

October 2021

# HS2

## **Construction noise and vibration Monthly Report – August 2021**

**North Warwickshire Borough Council**

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# Non-Technical Summary

This Noise and Vibration Monitoring Report fulfils HS2 Limited's commitment detailed in the Environmental Minimum Requirements (EMRs), Annex 1, Code of Construction Practice, to present the results of noise and vibration monitoring carried out within North Warwickshire Borough Council (NWBC) area during the month of August 2021.

Within this period monitoring was undertaken at the following worksites:

- Noise and vibration monitoring were undertaken at the Marston Box/Marston Lane worksite (ref.: MB), where work activities included general site maintenance and site security, deliveries, stockpiling works, dust suppression works, excavation works, extension of the site haul road, vegetation clearance and movement of plant.
- Noise monitoring was undertaken at the Kingsbury Main Compound worksite (ref.: KMC), where work activities included earthworks, stone laying and compaction, deliveries, stockpiling works, excavation works, construction of ponds, dust suppression works and concrete pouring.
- Noise monitoring was undertaken at the Faraday Avenue Embankment and Underbridge worksite (ref.: FAEU), where vegetation clearance was underway.
- Noise monitoring was undertaken at the Birmingham & Fazeley Canal Viaduct worksite (ref.: BFCV), where no work activities were undertaken this month.

Further works, where monitoring did not take place, were undertaken at the following locations:

- Severn Trent Sewage Works (cabling works);
- Delta Junction North Chord – M42 (fibre optic cabling works);
- Coleshill Junction – next to A446 (water utility works);
- Coleshill Hall Farm & Embankment (power utility works).

There were no exceedances of the HS2 threshold levels for significant noise impacts, which are defined in Information Paper E23 (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hs2-information-papers-environment>), during the reporting period.

There were no exceedances of trigger levels as defined in Section 61 consents during the reporting period at any monitoring position.

Two (2) complaints were received during the monitoring period. A description of complaints, the results of investigation and any actions taken are detailed in Table 7 of this report.

# Abbreviations and Descriptions

The abbreviations, descriptions and project terminology used within this report can be found in Table 1.

Table 1: Table of Abbreviations

| Acronym/Term   | Definition   |
|--|--|
| $L_{Aeq,T}$  | See equivalent continuous sound pressure level   |
| Ambient sound  | A description of the all-encompassing sound at a given location and time which will include sound from many sources near and far. Ambient sound can be quantified in terms of the equivalent continuous sound pressure level, $L_{pAeq,T}$   |
| Decibel(s), or dB  | Between the quietest audible sound and the loudest tolerable sound there is a million to one ratio in sound pressure (measured in Pascal (Pa)). Because of this wide range, a level scale called the decibel (dB) scale, based on a logarithmic ratio, is used in sound measurement. Audibility of sound covers a range of approximately 0-140dB.  |
| Decibel(s) A-weighted, or dB(A)                            | The human ear system does not respond uniformly to sound across the detectable frequency range and consequently instrumentation used to measure sound is weighted to represent the performance of the ear. This is known as the 'A weighting' and is written as 'dB(A)'.   |
| Equivalent continuous sound pressure level, or $L_{Aeq,T}$ | An index used internationally for the assessment of environmental sound impacts. It is defined as the notional unchanging level that would, over a given period of time (T), deliver the same sound energy as the actual time-varying sound over the same period. Hence fluctuating sound levels can be described in terms of an equivalent single figure value, typically expressed as a decibel level.   |
| Exclusion of data  | Measurement of noise levels can be affected by weather conditions such as prolonged periods of rain, winds speeds higher than 5m/s and snow/ice ground cover. Noise levels measured during these periods are considered not representative of normal noise conditions at the site and, for the purposes of this report, are excluded from the assessment of exceedances and calculation of typical noise levels and are also greyed out in charts. Identifiable incongruous noise and vibration events not attributable to HS2 construction noise are also excluded. |
| Façade   | A facade noise level is the noise level 1m in front of a large reflecting surface. The effect of reflection, is to produce a slightly higher (typically +2.5 to +3 dB) sound level than it would be if the reflecting surface was not there.   |
| Free-field   | A free-field noise level is the noise level measured at a location where no reflective surfaces, other than the ground, lies within 3.5 metres of the microphone position.   |
| LOAEL  | Lowest Observed Adverse Effect Level - the level above which adverse effects on health and quality of life can be detected.  |
| Peak particle velocity, or PPV                             | Instantaneous maximum velocity reached by a vibrating element as it oscillates about its rest position. The PPV is a simple indicator of perceptibility and risk of damage to structures due to vibration. It is usually measured in mm/s.   |
| SOAEL  | Significant Observed Adverse Effect Level - the level above which significant adverse effects on health and quality of life occur.   |
| Sound pressure level                                       | The parameter by which sound levels are measured in air. It is measured in decibels. The threshold of hearing has been set at 0dB, while the threshold of pain is approximately 120dB. Normal speech is approximately 60dB at a distance of 1 metre and a change of 3dB in a time varying sound signal is commonly regarded as being just detectable. A change of 10dB is subjectively twice, or half, as loud.  |
| Vibration dose value, or VDV                               | An index used to evaluate human exposure to vibration in buildings. While the PPV provides information regarding the magnitude of single vibration events, the VDV provides a measure of the total vibration experienced over a specified period of time (typically 16h daytime and 8h night-time). It takes into account the magnitude, the number and the duration of vibration events and can be used to quantify exposure to continuous, impulsive, occasional and intermittent vibration. The vibration dose value is measured in $m/s^{1.75}$ .                |

# 1 Introduction

1.1.1 HS2 is required to undertake noise (and vibration) monitoring as necessary to comply with the requirements of the High Speed Rail (London-West Midlands) Environmental Minimum Requirements, including specifically Annex 1: Code of Construction Practice, in addition to any monitoring requirements arising from conditions imposed through consents under Section 61 of the Control of Pollution Act, 1974 or through Undertakings & Assurances given to third parties. Such monitoring may be undertaken for the following purposes:

- monitoring the impact of construction works;
- to investigate complaints, incidents and exceedance of trigger levels; or
- monitoring the effectiveness of noise and vibration control measures.

1.1.2 Monitoring data and interpretive reports are to be provided to each relevant local authority on a monthly basis and shall include a summary of the construction activities occurring, the data recorded over the monitoring period, any complaints received, any periods in exceedance of agreed trigger levels, the results of any investigations and any actions taken or mitigation measures implemented. This report provides noise data, and interpretation thereof, for monitoring carried out by HS2 within the North Warwickshire Borough Council (NWBC) area for the period 1<sup>st</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021.

1.1.3 Construction sites in the local authority area where monitoring was undertaken during this period include:

- Marston Box/Marston Lane worksite, ref.: MB (see Plan 1 in Appendix A), where work activities included:
  - General site maintenance and site security;
  - Dust suppression works;
  - Deliveries;
  - Stockpiling works;
  - Excavation works;
  - Extension of the site haul road ;
  - Vegetation clearance; and
  - Movement of plant.
- Kingsbury Main Compound worksite, ref.: KMC (see Plan 1 in Appendix A), where work activities included:

- Earthworks (cutting and filling);
  - Stone laying and compaction;
  - Delivery of stone material;
  - Movement of soil to stockpile and stockpiling works;
  - Excavation works;
  - Construction of ponds;
  - Dust suppression works; and
  - Concrete pouring.
- Faraday Avenue Embankment and Underbridge worksite, ref.: FAEU (see Plan 2 in Appendix A), work activities included:
    - Vegetation clearance.
  - Birmingham & Fazeley Canal Viaduct worksite, ref.: BFCV (there is no worksite plan as the site is yet to be established), where no work activities were undertaken.

1.1.4 Further works, where monitoring did not take place, were undertaken at the following locations:

- Severn Trent Sewage Works (cabling works);
- Delta Junction North Chord – M42 (optic fibre cabling works);
- Coleshill Junction – next to A446 (water utility works);
- Coleshill Hall Farm & Embankment (power utility works).

1.1.5 The applicable standards, guidance, and monitoring methodology is outlined in the construction noise and vibration monitoring methodology report which can be found at the following location

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/monitoring-the-environmental-effects-of-hs2>. Noise and vibration monitoring reports for previous months can also be found at this location.

## 1.2 Measurement Locations

1.2.1 Four noise monitoring installations and one vibration monitoring installation were active in August in the NWBC area. Table 2 summarises the position of noise and vibration monitoring installations within the NWBC area in August 2021.

1.2.2 Maps showing the position of noise and vibration monitoring installations are presented in Appendix B.

Table 2: Monitoring Locations

| Worksite Reference  | Measurement Reference | Address   |
|---|-----------------------|---|
| Marston Box (MB)  | MB-N1                 | Kingsbury Road, Curdworth                             |
|   | MB-V1                 | Kingsbury Road, Curdworth                             |
| Kingsbury Main Compound (KMC)                             | KMC-N1                | Wheatley House, Kingsbury Road, Curdworth             |
| Faraday Avenue Embankment and Underbridge worksite (FAEU) | FAEU-N1               | (south of) Orchard Cottage, Newlands Lane, Curdworth, |
| Birmingham & Fazeley Canal Viaduct worksite (BFCV)        | BFCV-N1               | (north of) Lock Cottage, Marston Lane, Curdworth      |

## 2 Summary of Results

### 2.1 Summary of Measured Noise and Vibration Levels

2.1.1 Table 3 presents a summary of the measured noise levels at each monitoring location over the reporting period. The  $L_{Aeq,T}$  is presented for each of the relevant time periods averaged over the calendar month, along with the highest single period  $L_{Aeq,T}$  that was found to occur within the month.



Table 3: Summary of Measured dB L<sub>Aeq</sub> Data over the Monitoring Period

| Worksite Reference | Measurement Reference | Site Address   | Free-field or Façade Measurement | Weekly Average L <sub>Aeq,T</sub> (highest Day L <sub>Aeq,T</sub> ) |                |                |                |                | Saturday Average L <sub>Aeq,T</sub> (highest day L <sub>Aeq,T</sub> ) |                |                |                |                | Sunday / Public Holiday Average L <sub>Aeq,T</sub> (highest day L <sub>Aeq,T</sub> ) |                |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--|----------------------------------|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--|----------------|
|                    |                       |  |                                  | 0700 - 0800   | 0800 - 1800    | 1800 - 1900    | 1900 - 2200    | 2200 - 0700    | 0700 - 0800   | 0800 - 1300    | 1300 - 1400    | 1400 - 2200    | 2200 - 0700    | 0700 - 2200  | 2200 - 0700    |
| MB                 | MB-N1                 | Kingsbury Road, Curdworth                            | Free-field                       | 55.5<br>(58.0)  | 56.3<br>(59.4) | 56.2<br>(57.9) | 54.0<br>(56.7) | 52.1<br>(58.6) | 52.6<br>(55.4)  | 52.9<br>(53.7) | 50.0<br>(50.0) | 54.1<br>(56.5) | 50.2<br>(56.3) | 54.8<br>(56.9)   | 51.4<br>(56.0) |
| KMC                | KMC-N1                | Wheatley House, Kingsbury Road, Sutton Coldfield     | Free-field                       | 56.9<br>(59.1)  | 57.4<br>(59.1) | 55.9<br>(59.3) | 52.5<br>(55.9) | 52.5<br>(57.4) | 52.2<br>(53.1)  | 52.5<br>(53.3) | 50.3<br>(50.3) | 52.9<br>(56.2) | 51.4<br>(54.7) | 54.0<br>(56.0)   | 51.3<br>(54.6) |
| FAEU               | FAEU-N1               | (south of) Orchard Cottage, Newlands Lane, Curdworth | Free-field                       | 56.6<br>(60.6)  | 55.5<br>(59.8) | 54.9<br>(61.2) | 54.5<br>(59.7) | 54.5<br>(60.8) | 55.1<br>(56.6)  | 55.2<br>(55.3) | 53.1<br>(53.1) | 54.9<br>(59.1) | 53.0<br>(56.7) | 55.5<br>(58.4)   | 51.3<br>(59.1) |
| BFCV               | BFCV-N1               | (north of) Lock Cottage, Marston Lane, Curdworth     | Free-field                       | 64.4<br>(66.1)  | 63.9<br>(65.9) | 64.0<br>(65.1) | 62.7<br>(64.6) | 60.5<br>(66.1) | 61.9<br>(62.4)  | 62.8<br>(63.7) | 64.0<br>(64.0) | 63.4<br>(64.7) | 58.4<br>(63.7) | 62.1<br>(64.3)   | 59.9<br>(64.9) |

2.1.2 Table 4 presents a summary of the measured vibration levels at the monitoring location over the reporting period. The highest PPV measured during the monitoring along any axis is presented in the table.

