

Noise Insulation Grant Scheme 2023

Application Guidelines

Bristol Airport Environmental
Improvement Fund

Introduction

The Noise Insulation Scheme is run as part of the Bristol Airport Environmental Improvement Fund.

This fund was established to invest in a range of local projects which benefit the local community and environment. The main purpose of the fund is to mitigate the impacts of the Airport's operations and give something back to the surrounding communities who are affected by being situated in close proximity to Bristol Airport. It reflects our aim for sustainable growth by being respectful of the local community and the environment.

These guidelines detail how the Noise Insulation Scheme is administered and how the noise insulation grants are provided. The fund is administered by Bristol Airport and overseen by a Management Committee consisting of local parish councillors, North Somerset Council representatives and airport managers.

What can the community fund grant cover?

The fund can cover some, or all, of the costs of noise insulating works and is available to properties most impacted by noise from Bristol Airport flights. Depending on where you live you could be eligible for a grant of 100% (to a maximum of £5,000) or 50% (to a maximum of £2,500).

Does the recent planning application appeal affect this scheme?

In February 2022 the Government's Planning Inspectorate granted planning permission for the airport to grow. As part of a series of measures included in this planning decision was an enhanced Noise Mitigation Scheme. This new scheme has not yet started. The new scheme will not be backdated, and any applications made this year will only be assessed and delivered within the framework explained in these guidelines.

How do I know if I am eligible?

A homeowner's ability to apply for noise insulation funding is based on the property's location. This does not mean direct proximity to the airport but where a property lies within the 2023 noise contours.

Noise contours are compiled every January by external acoustics consultants who use the flight schedule for the busiest 10-week period of the summer to predict noise levels in decibels.

If you live within the 63dB, 60dB and 57dB noise contours you can apply for a grant. All properties lying within these contours will be notified by post at the beginning of April 2023.

- Within the 63dB contour the grant covers 100% of the cost of works, up to a sum of £5,000
- Within the 60dB & 57dB contours the grant covers 50% of the cost, up to a sum of £2,500

Contour you live in	Double glazing or loft insulation costs covered
63dB	100% grant up to £5,000
60dB	50% grant up to £2,500
57dB	50% grant up to £2,500

A summary view of the noise contours for 2023 can be found at the end of this document. A more detailed view can be found on our website at:

<http://www.bristolairport.co.uk/about-us/community/local-community/noise-insulation-grants>

How will my application be assessed?

Being within the noise contour does not mean you will automatically get a grant as there is only a finite amount of funding available each year. If the number of applications in any year exceeds the total value of funding which has been allocated to the scheme, then two factors will be considered when prioritising applications:

1. Providing noise insulation to those located in a higher contour
2. Providing noise insulation to those who have not previously received a grant

Applications are considered by the Management Committee based on the following priority list:

Priority	Requirements
1	Within the 63dB noise contour area. Never had a grant before.
2	Within the 63dB noise contour. Had a grant before.
3	Within the 60dB noise contour area. Never had a grant before.
4	Within the 60dB noise contour. Had a grant before.
5	Within the 57dB noise contour area. Never had a grant before.
6	Within the 57dB noise contour. Had a grant before.

Should the fund be oversubscribed in any one category then priority will be given to those living closest to the extended centreline of our runway i.e. the 63dB and 60dB contour areas.

It needs to be noted that the decision of the Committee is final and the process is established on a case by case basis.

How do I apply?

A Noise Insulation Grant Application Form with a quote from a company that you wish to use to carry out the noise insulating works must be completed by **1st June 2023** in order to be considered at the next Committee Meeting.

Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Scheme Prepared			Apply for funding				Works completed				

The application form is available on the Bristol Airport website:
<https://www.bristolairport.co.uk/about-us/community/local-community/noise-insulation-grants>

If you require a paper copy of the application form, please contact us using the details below.

After 1st June 2023, the Environmental Improvement Fund Committee will assess your application, consider whether the quote you have provided represents an acceptable market price and that it fits the requirements below and in Appendix A.

