



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Noise Abatement Society John Connell Soundscape Award 2017**

*Sponsored by Transport for London*

**Winner: Professional Practice Guidance on Planning & Noise – New Residential Development (Pro PG Planning & Noise)**

### **Top Award for Soundscape initiative to improve future Residential Developments**

Last night the **Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Defra Thérèse Coffey** presented the team who produced the ProPG Planning Guidance with the **Soundscape** award at the Noise Abatement Society 2017 John Connell Awards, the **'Noise Oscars'**, held at the House of Commons.

This landmark Guidance complements the UK Government's National Planning Policy Framework and Guidance to provide practitioners with an industry-recommended approach for the first time for new residential developments both internally and externally. It advocates full consideration of the acoustic environment through state of the art design principles from the earliest possible stages of the design and development control processes.

It outlines what should be taken into account in deciding planning applications for new noise-sensitive developments, improves understanding of how to determine the extent of potential noise impacts and effects, and assists the delivery of sustainable development.

The Guidance's collaborative and human-centric approach is perfectly aligned with British and International soundscape standards and establishes a new baseline for 'good, better, and best' for the benefit of all.

The winning ProPG guidance was developed by a consortium of the Institute of Acoustics, Association of Noise Consultants and Chartered Institute of Environmental Health.

**Lisa Lavia**, Noise Abatement Society Managing Director, said: *"The NAS welcomes this important guidance which considers the holistic internal and external acoustic environment for new noise-sensitive developments and its effects on wellbeing and amenity. It provides a much needed step change to assist the delivery of sustainable development for the benefit of all."*

**The 2017 John Connell Awards** were hosted by **Damian Collins MP for Folkestone and Hythe** and the Soundscape Awards were kindly sponsored by **Transport for London**

The **Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Defra Thérèse Coffey** presented the Soundscape award to the ProPG consortium team, led by acoustician Colin Grimwood, and addressed representatives from local authorities, industry, academics and acoustics experts at this popular event, the only awards of their kind that support and reward innovations to improve our aural environment.

#### **Notes to editors:**

**The John Connell Awards** are named after NAS's far-sighted founder **John Connell OBE**, who lobbied the Noise Abatement Act through Parliament in 1960 when noise became a statutory nuisance in the UK for the first time. These annual awards, known as the 'Noise Oscars', are now in their 16<sup>th</sup> year. They acknowledge the importance of the quality of sound in our lives, and champion vital advances in reducing the negative impact of unnecessary noise for the public benefit. Over 200 recipients from local authorities, industry, organisations and individuals have now been honoured for the significant impact they have made to improve the aural environment.

The **Noise Abatement Society (NAS)** is a dynamic UK charity whose remit is to raise awareness about noise pollution. Its internationally respected work helps to relieve the physical and mental distress caused by excessive noise which profoundly affects health, learning, productivity and social cohesion. [www.noiseabatementociety.com](http://www.noiseabatementociety.com)

#### **Noise Abatement Society Initiatives include:**

- **Helpline** The UK's only helpline offering free advice for those suffering noise nuisance at home, work and in the community.
- **Silent Approach™** The protocol of quiet delivery practices, used as the basis for the UK government backed Quiet Deliveries Demonstration Scheme and Transport for London's *London 2012 retiming delivery* trials, now being adopted in London and elsewhere.
- **Quiet Mark™** The International Award for Excellence in Quiet Design given to manufacturers of the quietest products. Quiet Mark has introduced the value of Eco-Quiet to the Eco portfolio.
- **Soundscape** NAS has been at the heart of pioneering sustainable soundscape measurement and management practice since 2009, working tirelessly to see this revolution in acoustics brought into the mainstream.

- **Love your Ears™** A campaign aimed at school age children to raise awareness of permanent hearing loss through continuous exposure to loud music.

[www.noiseabatementociety.com/campaigns/](http://www.noiseabatementociety.com/campaigns/)

**John Connell Awards 2017 award winners:**

<b>Local Authority Award</b> <i>Sponsor Rockwool</i>	<i>Winner</i>	<b>HS2 Local Authority Noise Consortium</b>
<b>Local Authority Award</b> <i>Sponsor Rockwool</i>	<i>Highly Commended</i>	<b>Charnwood Borough Council</b>
<b>Local Authority Award</b> <i>Sponsor Rockwool</i>	<i>Highly Commended</i>	<b>Kirklees Council</b>
<b>Soundscape Award</b> <i>Sponsor Transport for London</i>	<i>Winner</i>	<b>Pro PG Planning and Noise</b>
<b>Soundscape Award</b> <i>Sponsor Transport for London</i>	<i>Highly Commended</i>	<b>Martin Brower</b>
<b>Innovation Award</b> <i>Sponsor Institute of Acoustics</i>	<i>Winner</i>	<b>Brigade Electronics UK</b>
<b>Innovation Award</b> <i>Sponsor Institute of Acoustics</i>	<i>Highly Commended</i>	<b>AECOM acoustics</b>
<b>Quiet Logistics Award</b> <i>Sponsor Freight Transport Association</i>	<i>Winner</i>	<b>HIAB and Pets at Home</b>
<b>Quiet Logistics Award</b> <i>Sponsor Freight Transport Association</i>	<i>Highly Commended</i>	<b>Whitbread</b>
<b>Silent Approach Award</b> <i>Sponsor Brigade Electronics UK</i>	<i>Winner</i>	<b>TIDEWAY</b>
<b>Quiet Mark Award of Distinction</b> <i>Sponsor Anderson Acoustics</i>		<b>Interface</b>
<b>Quiet Mark Award of Distinction</b> <i>Sponsor Anderson Acoustics</i>		<b>Salamander Pumps</b>

[www.noiseabatementociety.com/john-connell-awards/john-connell-awards-2017](http://www.noiseabatementociety.com/john-connell-awards/john-connell-awards-2017)

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NOISE ABATEMENT SOCIETY | Founder: John Connell OBE | The Noise Abatement Society is a registered charity entirely dependent on voluntary donations to continue its work. Help NAS to maintain a service by making a donation via the website at [www.noiseabatementociety.com](http://www.noiseabatementociety.com). All contributions are gratefully received.



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