Table 4: Summary of Measured PPV Data over the Monitoring Period

| Worksite Reference | Measurement Reference | Monitor Address           | Highest PPV measured in any axis, mm/s |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Marston Box (MB)   | MB-V1                 | Kingsbury Road, Curdworth | 3.07 (X-axis)                          |

2.1.3 Appendix C presents graphs of the noise and vibration monitoring data over the month for each of the measurement locations. Noise data presented consists of the hourly  $L_{Aeq}$  values and, where relevant, the  $L_{Aeq,T}$  values (where the time period T has been taken to be the averaging period as specified in Table 1 of HS2 Information Paper E23). Vibration data presented consist of hourly PPV values. The full data set for the monitoring equipment can be found at the following location:

<https://data.gov.uk/dataset/24542ae7-dd44-444f-b259-871c4cc43b5e/environmental-monitoring-data>.

## 2.2 Exceedances of the LOAEL and SOAEL

2.2.1 The lowest observed adverse effect level (LOAEL) is defined in the Planning Practice Guidance – Noise (PPG) as the level above which "noise starts to cause small changes in behaviour and/or attitude, e.g. turning up volume of television; speaking more loudly; where there is no alternative ventilation, having to close windows for some of the time because of the noise. Potential for some reported sleep disturbance. Affects the acoustic character of the area such that there is a perceived change in the quality of life".

2.2.2 The significant observed adverse effect level (SOAEL) is defined in the 'Planning Practice Guidance – Noise' as the level above which "noise causes a material change in behaviour and/or attitude, e.g. avoiding certain activities during periods of intrusion; where there is no alternative ventilation, having to keep windows closed most of the time because of the noise. Potential for sleep disturbance resulting in difficulty in getting to sleep, premature awakening and difficulty in getting back to sleep. Quality of life diminished due to change in acoustic character of the area."

2.2.3 HS2 Phase One Information Paper E23: Control of Construction Noise and Vibration sets out the LOAELs and SOAELs for construction noise.

2.2.4 Where reported construction noise levels exceed the LOAEL and SOAEL, relevant periods will be identified. Summary statistics to evaluate ongoing qualification for noise insulation and temporary rehousing are also presented where relevant.

2.2.5 Table 5 presents a summary of recorded exceedances of the LOAEL and SOAEL at each measurement location over the reporting period, including the number of exceedances during each time period.

Table 5: Summary of Exceedances of LOAEL and SOAEL

| Worksite Reference  | Measurement Reference | Site Address   | Day (Weekday, Saturday, Sunday, Night) | Time period | Number of exceedances of LOAEL | Number of exceedances of SOAEL |
|---|-----------------------|--|--|-------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Marston Box (MB)  | MB-N1*                | Kingsbury Road, Curdworth                            | All days                               | All periods | No exceedance                  | No exceedance                  |
| Kingsbury Main Compound (KMC)                             | KMC-N1*               | Wheatley House, Kingsbury Road, Sutton Coldfield     | All days                               | All periods | No exceedance                  | No exceedance                  |
| Faraday Avenue Embankment and Underbridge worksite (FAEU) | FAEU-N1               | (south of) Orchard Cottage, Newlands Lane, Curdworth | All days                               | All periods | No exceedance                  | No exceedance                  |
| Birmingham & Fazeley Canal Viaduct worksite (BFCV)        | BFCV-N1               | (north of) Lock Cottage, Marston Lane, Curdworth     | All days                               | All periods | No exceedance                  | No exceedance                  |

\* A distance correction has been applied when calculating exceedances of the LOAEL and SOAEL.

2.2.6 No exceedances of the LOAEL or SOAEL were recorded due to HS2 construction works during August 2021.

## 2.3 Exceedances of Trigger Level

2.3.1 Table 6 provides a summary of exceedances of the Section 61 trigger noise levels determined to be due to HS2 related construction noise measured during the reporting period, along with the findings of any investigation.

Table 6: Summary of Exceedances of Trigger Levels

| Complaint Reference Number (if applicable) | Worksite Reference | Date and Time Period | Identified Source | Results of Investigation (including noise monitoring results) | Actions Taken |
|--|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------|---|---------------|
| -  | -                  | -                    | -                 | -   | -             |

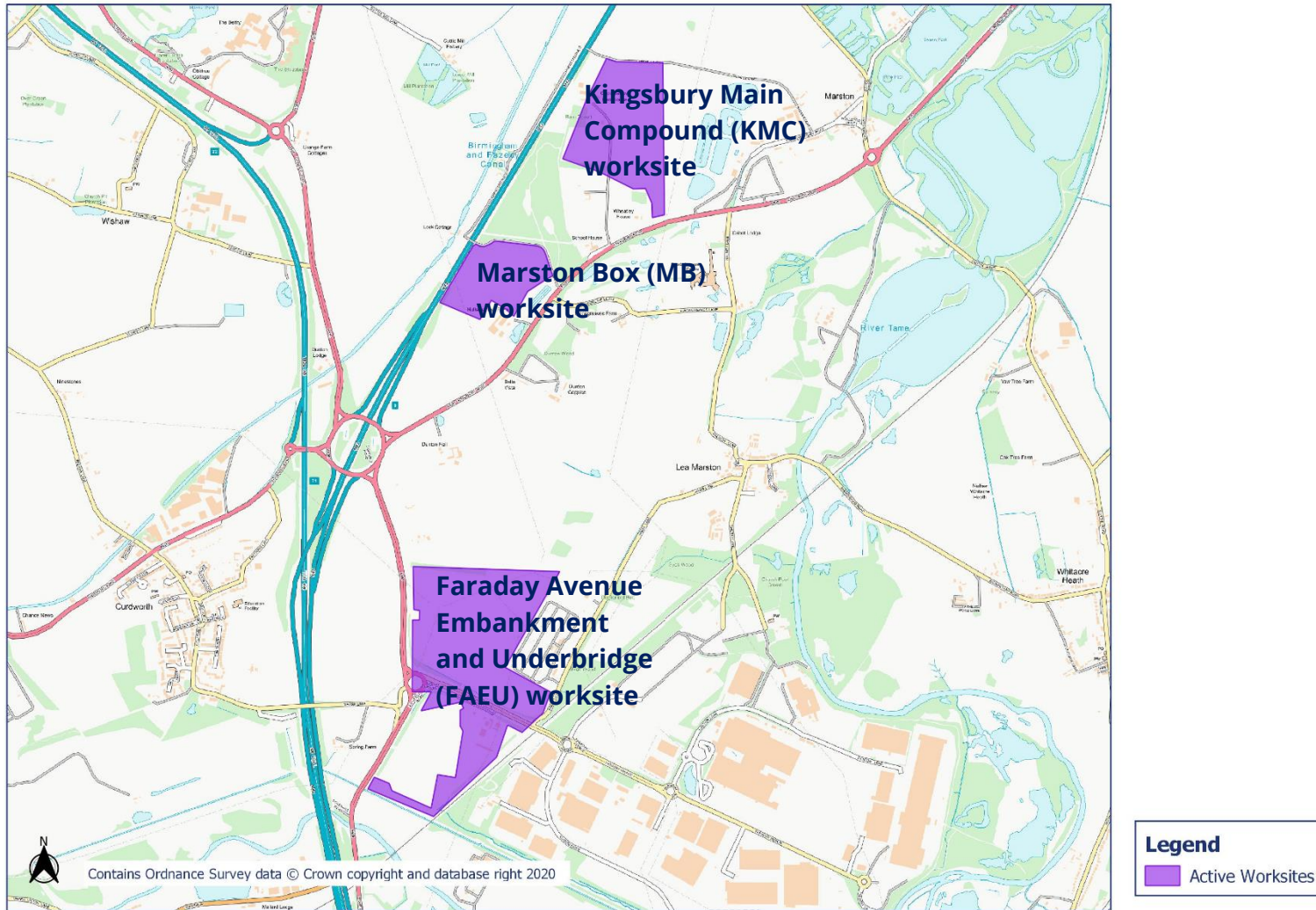
## 2.4 Complaints

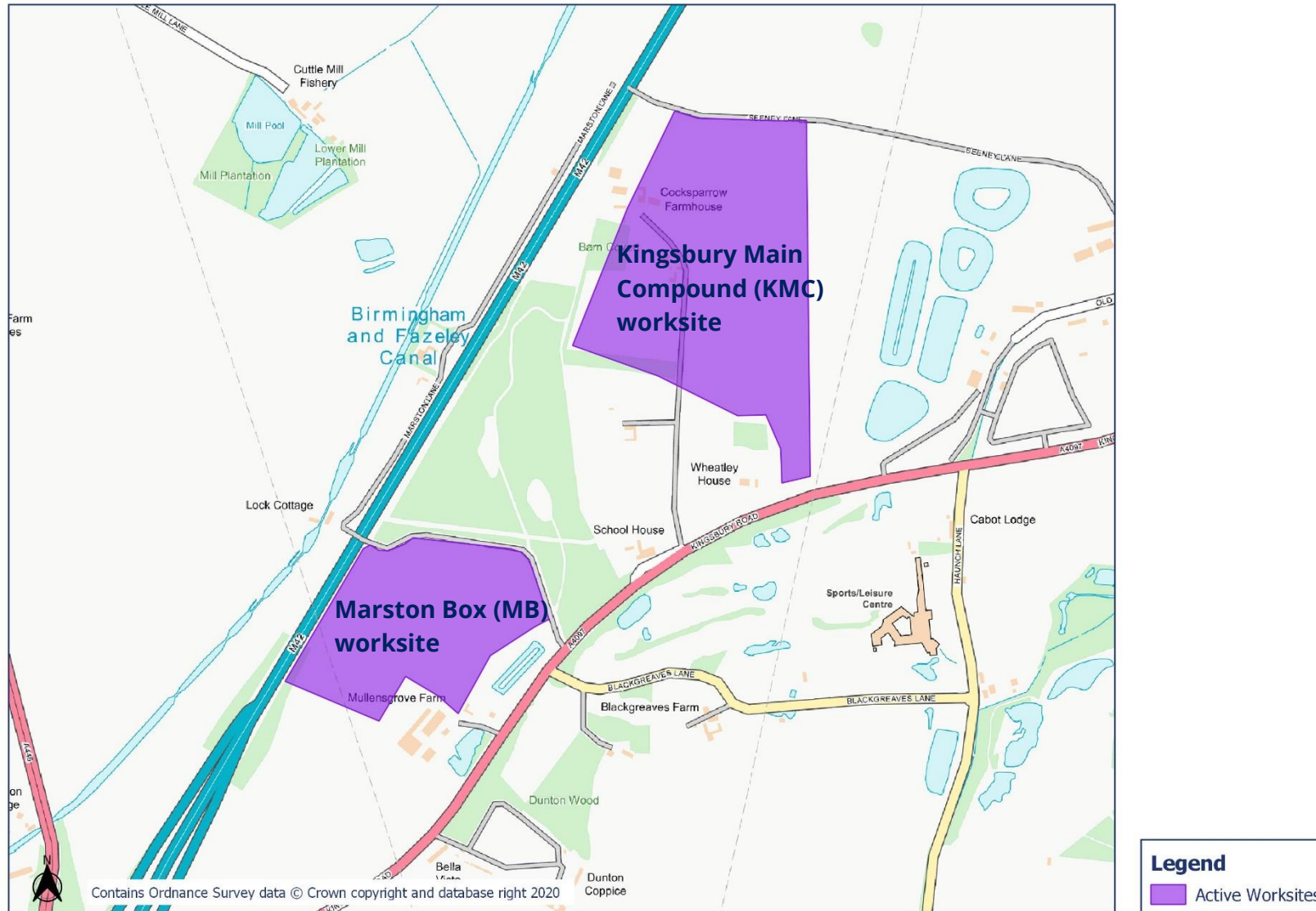
2.4.1 Table 7 provides a summary of complaint information related to noise and vibration received during the reporting period, along with the findings of any investigation.

