

Falcons Hall Farm Poultry Unit Noise Management Plan

The H1 Environmental Risk Assessment submitted with the application to vary environmental permit to extend the installation boundary to erect 4no additional houses for rearing poultry intensively shows that sources have been identified as contributing to potentially moderate and minor risk of noise. The risk assessment was performed in accordance with Environment Agency (2005); Technical Guidance Note IPPC SRG 6.02 (Farming); Noise Management at Intensive livestock Installations.

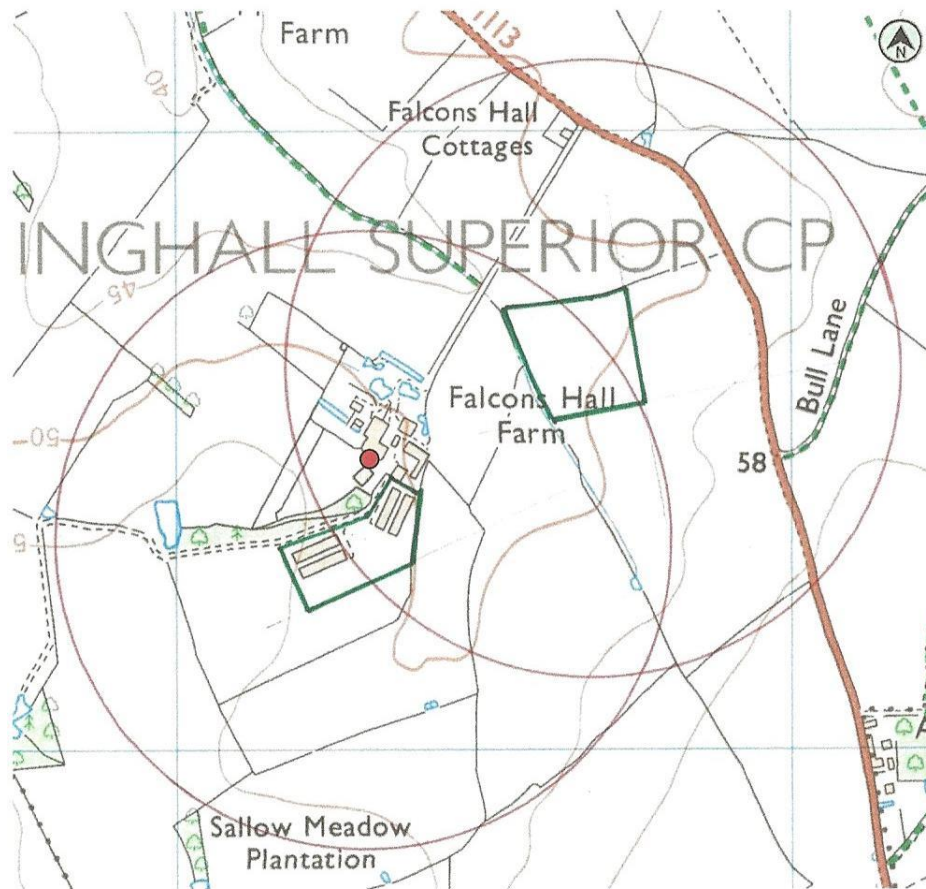
Created a noise management plan (NMP) part of the environmental management system owing to 1 sensitive receptor within 400m of the boundary (excluding persons in control of the installation at Falcons Hall and The Old Stables annexe, and poultry farm workers at 1&2 Falcon Hall Cottages,) shown in Table 1 and Figure 1.

Table 1. Falcons Hall Farm Poultry Unit sensitive receptors within 400m

N°.	Receptor	NGR	Direction	Distance from boundary
1	Commercial - Styne Ltd, Falcons Hall, Finningham Road, Rickinghall, Diss, IP22 1LP	TM 04332 73470	N	40m

Distances measured on government website at magic.defra.gov.uk

Fig 1. Falcons Hall Farm Poultry Unit sensitive receptors within 400m



Commercial premises likely have medium sensitivity - people would expect to enjoy a reasonable level of amenity but wouldn't reasonably expect to enjoy the same level of amenity as in their home and wouldn't reasonably expected to be present continuously or regularly for extended periods. Operator has no recollection of any noise concerns or complaints and will continue to foster good relationships with neighbours.

The following table sets out:-

- Likely sources of noise from a typical intensive poultry unit
- Actions taken at Falcons Hall Farm Poultry Unit to prevent or minimise noise levels
- Contingency and emergency planning to limit exposure to elevated noise emissions beyond the installation boundary.