In obtaining your quote you will need to ensure it is for:

- High specification acoustic double glazing or Secondary glazing
- Include adequate ventilation
- Fits the budget of allocated grant (and you have budgeted to account for remaining costs)
- Is for habitable rooms (this includes bedrooms, living rooms, dining rooms and kitchens but NOT bathrooms, hallways and landings)
- Acoustic grade doors affixed to masonry walls (excludes conservatories and internal doors)

Alternatively,

A new addition to the 2023 Noise Insulation Scheme is the offering of funding towards loft insulation. All properties are eligible to loft insulation as an alternative to new glazing or secondary glazing under the scheme. Monies towards loft insulation will only be approved if the material chosen is effective at reducing sounds transmission. The loft in the property must have adequate ventilation to avoid damp. Loft insulation must:

- Insulation depth must be 30cm +, or 40cm + in new build properties.

- The type of insulant should be chosen based on the material properties to reduce sound transmission and reverberation, your insulators should be able to assist with this. We strongly advise using glass or rock mineral wool where possible.

A full specification is provided in Appendix A. This should be provided to the contractor to ensure the works are carried out to our specifications*What happens next?*

All applications are considered at June's Environmental Improvement Fund Management Meeting, after which you will be contacted to let you know if you have been successful.

- If you are unsuccessful you are welcome to reapply in future years (assuming continued eligibility). As the higher priority properties are provided with grants, it is more likely that those further down the priority list can be funded in future years.

If you are successful, we will contact you confirming the grant amount that will be provided. You will then be able to instruct your contractor to undertake the work. Unless otherwise requested, this decision will be communicated by email, so please keep an eye on all your inbox folders during the first few weeks of June.

- After the works are finished we will require a copy of the final invoice and some photographs of the completed works. These can be sent via email to the email addresses included in this document. If you are unable to share these details electronically, we can arrange a site visit.

It is important to note that the Airport will then bank transfer funds to your contractor directly after works have been completed and proof has been recieved.

If you have any further questions then please contact the Airport's Sustainability Officer – Whitney Love or the Head of Sustainability and Social Value – Hannah Pollard, who can offer advice:

Email: Sustainability@bristolairport.com (preferred) / Whitney.love@bristolairport.com / Hannah.pollard@bristolairport.com

Phone:

Whitney Love - 07342 035973

Hannah Pollard – 07776 658966

If your property is not eligible

If you believe the aircraft noise levels you experience should make you eligible for funding but your property is outside of the contours, or your property is in the wrong contour, we have a process in place to accommodate these appeals.

We can facilitate mobile noise monitoring carried out by external acoustics consultants. This involves installing noise monitoring equipment at your property for a period of two weeks. To ensure accuracy, this will be carried out during the busiest period of the summer, between June and August. This is subject to the location being secure and having an external power supply, for example, a residents back garden. Reports are generated within around six weeks and based on these results in line with the priority listed above, there is the possibility of a grant being provided.

This resource is not limitless and as such we will prioritise the distribution of this monitoring based on a location's proximity to the nearest eligible contour.

If you wish to be considered for this service please contact us via the email or phone number provided.

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I find out what noise contour level I am in?

- All eligible properties were notified by post at the beginning of April. An interactive map of the contours is available on the Bristol Airport website. An overview is also available at the end of this document
- If you have any further questions, please contact the Sustainability team.

Why does it only cover certain noise contour levels?

The intention is to provide noise insulation grants to those most affected first. The criteria provide a balance whereby we can invite applications while ensuring that the committee's funds cover the demand. Full funding is provided for those most affected by noise. This year's scheme is based on the latest predictive noise contours which have been modelled on the 2023 summer schedule.

How can I find out if my property has ever had a grant for noise insulation before?

There have been previous schemes that provided grants for windows. If you have moved into your property more recently you may not know if you have received a grant for noise insulation before. The Airport team can check the records and advise.

Why do I need to get my own quote?

By sourcing your own quote for the work you can ensure that the work will cover the windows and ventilation you wish to have. Feedback from other similar schemes has been that residents prefer control over who supplies the windows and the eventual cost, particularly when part funded. This method also allows for local suppliers to be used, keeping funds from the Noise Insulation Scheme within the local area. If, through exceptional circumstances, you are unable to organise for a company to provide you with a quote, then please contact the Airport's Sustainability Department for assistance.

If I am renting a property can I still apply?

In order to receive a grant you must have the authorisation of the property owner, so you will need written permission from your landlord. Attach evidence of this to your application.

If I am unsuccessful what happens to my application?

The scheme will consider all the applications received each year, so if you wish to reapply in the following year, please resubmit your application within the timeframes identified.