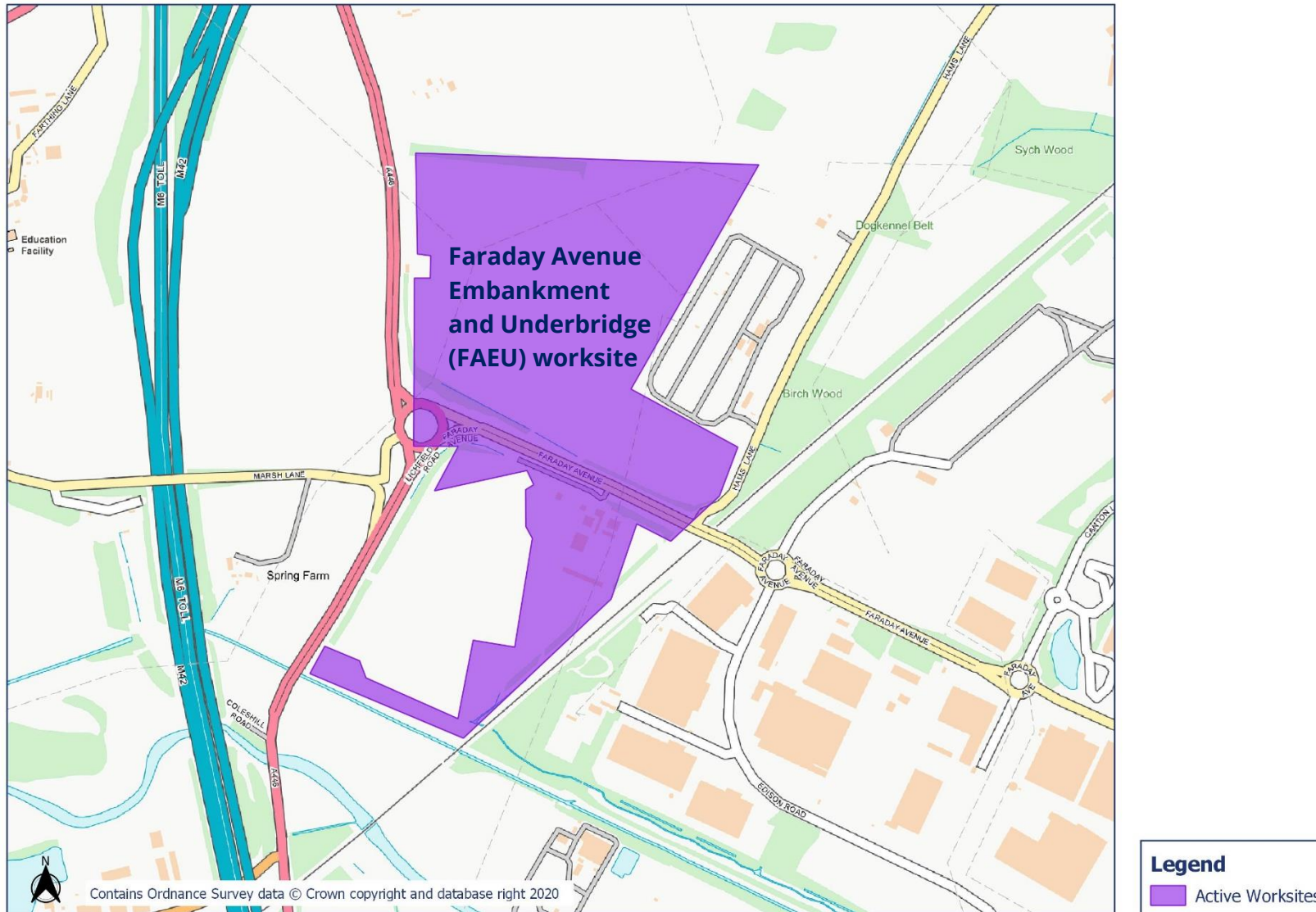
Table 7: Summary of Complaints

| Complaint Reference Number | Worksite Reference | Description of Complaint  | Results of Investigation  | Actions Taken  |
|----------------------------|--------------------|---|---|--|
| HS2-21-42394-C             | N/A, Utility works | Complaint due to site employees talking loudly outside residential home before 7am. | Investigations shown that various works were undertaken in the area.                            | Site teams has been advised to be considerate to the nearby residents.   |
| HS2-21-42423-C             | N/A, Utility works | Complaint due to noise disturbance from 7am through to the evening.                 | Investigations shown that power utility works were undertaken nearby the area of the complaint. | The works have been undertaken in line with the principles of the Code of Construction Practice (CoCP). The complainant has been contacted and information provided. |