Table 2. Actions and contingency actions to minimise noise and noise risks at Falcons Hall Farm Poultry Unit

Likely source of noise	Actions to minimise noise and noise risks	Contingency actions to minimise noise and noise risks
<p>Large delivery vehicles travelling to & from the farm</p>	<p>Measures are described in EPR 6.09 SGN; How to comply; Version2; 2010 and Best Available Techniques (BAT) Reference Document; 2017:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliveries and collections will be limited to normal working times 07.00-18.00 hours in the working week (Monday to Friday and Saturday morning but exclusive of bank holidays) Occasionally catching and collection times start before 07.00, at night time, but this is more the exception than the rule and any deliveries of feed, fuels, or chicks outside normal working time would only be result of abnormal circumstances for example delays or breakdowns. • Drivers will be made aware of driving slowly on and off the farm and minimising noise. • Engines will be switched off when not in use. 	
<p>Feed, fuel & other deliveries</p>	<p>Measures are described in EPR 6.09 SGN; How to comply; Version2; 2010 and Best Available Techniques (BAT) Reference Document; 2017:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blowing feed into the silos will be the noisiest delivery but typically takes less than an hour. • Vehicles will be fitted with audible 'vehicle reversing' warning systems and will only be onsite in the daytime. • Bulk feed storage silos installed alongside one another, minimise HGV movements during feed deliveries and will be monitored by drivers, and blowers switched off after each point of delivery. 	

Likely source of noise	Actions to minimise noise and noise risks	Contingency actions to minimise noise and noise risks
Ventilation fans	<p>Measures are described in EPR 6.09 SGN; How to comply; Version2; 2010 and Best Available Techniques (BAT) Reference Document; 2017 and DEFRA; 2018 Code of practice for the welfare of meat chickens and meat breeding chickens:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Package ventilation systems designed and installed by professional contractor & minimise number of fans required. • Package high velocity extraction fans installed in ridge vents of poultry houses with package inlets, attic sections, lead through and plastic outlet cones. Fans considered to be low noise relative to typical rural background noise. • Small number of fans operating continuously, rather than a larger number switching on and off, and computer controlled. • Stockman inspecting automatic equipment on which chickens depend not less than once per day to check there are no defects. • Maintaining a preventive maintenance programme & record keeping for buildings and equipment including for the ridge vent extraction fans in accordance with manufacturer's instructions by professional contractors. 	<p><u>Trigger</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noisy, out of balance or worn fans might produce high noise with annoying frequencies or tones and not energy efficient. <p><u>Timeframe for implementation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immediately/same day/next day. <p><u>Contingency action</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Switch off noisy fans where possible • Fault to be repaired by stockman, company electrician or professional contractor. <p><u>Duration of action</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achievable same day/next day. <p><u>Cessation of action</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faulty fan successfully repaired or replaced no high noise.
<p>Vehicles & machinery onsite</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design • Location • Operation • Timing of operations • Inspection and maintenance 	<p>Measures are described in EPR 6.09 SGN; How to comply; Version2; 2010 and Best Available Techniques (BAT) Reference Document; 2017:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concrete apron provides smooth surface for HGV, forklift and loader movements lessening vehicular noise. • Package back-up generators, considered to be low noise. • Powered equipment for feed and fuel deliveries, removing litter, cleaning out, etc will be limited to normal working days 07.00-18.00 in the working week (Monday to Friday and Saturday morning but exclusive of public and bank holidays), 	

Likely source of noise	Actions to minimise noise and noise risks	Contingency actions to minimise noise and noise risks
	<p>as far as is practicable. Occasionally catching and collection times will start before 07.00, at night time, but this is more the exception than the rule and any deliveries of feed, fuels, or chicks outside of the normal working times would only be result of abnormal circumstances for example delays or breakdowns.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An alarm system will be installed to give warning of any failure of the ventilation equipment, and noise levels will not exceed levels required to alert persons working onsite. • Alarms and generator will be tested weekly in the daytime, between 09.00-17.00 hours. • Vehicles will be fitted with audible 'vehicle reversing' warning systems and will only be onsite in daytime. The exception to this is during removal of birds sometimes when such vehicles owing to occasionally have to be used before 07.00 at night time for example when the houses are being depopulated. • Unnecessary movements of trailers, diesel forklifts and loaders will be avoided. • Idling of machines between work periods and revving of engines will be avoided. • Catching will be organised to minimise manoeuvring of diesel forklift trucks outside the buildings Compressors and pressure washers can be placed inside the poultry houses during cleaning. • Forklift drivers will be instructed to move stock carefully, avoid unnecessary scraping & loading modules as smoothly as practical to avoid impact noise. • Staff, contractors, and visitors will be instructed not to raise voices or play radios unnecessarily at night. • When repairs are required, works will be undertaken with regard to avoiding causing annoyance during the normal 	

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	<p>working day, and in event works likely to cause significant noise, neighbouring residents will be notified in advance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintaining a preventive maintenance programme & record keeping for buildings and equipment with stockman and contractors. • Concrete roadway and apron in front of the poultry houses will be kept in good repair and as smooth as practical, and any cracking and potholes repaired as soon as possible to minimise vehicular noise. 	
Feeding equipment	<p>Measures are described in EPR 6.09 SGN; How to comply; Version2; 2010 and Best Available Techniques (BAT) Reference Document; 2017 and DEFRA; 2018 Code of practice for the welfare of meat chickens and meat breeding chickens:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Package storage silos installed immediately adjacent the poultry houses minimising length of flexible augers required for transferring feed into them. A low-noise activity using electric motors and flexible augers in tubes occurring intermittently for only a few seconds each time throughout the day and night, the frequency of transfers increases as chickens increasingly eat more during the growing period. • Stockman inspecting automatic equipment on which chickens depend not less than once per day to check there are no defects. Any defects will be repaired immediately by the stockman or by professional contractors. • Maintaining a preventive maintenance programme & record keeping for feeding equipment with stockman and contractors. 	