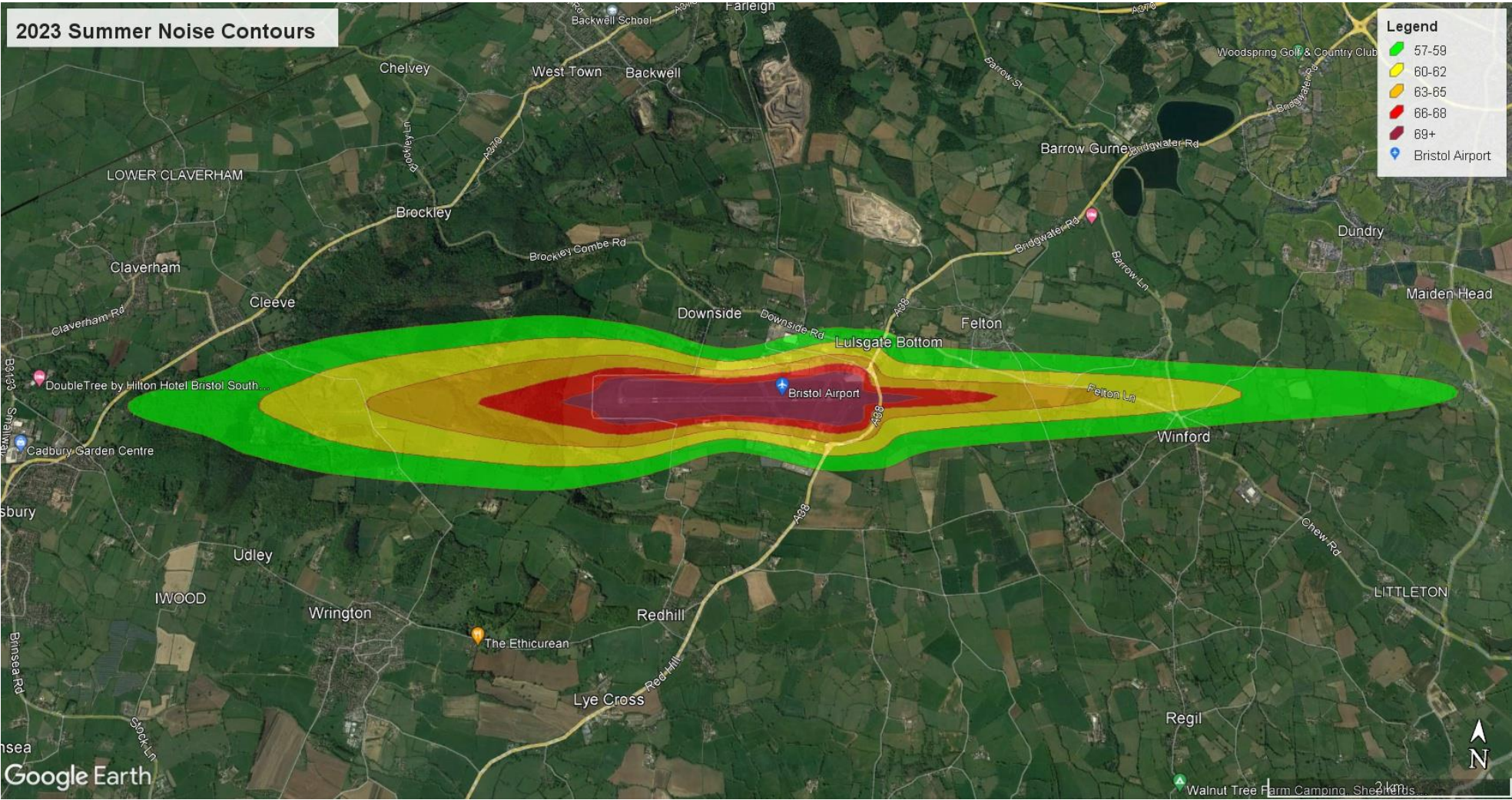
I would like to have additional windows fitted, that take the price over the maximum grant amount, or are for windows in a bathroom/hallway/landing. Is this possible?

Any additional work beyond that specified in this scheme is funded by the householder. Ask your contractor to separate the work out so it is clear which elements are covered by you and which will be covered by the grant.

I've already had windows fitted. Can I retrospectively apply for funding?