# Appendix A Site Locations

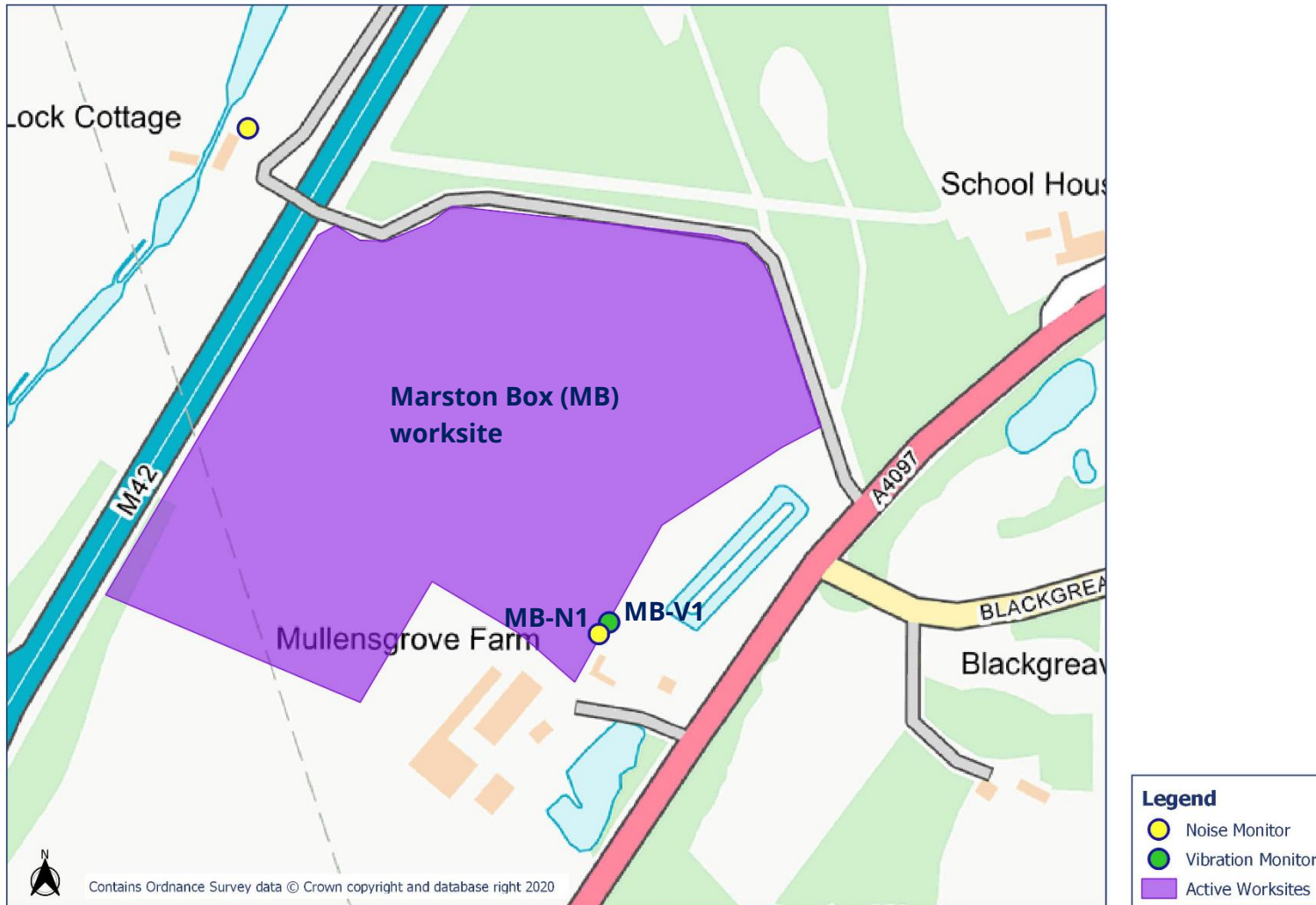


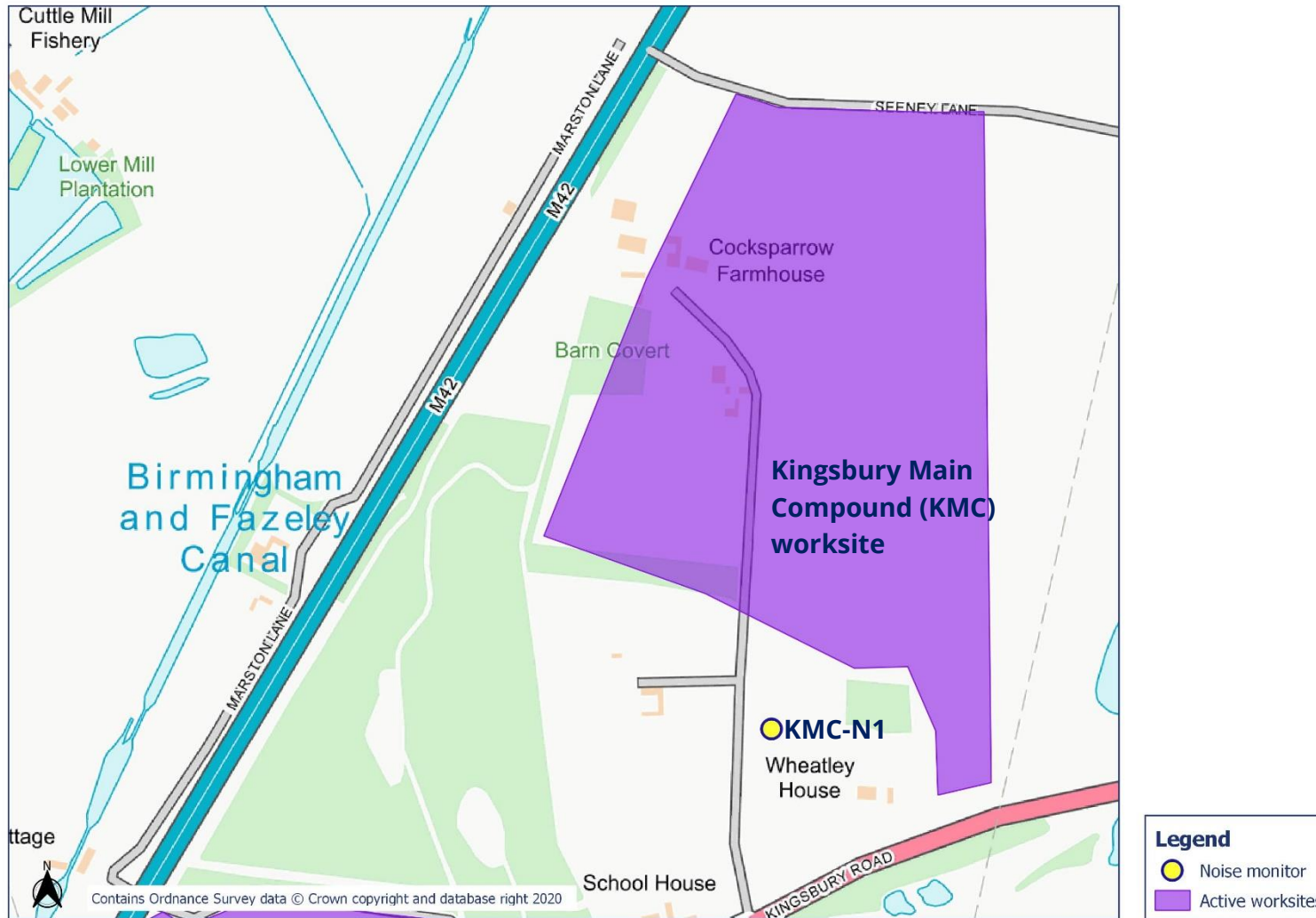


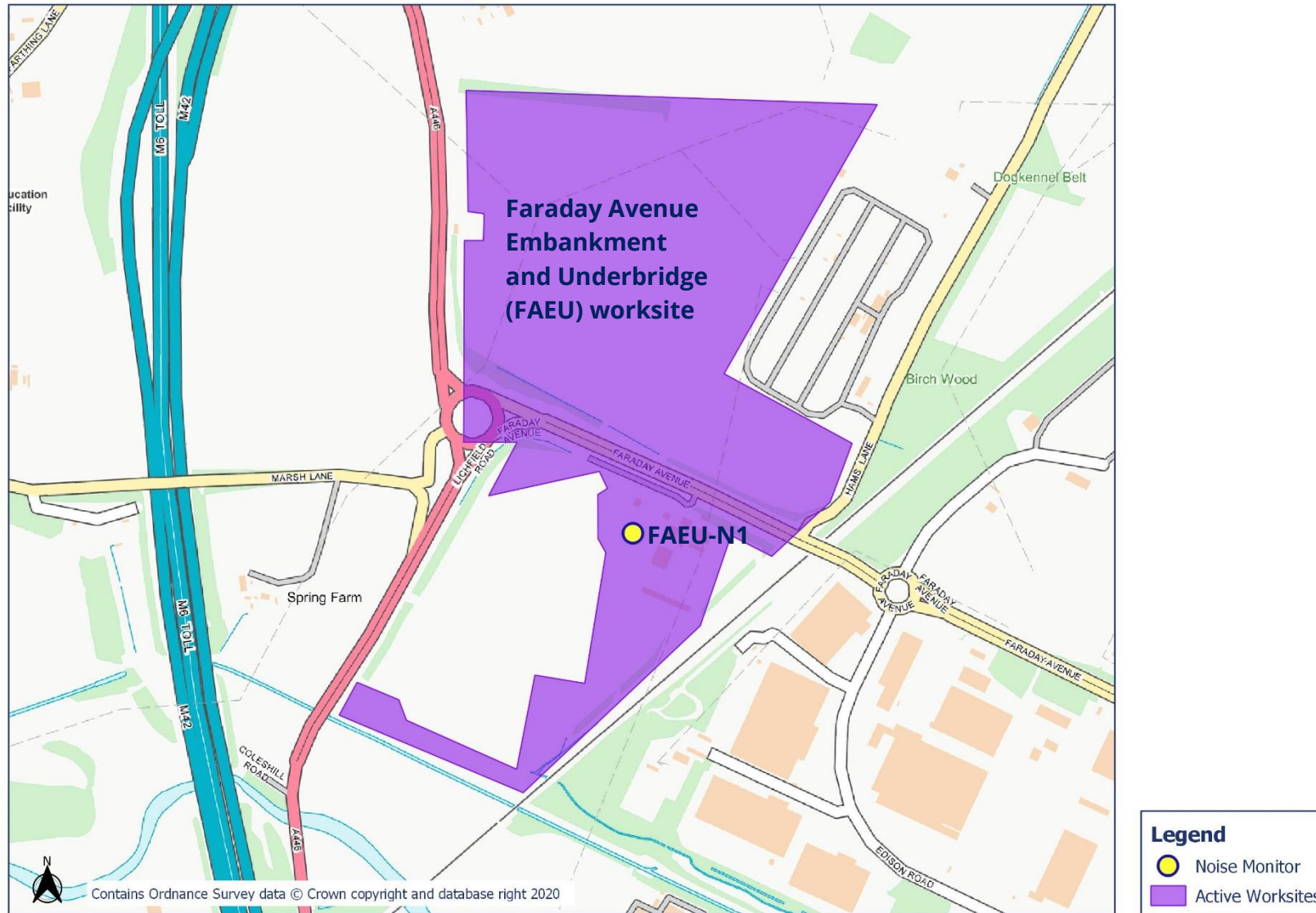




# Appendix B Monitoring Locations





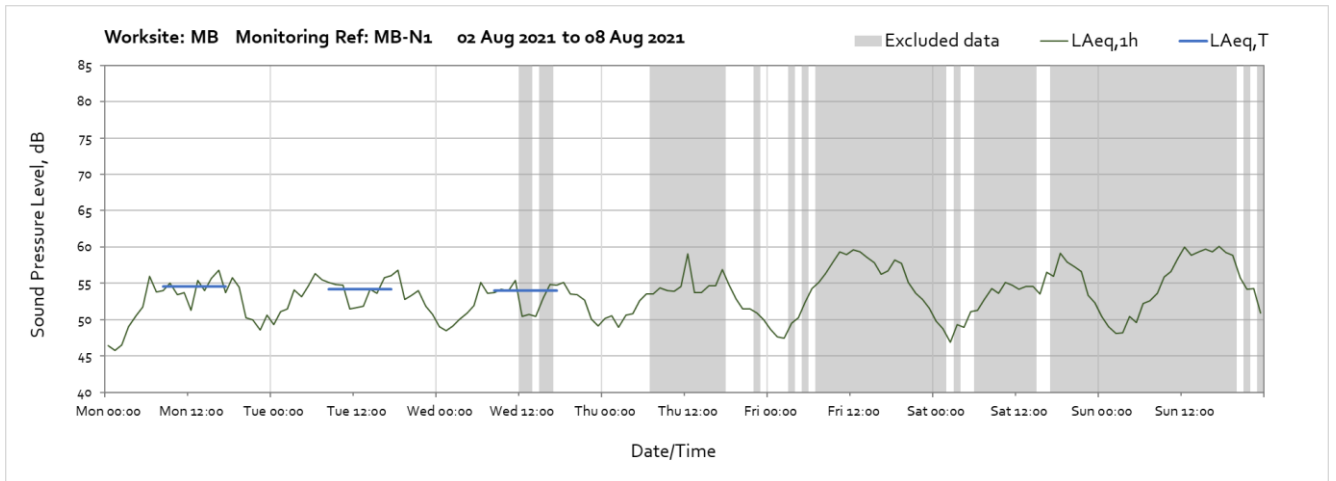
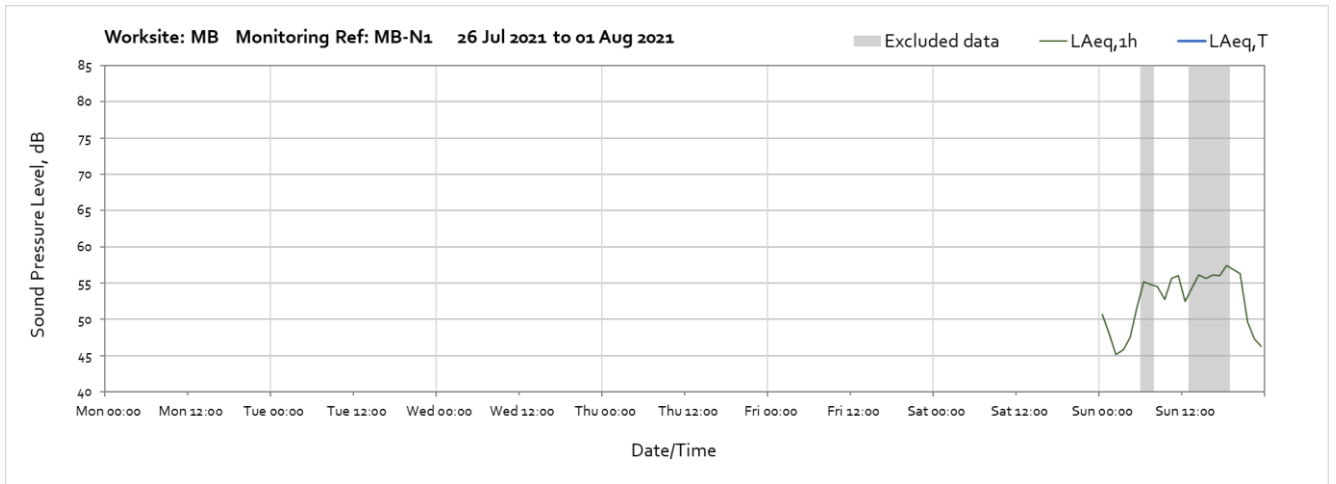


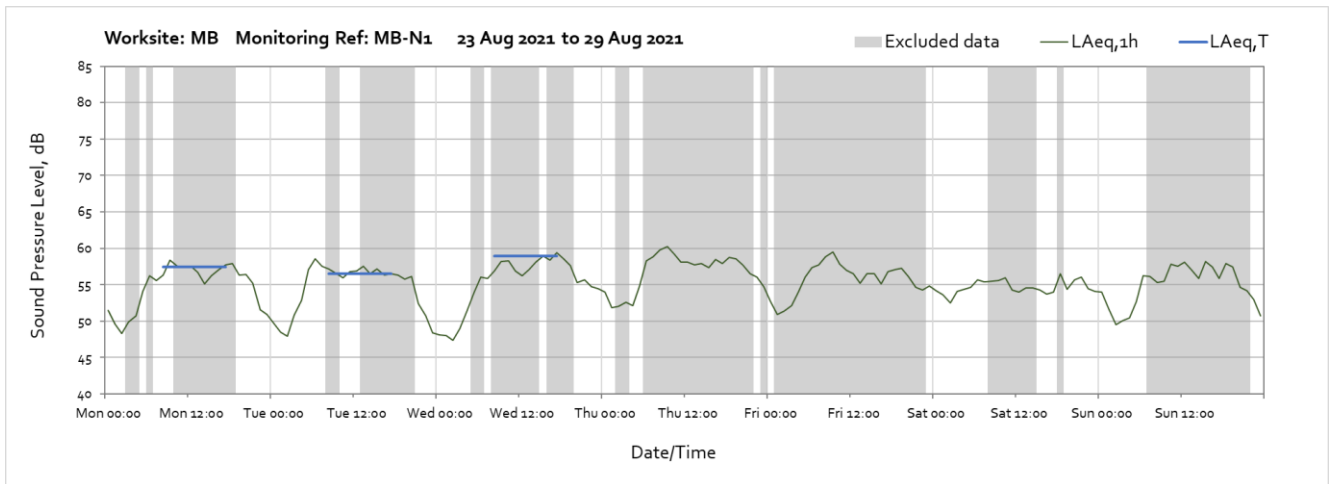
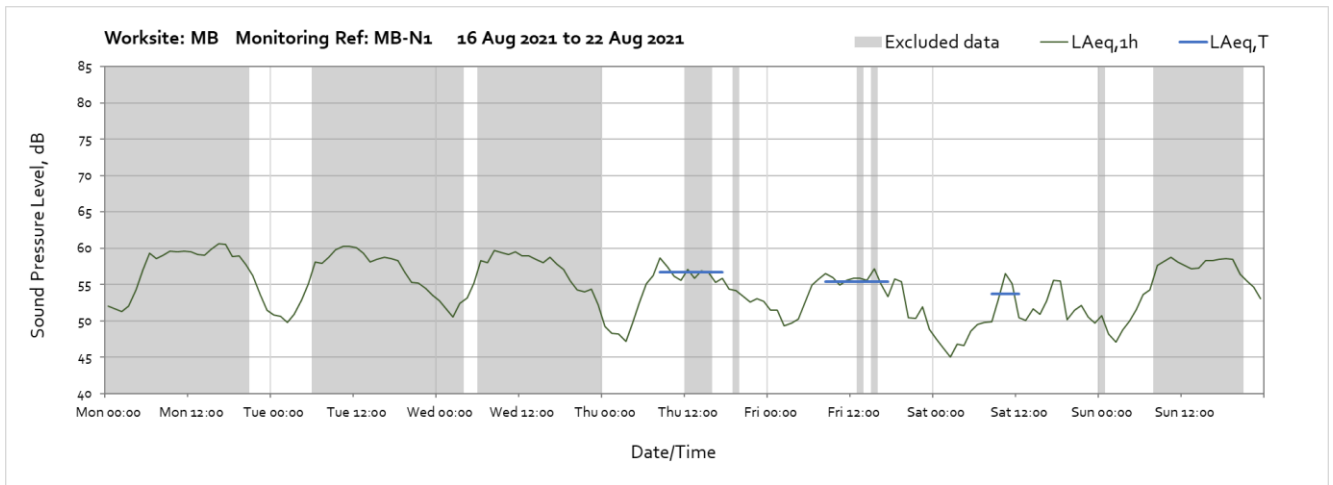
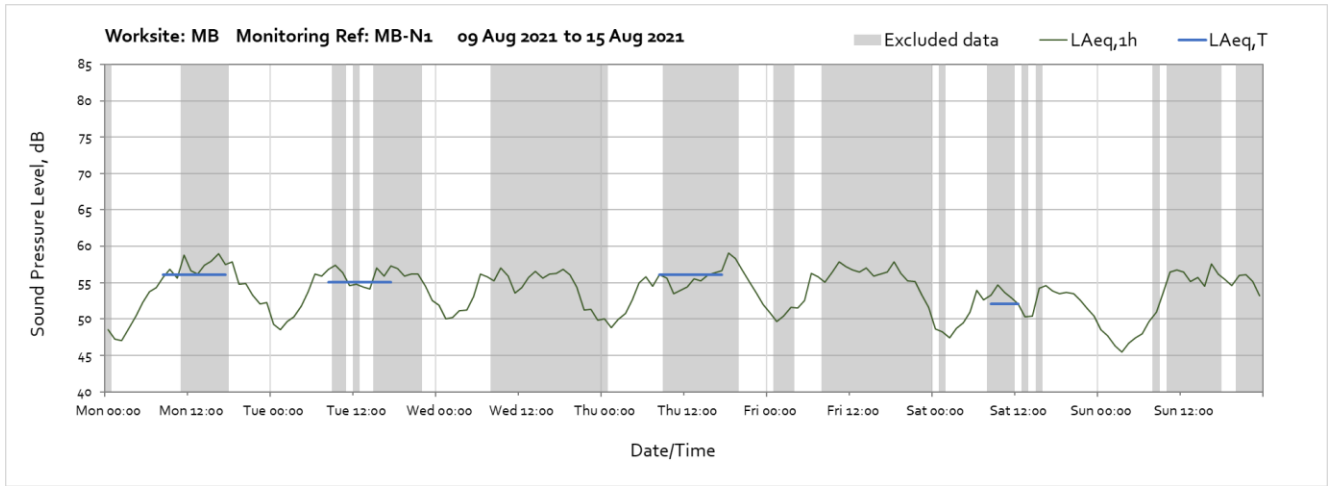
# Appendix C Data

