



CONSTRUCTION NOISE LEVELS

CONSTRUCTION NOISE AT FINZELS REACH – AN EXPLANATION

JUNE 2020

AN EXPLANATION

Firstly, we are very sorry about the impact that the noise from the Halo construction site at Finzels Reach is having on some local residents and people working nearby.

We recognise that this situation is particularly challenging during the lock down, when people in the city centre are spending more time at home and have become accustomed to much lower levels of background noise than normal.

We therefore thought it would be helpful to explain what is currently happening on our construction site, why the works need to be done and how long this situation is likely to last.

Having completed the initial demolition works, our contractors are now constructing the basement level of the building. In order to stabilise the site and ensure that the underground services in the area are not disturbed, a steel curtain needs to be installed around the perimeter of the site, which will act as a barrier when excavation work starts.

This work involves driving steel plates fifteen metres into the ground to create the barrier and foundation. Each sheet is lifted by crane and then attached to a vibrio rig which vibrates the plate into the ground, before the final part of the plate is driven in by hammer. The vibrio machine takes about 15-20 minutes for each steel plate and the work requires a high degree of precision so sometimes plates will need to be lifted and re-fitted.

Throughout these construction works, we monitor sound levels on a 24/7 basis, which allows us to measure the background noise against the peak of the sound created during the work. After taking initial sound levels, we discovered that the vibrio machine being used to vibrate the plates was found to be louder than we expected so we stopped work and are now using different kit which is quieter. Currently, during the piling works, the sound level averages at 70 db while the hammer is working with peaks at 80 -85 db during the vibrio works.

The lock down caused by the Covid-19 outbreak has significantly reduced normal levels of external activity in the area, with far fewer cars on the road and people out on the streets.

The measurements we are currently taking show the night-time noise levels have fallen from normal levels of 54-62 decibels at night to as low as 39 decibels and day time levels are currently 50 decibels instead of 62-70 decibels. Unfortunately, the lower levels of background noise we are currently experiencing only serve to highlight the noise coming from construction site, making it appear louder by contrast.

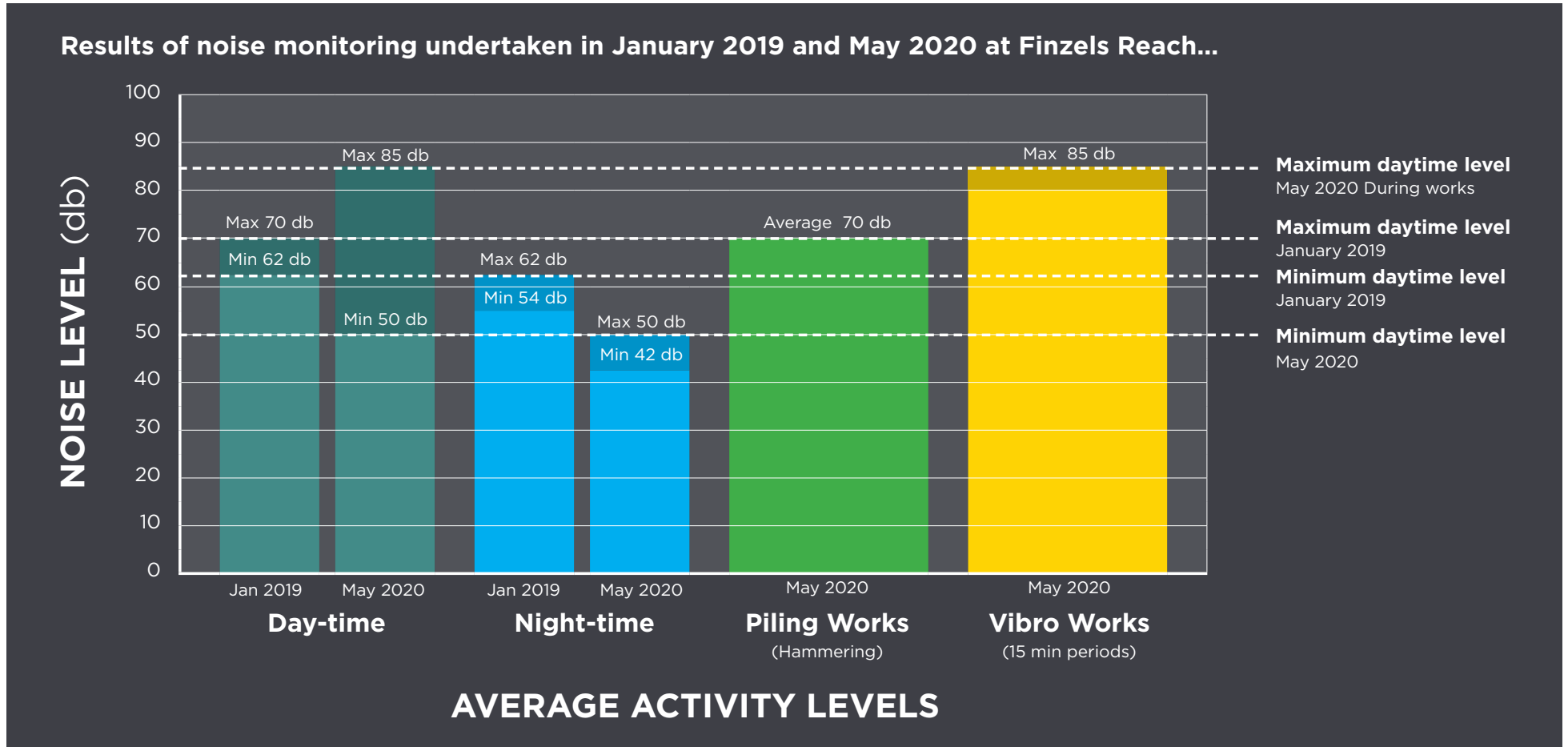
LIMITING NOISE IMPACT ON OUR NEIGHBOURS

We are very much aware of the impact this has on neighbours and we are trying our best to complete this work as soon as we possibly can. Our current schedule is to complete the piling work by July 10th but we are making good progress and now hope to have the noisy vibro work complete by the 19th June and the rest of the work by the 26th June. We are going to do our best to meet these dates but please be aware that if we encounter very difficult ground conditions during the work, the timescales could slip.

We have asked Environmental Health to visit the site to make sure they are happy with the measures we are taking and will of course make any changes they request.

As well as creating new offices to support jobs in the area and new homes at Finzels Reach, we are also investing over £2 million in improving the surrounding area, particularly the streets surrounding the site. Our measures will create a much nicer area for everyone, with new planting and trees, and pedestrians and cyclists will benefit from new cycle lanes, traffic calming measures and wider pavements.

NOISE LEVEL MONITORING



Please do check www.finzelsreach.com/stite-updates/ for updates and we'd like to encourage our neighbours to sign up to the text service so we can advise you of any activity on site, deliveries etc. which may impact on people in the area.

Regards

The team at Finzels Reach

KEEPING YOU IN THE KNOW

We wanted to let you know that we have put in place a number of ways to contact us if you have any concerns about the ongoing work at Finzels Reach.

Text: **SITE to 07451 288850**
Email: **site@finzelsreach.com**
Voice message: **07451 288850**

For environmental reasons, we won't be sending any future communications to you on paper.

To stay up-to-date please register your contact details with us to make sure you don't miss any important messages or useful information.

To register your contact details visit:
finzelsreach.com/contact/

Thank you!

The Team at Finzels Reach



@finzelsreach