East Midlands Gateway
Phase 2 (EMG2)

Document DCO 7.10

Note on Community Park Operational Sound Levels

APRIL 2026

The East Midlands Gateway Phase 2
and Highway Order 202X and The East Midlands Gateway
Rail Freight and Highway (Amendment) Order 202X

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The East Midlands Gateway Phase 2 and Highway Order 202X

NOTE ON COMMUNITY PARK OPERATIONAL SOUND LEVELS (DOCUMENT DCO 7.10)

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VANGUARDIA

A BURO HAPPOLD COMPANY

Project Note

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1 Introduction

The Examining Panel's (ExP) first written questions and requests for information (ExQ1) for the East Midlands Gateway Phase 2 (EMG2) project were issued on 18 March 2026. They included the following:

> ***Q1.4.2***
> ***Community Park***
> *The ExP is seeking to understand how attractive the community park would be as an amenity. Therefore, can the applicants provide the following information:*
>
> - *isophones (sound levels) across the whole of the park with the proposed development in operation based on the worst-case analysis assessed in the ES*
>
> …
> *This information should also be provided graphically on a plan of the community park.*
> …

2 Predicted Operational Sound Levels at Community Park

Chapter 7 of the Environmental Statement (ES) [AS-035] included predictions and assessment of sound from operational activity at the EMG2 Main Site based on the layout presented in the submitted Illustrative Landscape Masterplan [APP-040D] drawing, as well as an alternate layout which re-oriented several units to represent a reasonable worst-case in noise terms at sensitive receptors close to the boundary.

Sound maps have been produced for both of these layouts that show the predicted operational sound levels from the EMG2 Main Site across the community park, based on the worst-case 1-hour period of operational activity during the day (07:00-23:00), which was the basis of the main assessment of operational sound during the day. These are presented in **Figure 2—1** and **Figure 2—2** below.

Figure 2—1: Predicted operational sound levels from EMG2 Main site during worst-case 1-hour period of day (dB $L_{Aeq,1hr}$, illustrative landscape masterplan layout)

Figure 2—2: Predicted operational sound levels from EMG2 Main site during worst-case 1-hour period of day (dB $L_{Aeq,1hr}$, alternate layout)

Further details of the of the sound maps presented in **Figure 2—1** and **Figure 2—2** above are as follows:

- The prediction method and input assumptions are as described in paragraph 7.2.27 of Chapter 7 of the ES;
- The sounds levels are predicted at a height of 1.5 m above local ground level, and the prediction grid resolution is 10 m x 10 m;
- The screening effects of existing and proposed landscaping and buildings are included as part of the predictions; and
- The ground effect parameter of the country park area is set to 0.5; the potential effects of any other vegetation are excluded.

3 Analysis of Predicted Operational Sound Levels at Community Park

Figure 2—1 and **Figure 2—2** show that sound from operational activity at the EMG2 Main Site is not predicted to exceed 40 dB $L_{Aeq,1hr}$ across most of the Community Park, with some smaller areas unlikely to exceed 45 dB $L_{Aeq,1hr}$.

The typical background sound levels during the day as measured at the closest survey locations (L01 and L05, at the north and south ends of the park respectively) as part of the baseline noise survey detailed in Chapter 7 of the ES are 44 and 47 dB $L_{A90,15min}$. Using the same method as described in paragraphs 7.2.31 to 7.2.32 of Chapter 7 of this ES, the difference between the predicted operational sound levels across the Community Park during the worst-case 1-hour period of operational activity during the day and the typical background sound levels indicate that operational sound would have a low impact, and no adverse or significant adverse effects are predicted.

Furthermore, while not directly applicable to parks, the predicted sound levels across the Community Park during the worst-case 1-hour period of operational activity during the day are well below the lower boundary of the desirable sound level range for external amenity areas (typically private gardens) as presented in Table 7.11 of Chapter 7 of the ES, i.e., 50-55 dB $L_{Aeq,T}$.