

NOISE MONITORING RECORDER (NMR) PROCEDURE

1. Limitations

The Noise Monitoring Recorder can only record noise it cannot tell where the noise is coming from. It has limitations in properties where multiple noise sources could exist e.g. flats. It should therefore be used with caution if a number of noise complaint sources are in the same building.

Evidence of noise on a Noise Monitoring Recorder relies on the complainant stating where the noise source emanates from. They should also be prepared to provide a statement in court at a later date. The team would ideally wish to witness noise nuisance in person on at least one occasion to confirm the source.

o When will the Noise Monitoring Recorder be Useful?

When the:

- Noise is on only for short duration therefore not giving noise officers time to attend and monitor via the Noise and Pollution Monitoring Service
- Noise is always on outside our monitoring service hours

2. Noise Monitoring Recorder System

- Diary sheets sent out
- Diary sheets returned
- Diary sheets assessed and recorder deemed suitable or not
- Complainant put on the waiting list (if appropriate)
- Recorder installed
- Recorder returned
- Recorder assessed for nuisance or not
- Action taken

3. Paper or Electronic Diary Sent

Diary sheets should be sent to the complainant.

Note:

Diary sheets may not be required if the complainant is regularly calling the monitoring service outside service hours

4. Diary Sheets Returned

Assess the diary sheets to see if complaint is suitable for a Noise Monitoring Recorder

Note:

If the noise complained of is on for long periods of time and mainly on during the times of our service, the complainant should be advised to continue to use the service and not be put on the waiting list.

5. Waiting List

A list is kept of all complainants awaiting Noise Monitoring Recorder installation and these will generally be contacted in date order.

6. Installation and Return of the Noise Monitoring Recorder

Noise Monitoring Recorders will generally be installed by an EHO/PCO. EHOs and PCOs with Noise Monitoring Recorders must check the waiting list when they have a recorder available and make an appointment to install it. The recorders are usually installed for 1 week. However, if appropriate they can be installed to fit the pattern of the noise as identified in the diary e.g. if the problem is only at weekends. When installed, the complainant has to sign 2 copies of the declaration on the 'Noise Recorder Sheets', 1 for the complainant and 1 copy for the team. They are also asked to complete a diary of recordings made.

7. Yes, Nuisance Witnessed

A letter should be sent to the perpetrator depending at what stage of action the complaint is at.

Also the complainant should be sent a letter telling them that a nuisance/problem was witnessed.

8. Not a Nuisance

The complainant should be sent a letter telling them that a nuisance was not witnessed.