Grants are only available for the future installation of windows unless specifically agreed by the committee. **We do not offer grants for retrospective works.**

Noise Contours



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LEGEND:

Noise Contours,
54 to 69 dB *Leq*, 1.0s in 3 dB steps

Rev	Date	Description	Initials

REVISIONS

**Bickerdike
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Bristol Airport
2023 Forecast Noise Contours

2023 Summer Daytime

DRAWN: MP

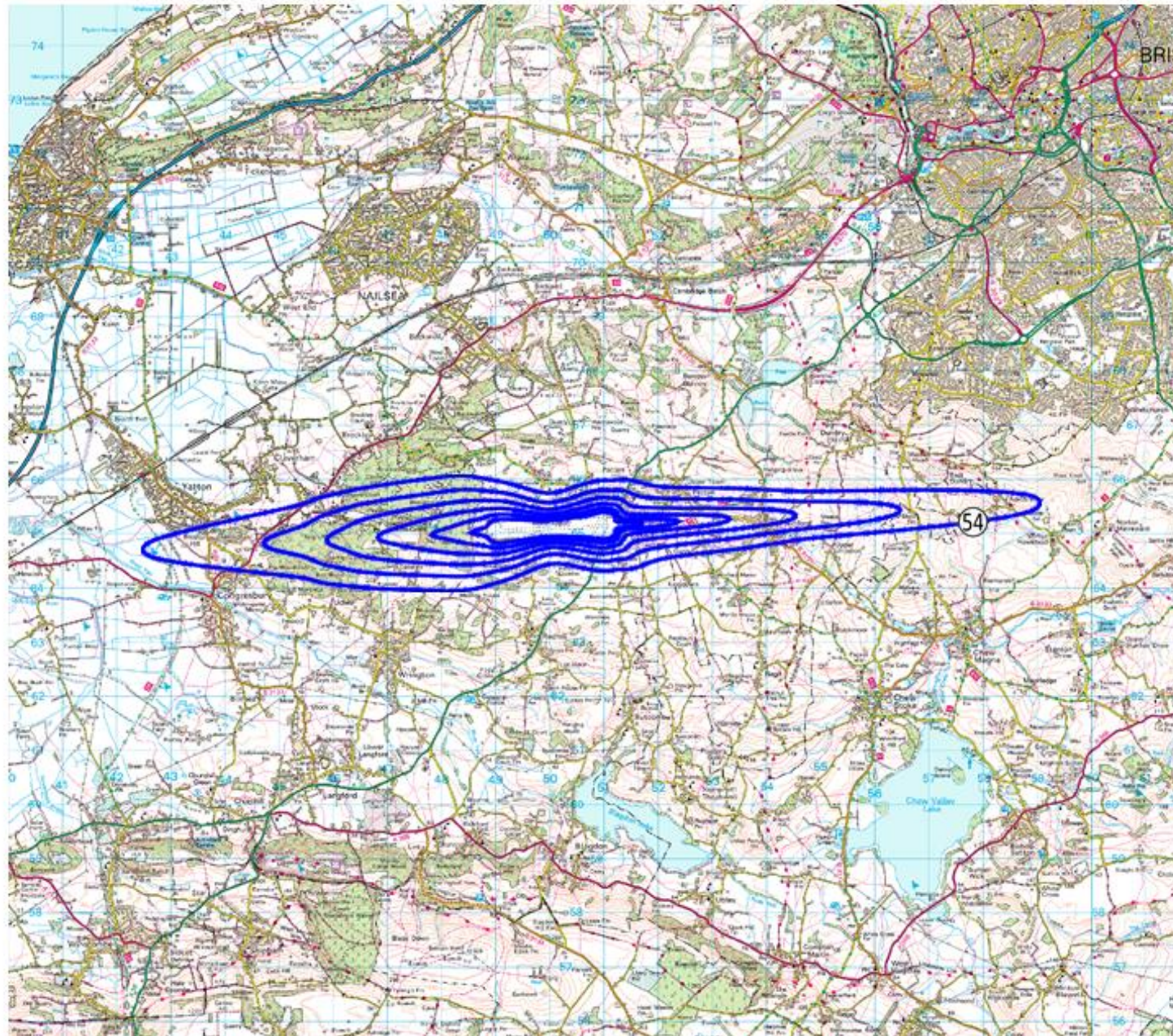
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DATE: January 2023

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To find out more about how we process your data, please visit our website <https://www.bristolairport.co.uk/privacy-policy>. You can contact our Privacy Team by emailing privacy@bristolairport.com.