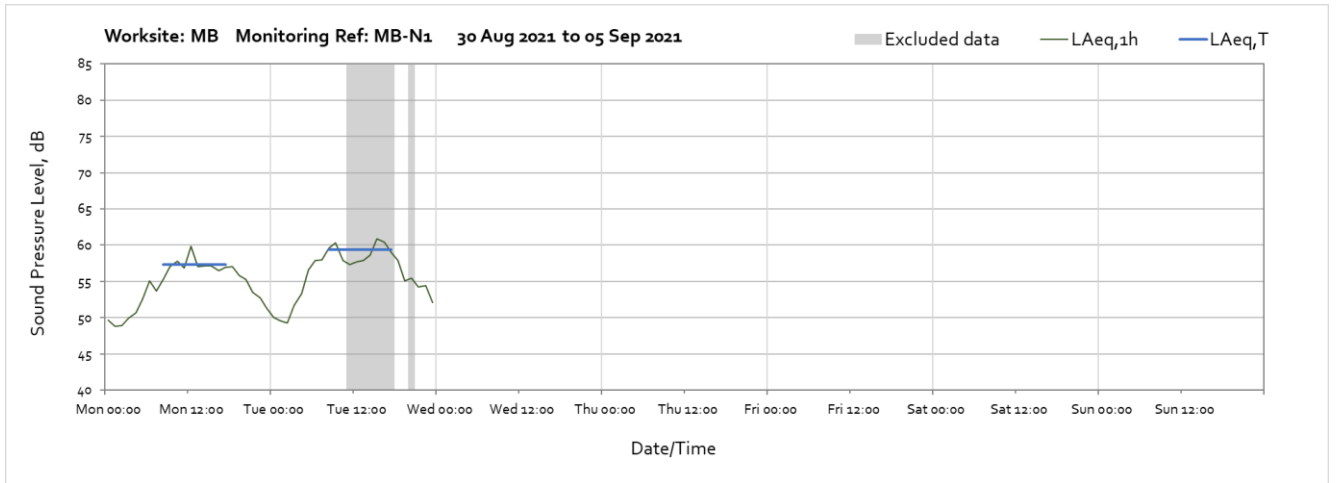
## Noise

The following graphs show the hourly measured ambient noise level  $L_{Aeq,1h}$  and, where relevant, the averaged noise level  $L_{Aeq,T}$  values, where the time period T is as specified in Table 1 of HS2 Information Paper E23. Periods with adversely weather affected noise levels are greyed out and have been excluded from the calculation of the  $L_{Aeq,T}$  values in Table 3 of the main report.

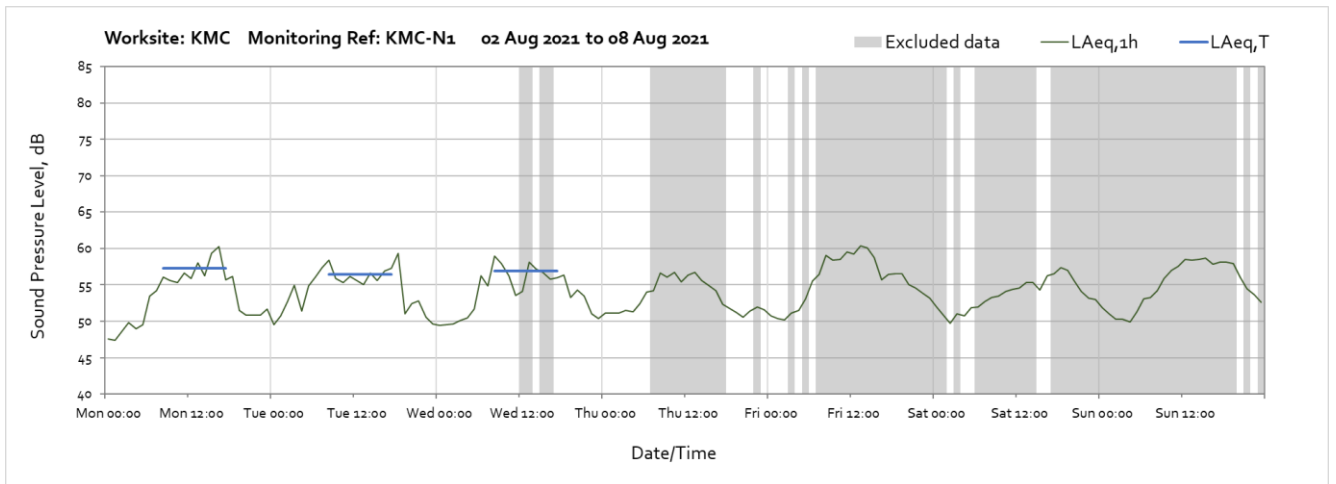
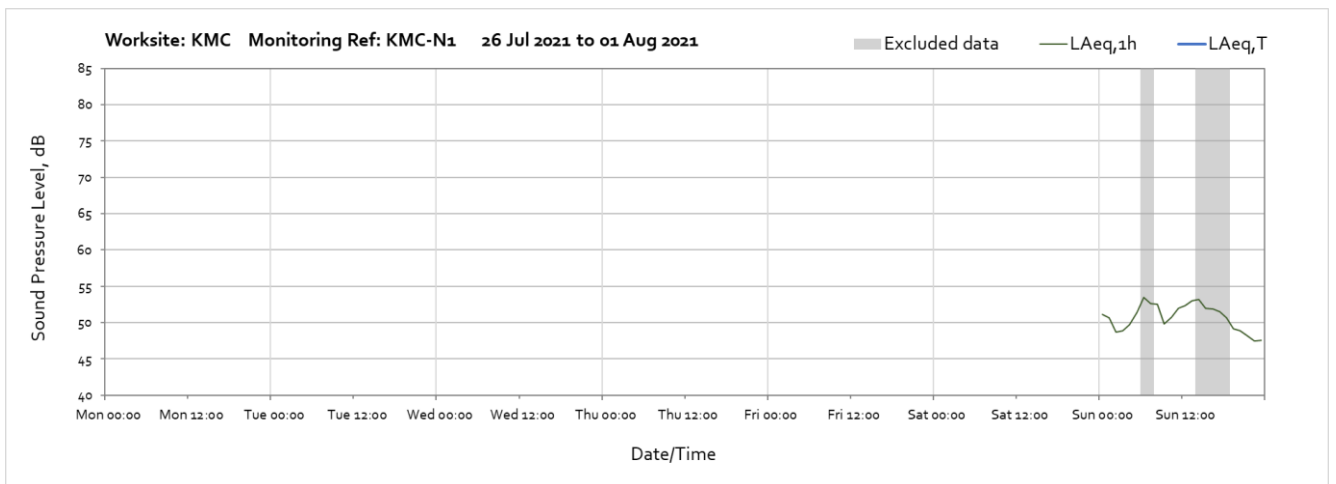
### Worksite: MB – Monitoring Ref: MB-N1

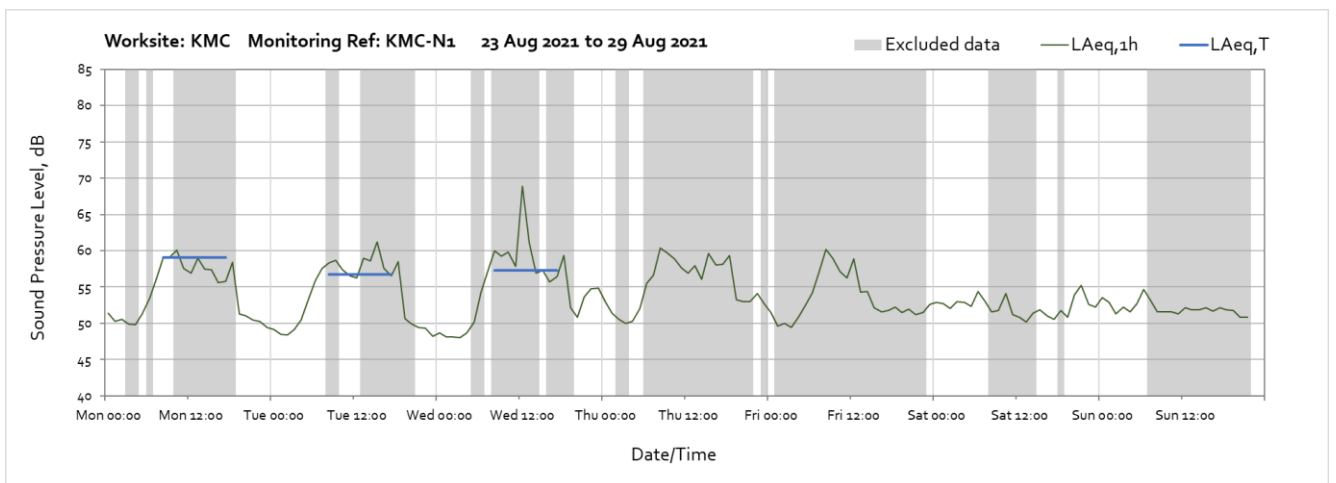
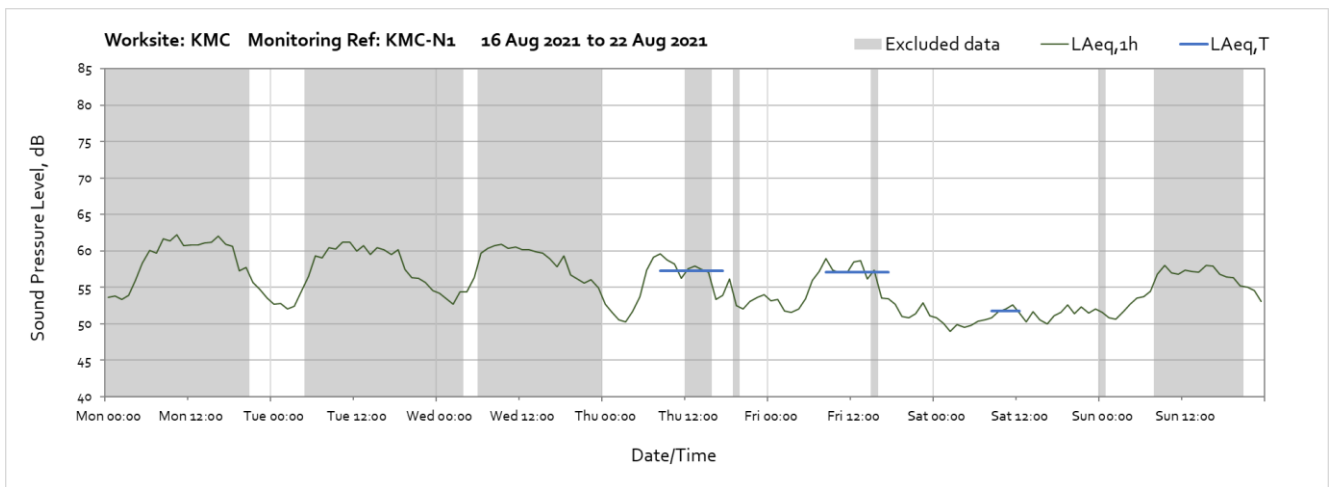
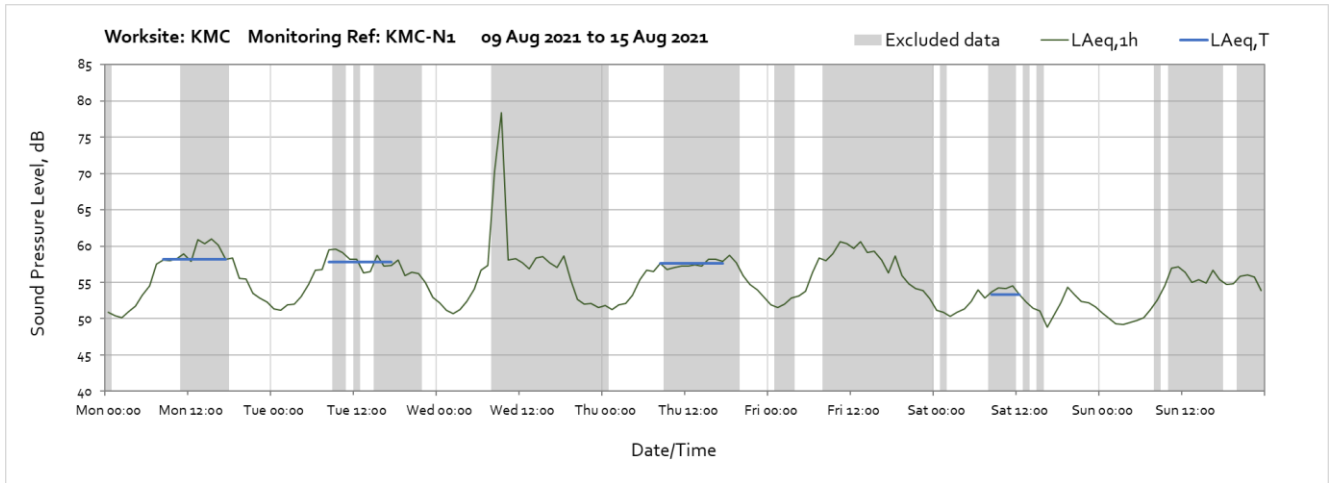






