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A003 120531 Code of Practice on Noise from Ice-Cream Van Chimes Consultation.doc

31 May 2012

Code of Practice on Noise from Ice-Cream Van Chimes Consultation
Noise and Nuisance Team
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Area 5A Ergon House
Nobel House
17 Smith Square
London
SW1P 3JR

Dear Sir or Madame

A003 ASSOCIATION OF NOISE CONSULTANTS

Subject: Code of Practice on Noise from Ice-Cream Van Chimes Consultation

I write on behalf of the Association of Noise Consultants (ANC); I was chair of the Association from May 2010 until 17th May 2012 and have been delegated to write this response on the Association's behalf.

In general, the ANC supports option 2 – 'Keep the Code but make it less restrictive'; I have provided responses to the consultation questions below in the requested format:

1A. No

1B. The relatively low number of complaints indicates that the balance is probably about right but vendors may suffer problems regarding the time restrictions.

1C. No

1D. No

2A. We support 12 seconds for the reasons given

2B. We do not support reducing the 3 minute period if the 12 second allowance in 2A is granted.

2C. We support chiming no more than once when stationary to limit the potential for annoyance

2D. We support the change to 'Except on approach to or at a selling point' subject to the 3 minute rule being maintained

2E. We support 'no proposed change'

2F. We support 'no proposed change'

2G. We support 'no proposed change'

2H. We support 'no proposed change'

2I. We support the change for practical reasons. However, it would be better to delete paragraph 4.1 after the sound level sentence ending in 80dBA rather than the suggested wording which could encourage loud chiming.

2Ji. We could support a change to times between which chimes are sounded for the practical reason of sandwich vendors serving commercial areas before lunchtime, 10.30am seems reasonable; we would not support later times beyond 7pm for ice cream chimes.

2Jii. No

2Jiii. Yes, from personal experience many small children are put to bed at around 7pm, the finishing time of 7pm should not be changed.

2Jiv. Yes, clarification as to who should enforce it, environmental health/pollution control or the police. This may permit improved resourcing and better enforcement.

2K.No

2L. No

3A. No. For the reasons given by the Industry in the consultation

3B. No

3C. No.

4A. No. The code would have been produced with much hard work at the time because it was needed, it was originally worked out with and agreed by the industry, and it has generally withstood the test of time.

4B. No

4C. No

5. Yes, it is mostly an update and clarification. However, it may not be practicable to carry out measurements in free field conditions, such as in narrow streets where there may be multiple reflections, so this caveat should be removed.

6. Yes

7. No

8. No

9. We favour Option 2 for the reasons given above with the caveats noted regarding maintaining the 3 minute period and not extending chiming hours beyond 7pm.

10. No

We trust the above is satisfactory, however; should you have any further queries or require more information please contact us.

Yours sincerely
For the Association of Noise Consultants (ANC)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. Adnitt', written in a cursive style with a large loop at the end.

Robert Adnitt
email: robert@adnitt.com