If however you are not satisfied with our response, you can contact our Data Protection Officer at dpo@bristolairport.com. If you remain dissatisfied, you can contact the Information Commissioner's Office, whose details are available from their website www.ico.org.uk. Or at:

Information Commissioners Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF

Appendix A

Airport Environmental Improvement Fund Acoustic Specification for Contractors

1. Provision of new glazing:

Where chosen, replacement double glazing works and specification to meet acoustic requirements are as follows:

- Windows of habitable rooms within the dwelling (bedrooms / living rooms / dining rooms / studies/kitchen etc.) can be upgraded with new high-performance double-glazed units and will be covered by the offer given in the grant scheme.
- Additional windows to habitable or non-habitable areas (i.e. halls / bathrooms etc.) can also be upgraded but are not covered by the grant scheme
- High performance units shall be formed from a sealed glazing configuration which has at least one laminated pane, and achieves a weighted sound reduction index of R_w38dB , tested and rated in accordance with BS EN ISO 140-3 and BS EN ISO 717 respectively.
- Windows should be adequately openable for means of escape, where required.
- Openable windows should be fitted with double neoprene seals all round.
- Supply and fitting of new double-glazed units should be in accordance with any applicable current regulations or standard.
- Windows should not be fitted with trickle vents, unless they achieve the sound insulation performance for passive ventilation as detailed below

2. *Provision of secondary glazing:*

Where chosen, secondary glazing works and specification to meet acoustic requirements are as follows:

- Windows of habitable rooms within the dwelling (bedrooms / living rooms / dining rooms / studies/kitchen etc.) can be upgraded with new high performance double glazed units and will be covered by the offer of the grant scheme.
- Additional windows to habitable or non-habitable areas (i.e. halls / bathrooms etc.) can also be upgraded, although are not covered by the grant scheme.
- Outer windows made good and effectively sealed by compressible strips or otherwise:
- Secondary glazing should fit within, or cover the full area of the existing window reveal
- Secondary glazing shall be formed by minimum 6mm thick laminated glass panes.
- Separation between outer and inner glazing should be a minimum of 100mm.
- Inner & outer windows should be adequately openable for means of escape
- Inner windows should be well sealed at junctions and edges by any effective means.
- The reveals between panes may be lined with acoustically absorptive treatments to increase attenuation; however, this is not required to be undertaken as part of the scheme.
- Supply and fitting of secondary glazing should be in accordance with any applicable current regulations or standard.

3. *Ventilation*

Ventilation is recommended in order to maximise the acoustic benefits of the new glazing, by allowing in fresh air while keeping the windows closed. Ventilation may also be a requirement under Building Regulations. The decision on whether ventilation is required is at the discretion of the householder. Where quoted the fund will ensure the costs are included in any successful grant funding.

- Should replacement double glazing or secondary glazing be chosen, passive or mechanical ventilator units should be installed in rooms where replacement/secondary glazing's fitted.
- The size and/or flow rate of any ventilator(s) must be in line with current regulations and standards, according to rooms sizing and any combustion appliances.

- The sound insulation performance of the ventilator must achieve a minimum laboratory tested element normalised weighted sound pressure level difference of $D_{n,e,w}40\text{dB}$.
- If more than one ventilator is required within a room, the performance of each must be increased to $D_{n,e,w}40\text{dB} + 10 \cdot \log(N)$, where N is the total number of ventilators installed within a room.
- Noise levels from mechanical ventilators at the minimum required operational duty should not exceed 35dBLA_{eq} when measured not nearer than 1m away from the unit or any of the room surfaces, and normalised by the subtraction of $10 \cdot \log_{10}(10/A)$, where A is the measured sound absorption in the room in m^2 .
- Noise levels from mechanical ventilators at maximum operational duty should not exceed 40dBLA_{eq} when measured as above.
- Any existing air bricks or ventilators in habitable rooms should be upgraded to meet the acoustic requirements above.
- Should additional ventilation be required or desired, the passive ventilators should achieve a minimum laboratory tested element normalised weighted sound pressure level difference of $D_{n,e,w}40\text{dB} + 10 \cdot \log(N)$, where N is the total number of vents installed within a room (including active inlet vents)

4. Loft Insulation

Where chosen, loft insulation works and specification to meet acoustic requirements are as follows:

- Loft insulation should be targeted to soundproofing the property.
- A thickness of at least 300mm in depth of insulation is required. In new builds this is increased to 400mm.
- We strongly advise using glass or rock mineral wool materials for insulation where possible.