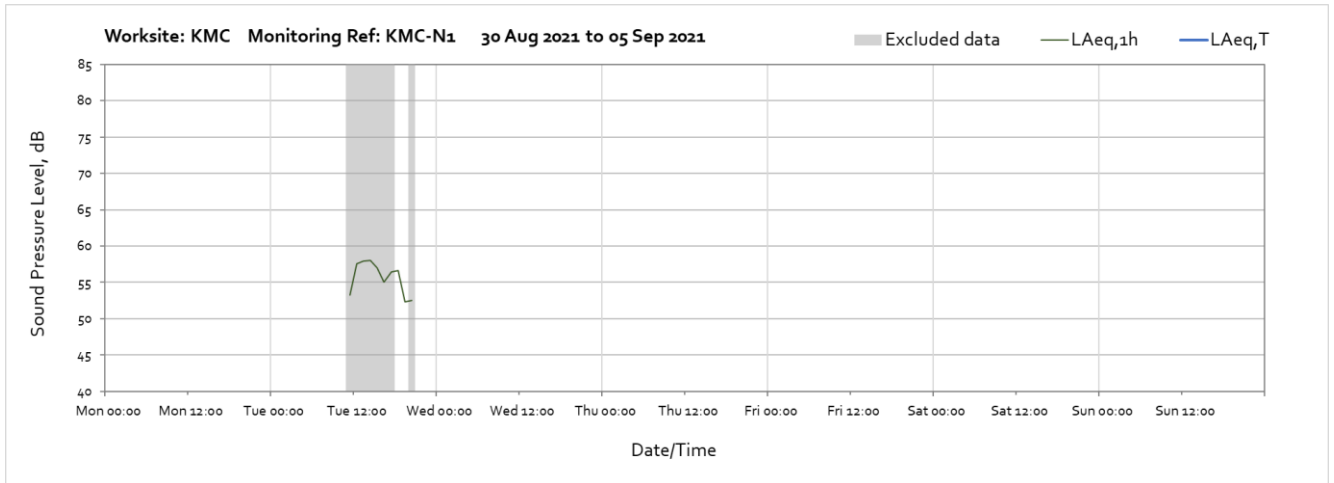
**Worksite: KMC – Monitoring Ref: KMC-N1**





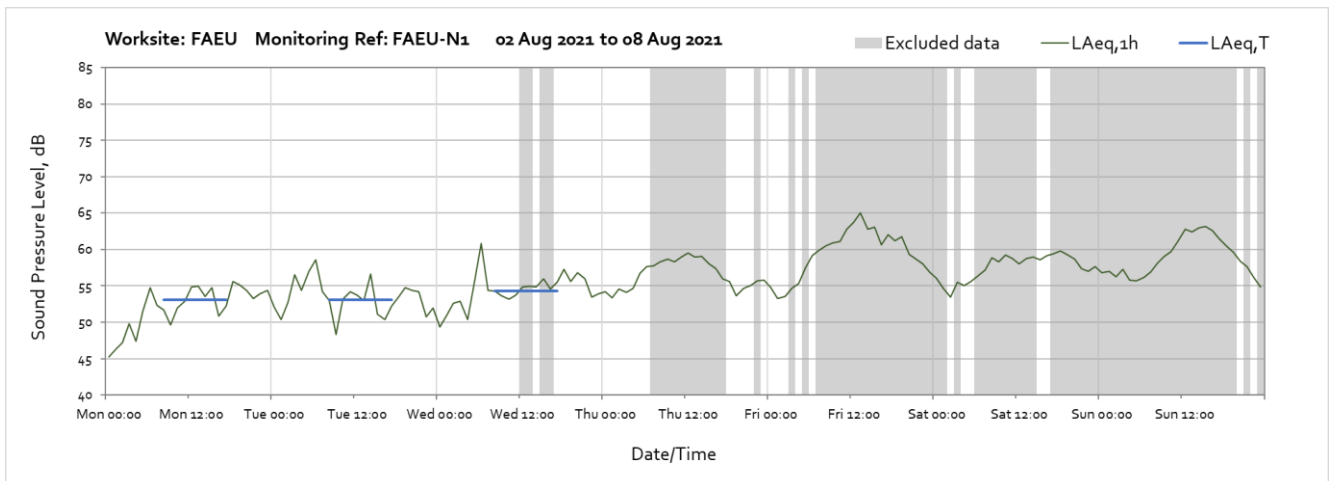
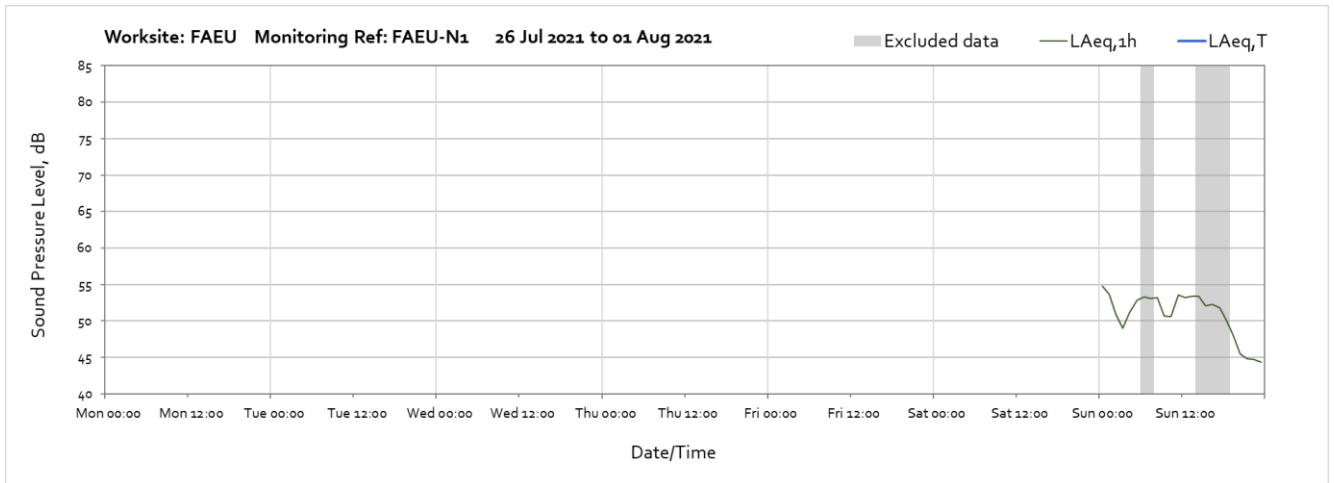
Note: Missing data between 22:00 on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> August and 11:00 on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021 was due to loss of power at the monitoring station.

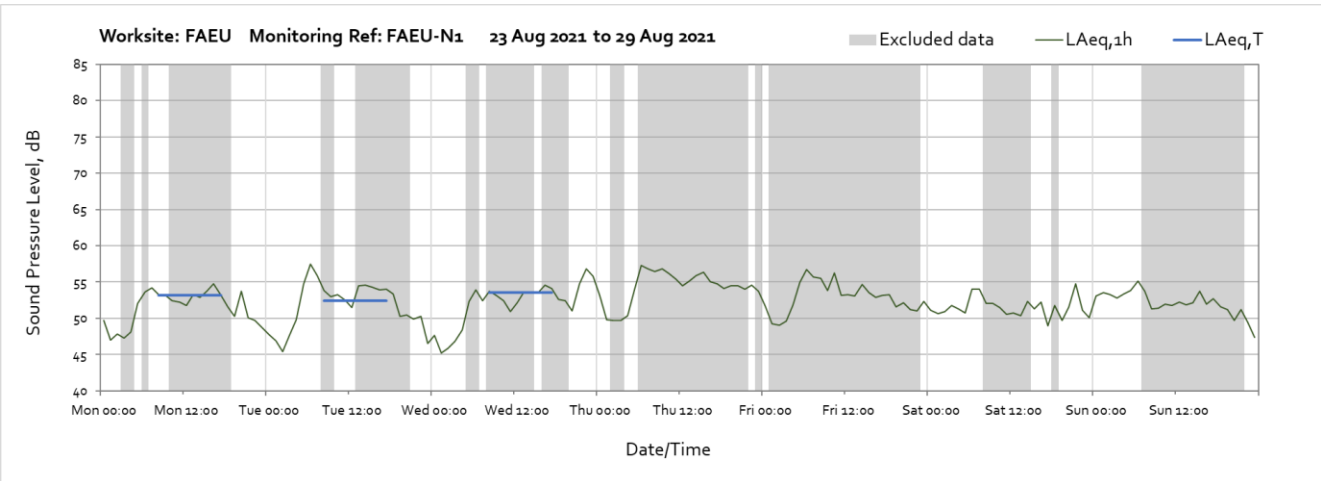
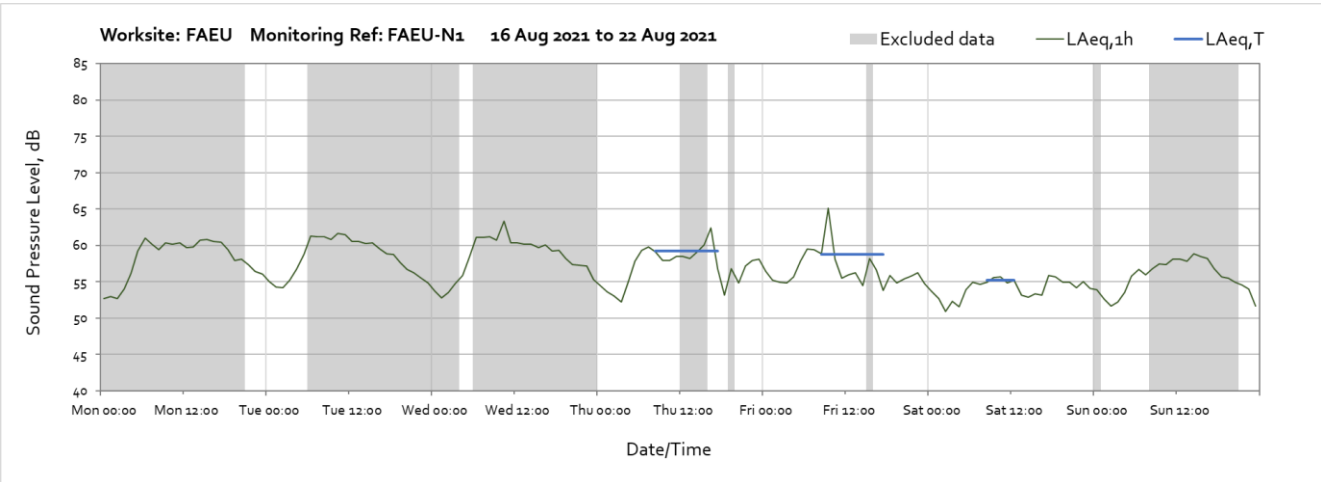
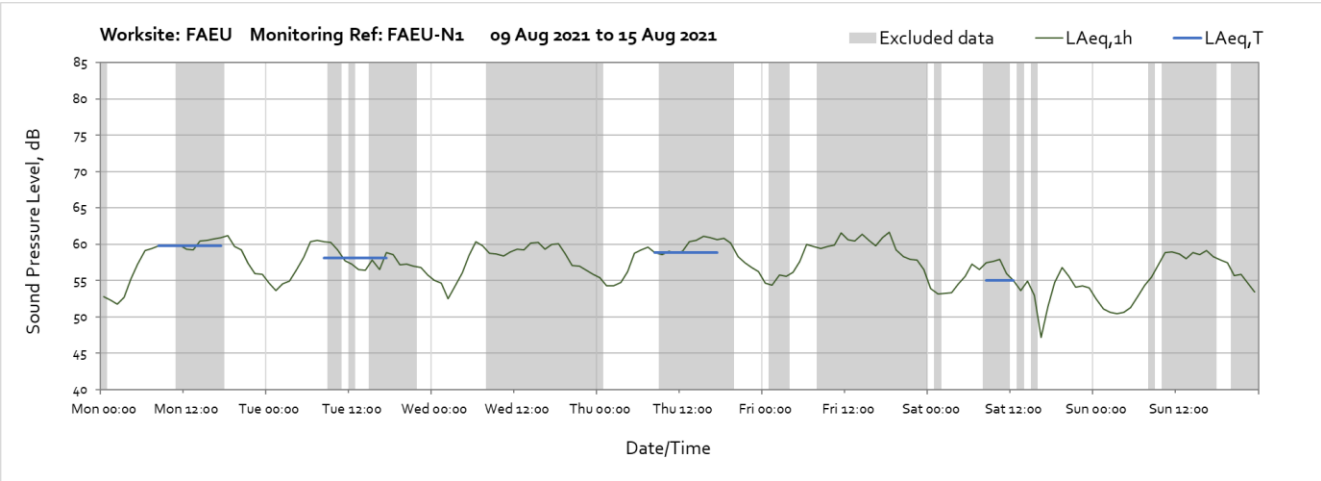