Likely source of noise	Actions to minimise noise and noise risks	Contingency actions to minimise noise and noise risks
Removing litter	<p>Measures are described in EPR 6.09 SGN; How to comply; Version2; 2010 and Best Available Techniques (BAT) Reference Document; 2017:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removing litter after destocking only 2 times every year. • Removing litter will be limited to normal working days 07.00-18.00 hours in the working week (Monday to Friday and Saturday morning but exclusive of public and bank holidays). Otherwise, any litter removal outside normal working times will only be result of abnormal circumstances for example delays, breakdown, or disease control, etc. Removing the litter will take place in as short a time as possible • Removing litter from the floor, using a front end or skid-steer loader to shovel the bulk of the litter carefully and directly from the floor into a large heap the length of the house to avoid double handling and minimise time spent loading into waiting trailers positioned outside the doors and any unnecessary trailer movements. • Doors open on the concrete apron where trailers will be parked so not in close proximity to sensitive receptors. • Idling machines and revving engines will be avoided in between work periods. • Workers, contractors, and visitors will be instructed not to raise voices or play radios unnecessarily at night. 	
Animal noise	<p>Measures are described in EPR 6.09 SGN; How to comply; Version2; 2010:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During destocking bird noise will be minimised by careful handling & prompt removal of the lorry from site when full. • Noise from chickens themselves not considered to be a probable cause for annoyance during the growing period. 	

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1. Responsibility

The Agricultural Director of Crown Chicken Ltd undertakes to adhere to the agreed plan at all times. The Environment Agency shall be notified without delay of any incident or accident, which is causing or may cause significant pollution as result of noise causing annoyance.

2. Contingency control measures

Measures are described in Environment Agency (2004): Horizontal Guidance Note; IPPC H3 (Part 2) – Noise assessment and control, and the most relevant requirements are described here:

(a) Monitoring

- i. Farm Manager/ Stockmen are responsible for monitoring onsite noise and for emissions beyond the site boundary which may cause annoyance and ensuring the actions and contingency actions to minimise noise are being adhered to and are properly, managing any complaints.
- i. Monitoring noise levels daily at source can help to identify any increase in noise level with time and allow remedial action to be taken.
- ii. If noise is suspected which might cause annoyance at any of the sensitive receptors check if it is detectable outside the boundary which will be sufficient to confirm if it is noticeable. Check activities on the farm and the actions and contingency are being adhered to or correct them immediately.
- iii. Record the incident and corrective action in the farm diary.

(b) Complaints

- i. Complaints must be recorded and investigated immediately including checking the actions and contingency actions to minimise noise are being adhered to. If the noise is no longer apparent the investigation must still be completed and recorded on the same day.
- ii. Tell the complainant and anyone else likely to have been affected what you have done.
- iii. Details of the complaint and the actions taken must be recorded on the Noise Complaint Report form (below) and kept in the site office. A copy must be sent to the Agricultural Director of Crown Chicken Ltd immediately.

3. Review

Review the effectiveness of the NMP including the noise related issues and actions to minimise noise at least annually. Sooner if there have been complaints or relevant changes to any operations or infrastructure.

Noise Complaint Report

Date	
Reference number	
Name and address of complainant	
Telephone number of complainant	

Time and date of complaint	
Date, time, and duration of offending noise	
Weather conditions <i>(e.g., dry, rain, fog, snow)</i>	
Wind strength and direction <i>(e.g., light, steady, strong, gusting)</i>	
Callers' description of noise <i>(e.g., hiss, hum, rumble, continuous, intermittent)</i>	
Has the caller any other comments about the offending noise?	
Any other previous known complaints relating to the installation (all aspects, not just noise)	
Any other relevant information	
Potential noise sources that could give rise to the complaint	
Operating conditions at the time offending noise occurred	
Actions taken	

Final outcome		
Complainant visited		
Complainant contacted with explanation Yes/No Date By whom		
Form completed by	Date:	Signed:

Environment Agency (2004): Horizontal Guidance Note; IPPC H3 (Part 2) – Noise assessment and control

Complaints and results of the investigation must be recorded on the Noise Complaint Report form and kept in the Complaints Log in the site office. A copy must be sent to the Agricultural Director of Crown Chicken Ltd (the tenant) immediately.