



Smaller Consultancies Award

ACCON UK *Lane Rental Phase 2 - Out of Hours Working*

There is no systematic or standardised method for London Local Authorities to consider applications for planned Out of Hours street works or road works that by necessity have to take place during evening or weekend periods with regard to the impact from noise on residents. The project has delivered a completely innovative set of tools to enable Environmental Health Officers to approve permits for street works that may cause noise disturbance to residents within densely populated and highly built-up areas of London and contractors to inform residents that may be affected.

This project has developed the following

- New criteria for noise disturbance from street works
- A simple and easy to use Noise Prediction Tool, enabling contractor to predict the extent or zone of potential noise disturbance from street works

- A GIS app/tool that enables the zone of potential noise disturbance from any set of street works to be identified visually. The app generates a corresponding list of addresses of residential properties so that the residents can be informed by the contractor carrying out the works of potential noise disturbance in advance.

The noise survey work carried out has also created a database of source noise levels for plant and activities for street works. As the project was carried out with funding from TfL, in due course the resulting tools may be adopted by other London local authorities in addition to Westminster and City of London.

The team managers for Westminster City Council & City of London said: "Accon's staff were highly organised - this was demonstrated in their planning and execution of field surveys, and responses and

clarification of any matters in a timely manner. We were also presented with a comprehensive final report they submitted. In overall, we were very impressed by the Consultants' high level of professionalism and expertise."

This project is winner of the Smaller Consultancies Award 2022 which recognises the important role that firms with 6 or less acoustic staff make to the sector.

The Smaller Consultancies Award is dedicated to the late Patrick Shortt, director of Paragon Acoustics, who tragically died in a road accident in July 2022. *Patrick made a huge contribution to the Association through his involvement in numerous committees and groups and is sadly missed by all who knew him and benefitted from his advice and input.*