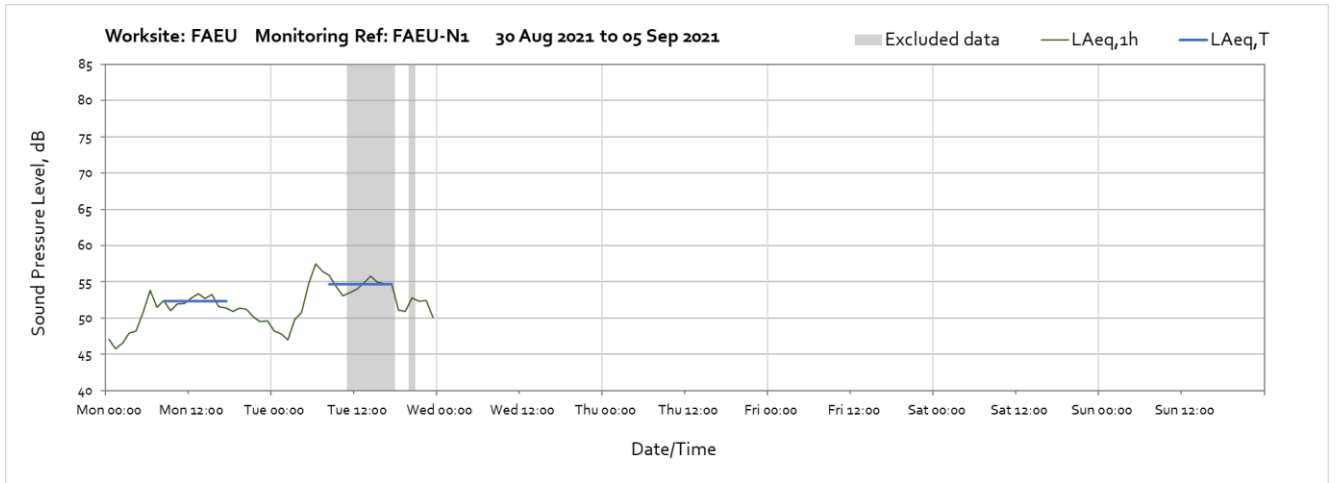


Note: Missing data between 22:00 on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> August and 11:00 on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021 and from 21:00 on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021 to the end of the month was due to loss of power at the monitoring station.

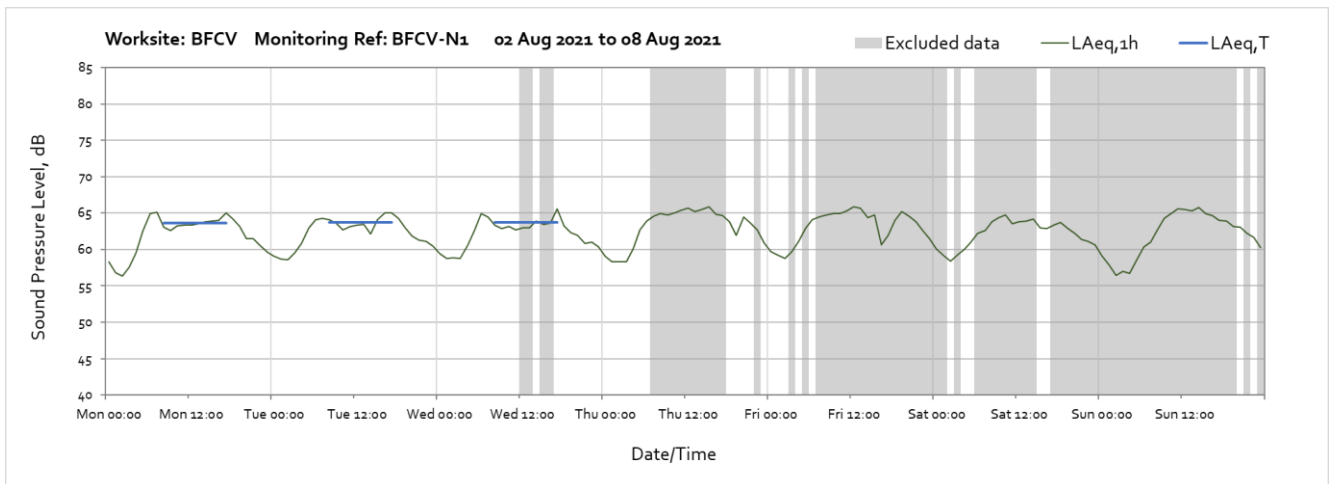
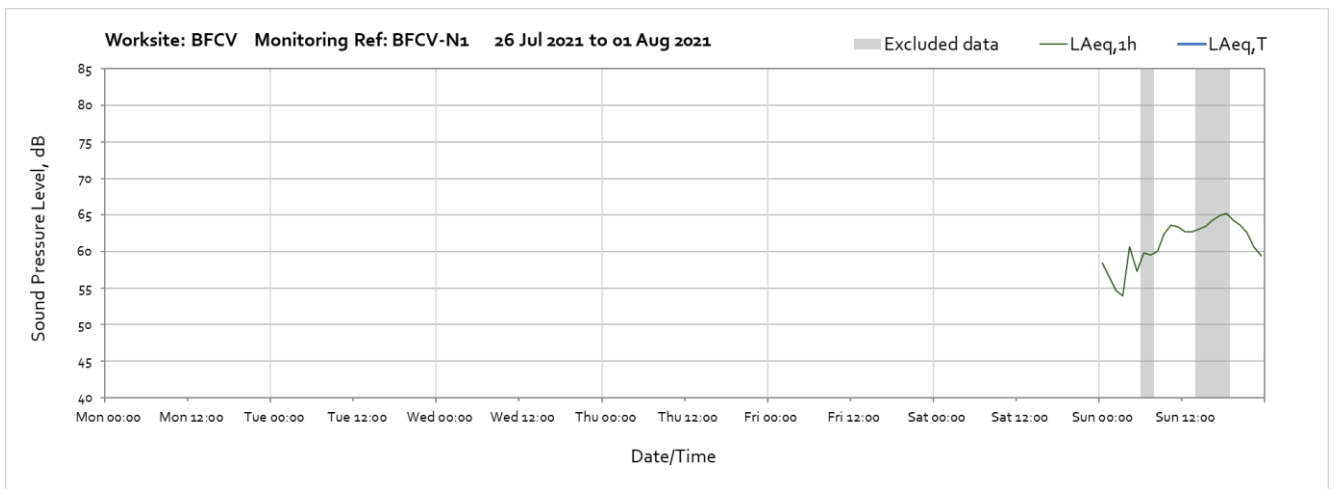
### Worksite: FAEU – Monitoring Ref: FAEU-N1

