shutters to make further noise.

The industrial estate includes many different business's that create noise at different levels and our business generated noise is minimal.

In order to provide evidence of how you may reduce noise levels during operation, please provide answers to the following seven questions using the space provided. The questions asked in the table are designed to get you to think about the options available for reducing noise levels. Base your answer to these questions on the "things to consider" and make use of the guidance documents available.

Question 1	Things to consider	Evidence
Can you retime your deliveries between your sites, to take place outside of night-time or early hours?	Who are the staff involved and what the impact would be of retiming of deliveries?	Evidence should be provided to show that you have considered the various aspects involved in retiming of deliveries
Our works and deliveries are timed to suit the client and project and any specific timings given to us by them.		

In line with FORS Standard Version 6.0 transitional provision for 'S7 Noise pollution', this template is valid from 19 October 2021.

Question 2	Things to consider	Evidence
Do you specify noise reduction equipment on new vehicles and/or consider retrofitting on current vehicles?	Newer and quieter delivery vehicles and equipment where possible e.g. Quiet roll cages, rubber floor mats, soft-close doors, remote controlled shutter door systems, electric hand pallet trucks, low-noise refrigeration units, automatic shut-off radios, broad band reversing alarms	The evidence provided should show what noise reduction equipment is currently fitted to your vehicles. If equipment isn't fitted to current vehicles, evidence shall be provided of an assessment that has been carried out to explore equipment available for future fitment
We do not specify any noise reduction equipment on our vehicles. All vehicles and equipment are maintained in accordance with manufacturers instructions and do not require any further noise reduction equipment.		

Question 3	Things to consider	Evidence
Do you have a code of practice to communicate methods of reducing noise pollution to drivers?	Ensure all colleagues involved in delivery activity are briefed and trained on methods to reduce noise pollution during operation	The evidence provided shall show messages regarding noise reduction are communicated to drivers including any training administered on this topic
Our noise pollution policy containing our code of practice is contained in our policy documents, handbook and risk assessments.		

Question 4	Things to consider	Evidence
Do you conduct site evaluation report(s) that detail potential and predicted noise pollution at your own site(s)?	What areas of operation at your own site(s) cause noise pollution and what can be done to limit this?	The evidence shall show that you have reviewed your site(s) to see what aspects of operation create noise pollution and actions that can be taken to minimise this
<p>We have conducted a noise assessments on our vehicles and a noise management checklist. Currently there is nothing we can do to minimise the noise generated. The noise that is generated by our vehicles is quite minimal and our vehicles and equipment are maintained in line with manufacturers guidance. Our works and deliveries are timed to suit the client and project and any specific timings given to us by them.</p> <p>Our noise pollution policy containing our code of practice is contained in our policy documents, handbook and risk assessments</p>		

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Question 5	Things to consider	Evidence
Can you demonstrate you have carried out a risk assessment for employees working in and around excessive noise levels?	You are required to make an accurate estimate of your workers' daily personal noise exposure. Daily personal noise exposure should be made up of a combination of 'how loud' and 'how long exposed' for the various noises that a person is exposed to in a working day	The evidence shall show how you have considered not only the risks to employees' health and safety but also employees' estimated exposure to noise. You should be able to give example of what actions you have taken as a result
Our policy and risk assessments have been communicated to all relevant staff.		

Question 6	Things to consider	Evidence
Can you demonstrate that risk assessments provided by your clients/specifiers are assessed and are sufficient to meet the requirements of the task?	You are required to make an accurate estimate of your workers' daily personal noise exposure. Daily personal noise exposure should be made up of a combination of 'how loud' and 'how long exposed' for the various noises that a person is exposed to in a working day and is there a process in place to report observations back to the client/specifier?	The evidence shall demonstrate the steps you have taken to ensure that the risk assessments provided meet the requirements and that provision is in place to report any risk to the employees.
All of our client's risk assess their work environments communicate them to us. These are then immediately issued to our drivers. Our policy and risk assessments have been communicated to all relevant staff.		

Question 7	Things to consider	Evidence
Do you provide and maintain equipment to reduce noise in the workplace or provide information, instruction, and training on protecting against noise in the workplace?	<p>What areas of your business are employees required to use hearing protection or equipment to reduce noise? What type of protection is available and how do you alert employees wearing hearing protection?</p> <p>What areas of your business would need to display warning signage? Does information/training need to be shared with all employees or just certain groups?</p>	You can detail how you have taken action to limit noise. Moreover, you should be able to show how you keep up with what is good practice or the standard for noise-control within your industry, i.e. through your trade association, or machinery or equipment suppliers. Evidence shall include what types of equipment is available to your employees to protect against noise and how it is maintained or how often it is replaced
All vehicles and equipment is maintained according to manufacturers recommendations. All drivers are provided with PPE including ear defenders and are trained in noise management. Training is given on noise in the workplace and policy and risk assessments have been communicated to all relevant staff.		

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PPE is issued to all driving and operating staff.

Resources:

- [FORS Practitioner workshop 10 - Managing Noise in Logistics](#)
- [Department of Transport - Reducing noise to make deliveries outside normal delivery hours](#)
- [FORS Quiet Equipment Guide](#)
- [HSE-Noise at work](#)
- [HSE-Hearing calculations](#)
- [HSE- Worried about your hearing?](#)
- [IOSH- Advice for employees](#)
- [OH&S-Ten ways to reduce noise exposure for your workers exposure for your workers](#)

The Environmental Protection Act 1990 provides the main controls on 'Statutory Nuisances', including noise from premises. The Noise and Statutory Nuisance Act 1993 also applies to nuisances arising from stationary vehicles, machinery, and other equipment, in the street. Under the Act, local authorities have a duty to inspect their areas from time-to-time to detect nuisances and to serve an abatement notice on the person responsible. They also have a duty to investigate any complaint made by a person living within their area.

Health and Safety Executive (HSE) - The Control of Noise at Work Regulations 2005

The protection of employees to excessive noise exposure is not part of the FORS Silver S7 requirement. However, operators should be aware of the legal requirement to protect employees from excessive noise at their place of work as stated in the HSE Control of Noise at Work Regulation 2005.

- The Control of Noise at Work Regulations 2005 are based on a European Union Directive requiring similar basic laws throughout the Union on protecting workers from the risks caused by noise
- It states the daily and weekly noise limits which an individual can be exposed to which fleet operators should be aware of
- Please visit <http://www.hse.gov.uk/noise/> where you can find the Noise at Work Regulation act and supporting guidance

Top tip: *There are a variety of free noise measuring apps available which can be downloaded onto a mobile device or tablet and used to assess the noise created by vehicles and equipment. These noise levels should then be measured against legal limits set out in The Control of Noise at Work Regulations 2005 (<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2005/1643/contents/made>).*

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