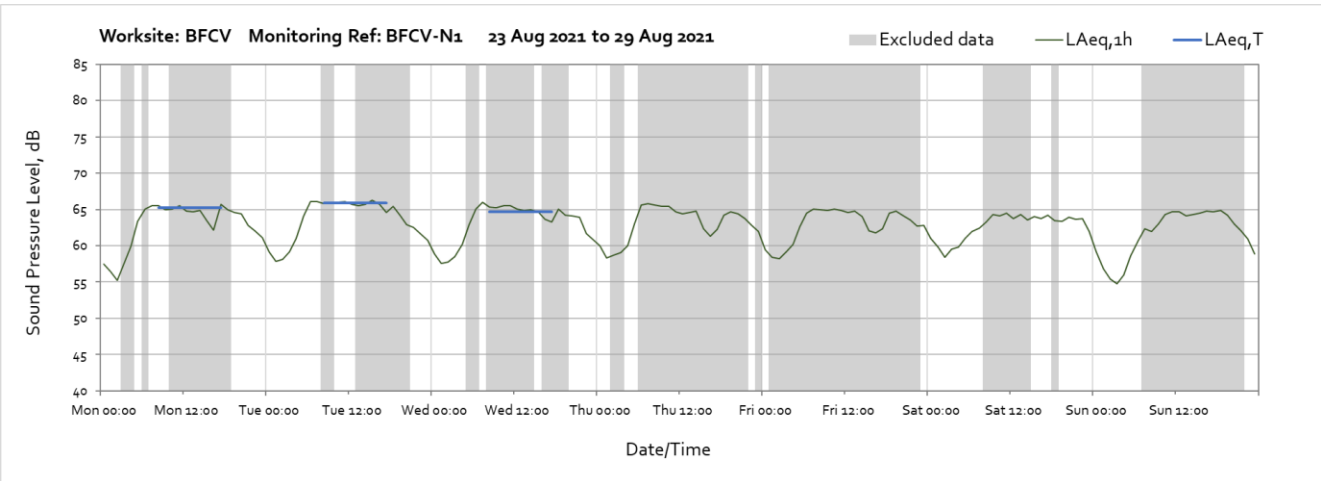
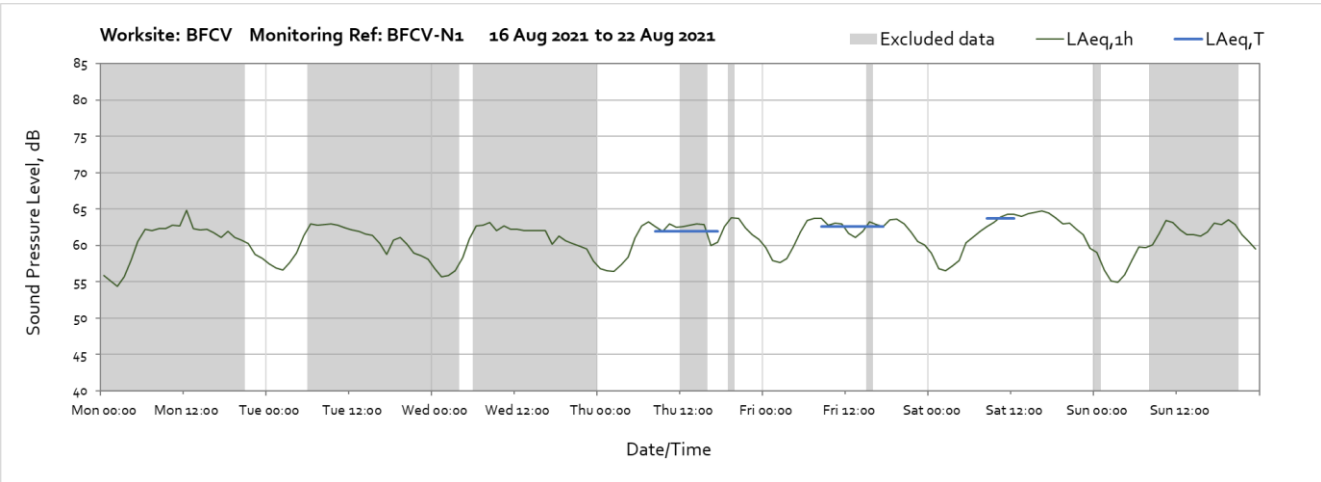
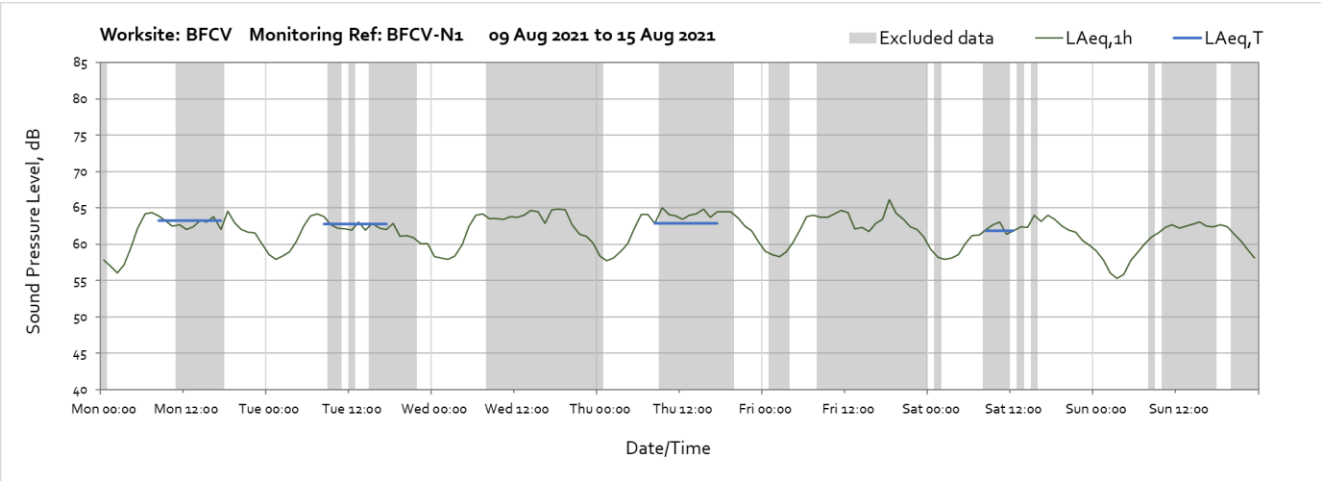


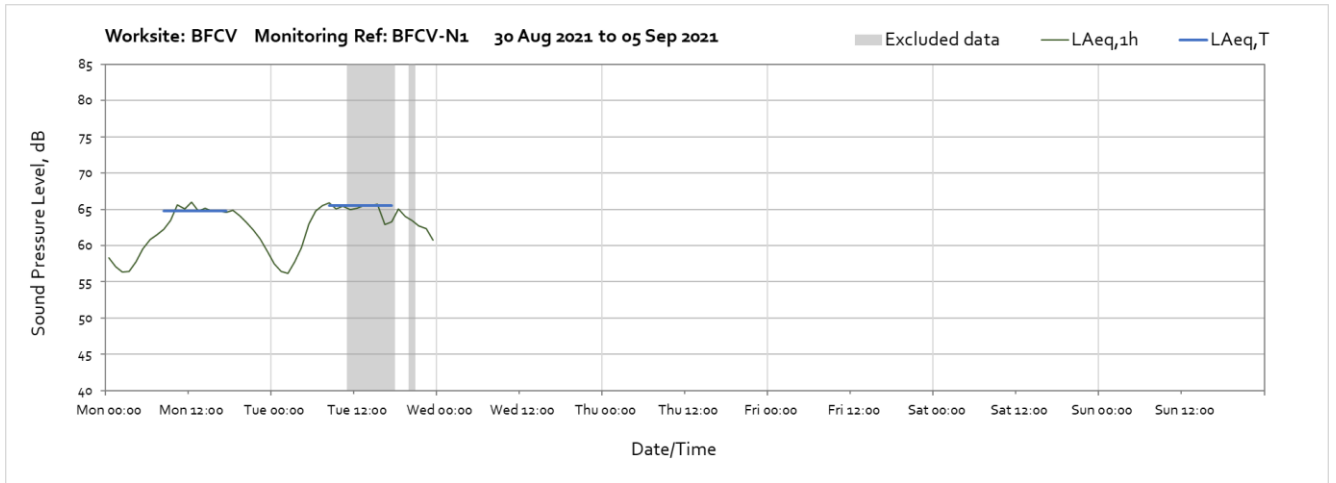




**Worksite: BFCV - Monitoring Ref: BFCV-N1**



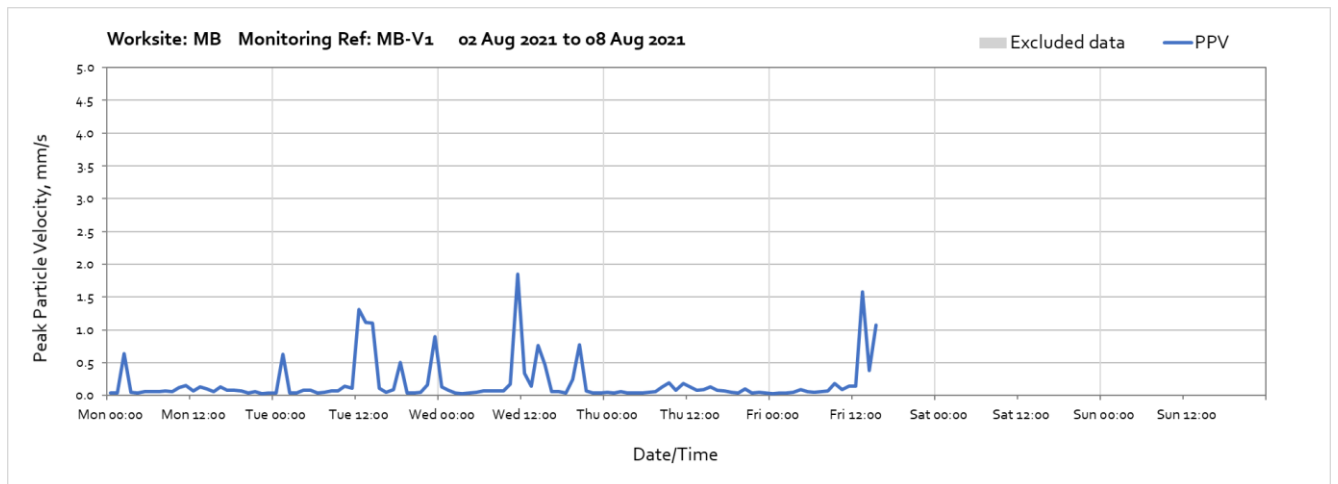
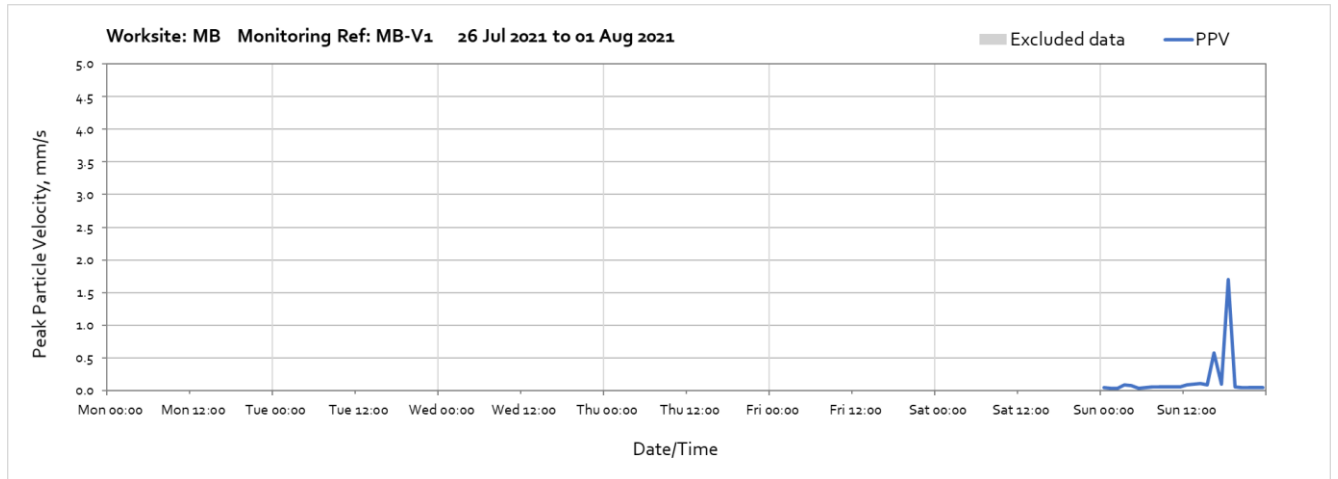




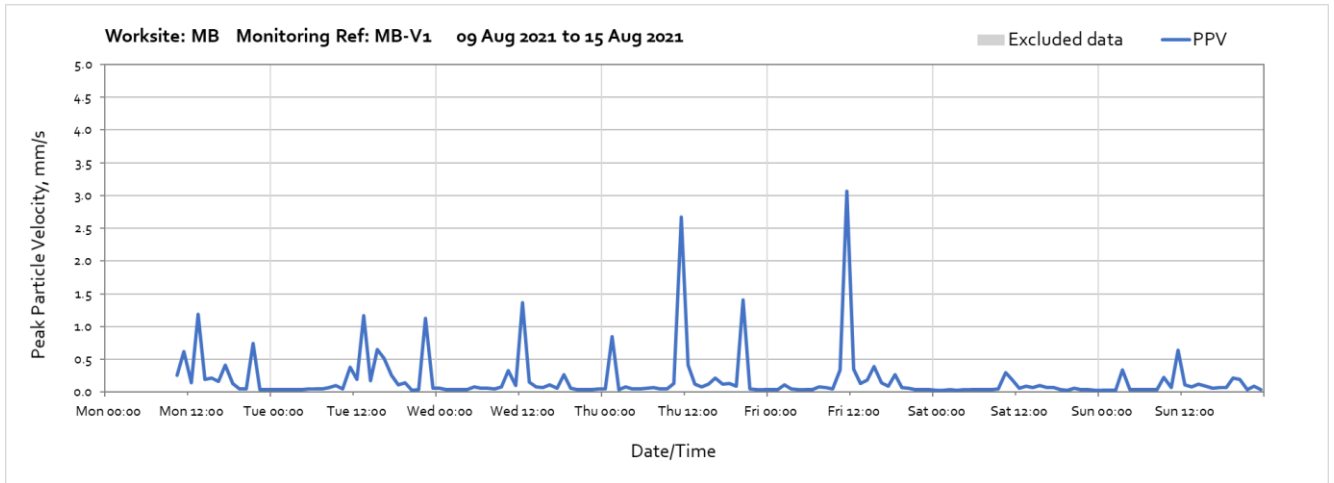
## Vibration

The following graphs show the hourly measured peak particle velocity PPV recorded during the monitoring period. The graphs show the highest PPV of the three orthogonal axes x, y and z. Where high values of PPV were caused by local interference with the vibration monitor, which are not representative of HS2 construction works, these values have been greyed out in the following charts and have been excluded to calculate values in Table 4 of the main report.

### Worksite: MB – Monitoring Ref: MB-V1



Note: Missing data between 16:00 on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> August and 10:00 on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> August 2021 was due to a software issue at the monitoring station. High vibration levels measured across the week were due to earthworks undertaken near to the monitoring location. The nearest residential receptors are further away from the works and vibration levels at the receptors will therefore be lower.



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