Noise Management Plan for Grove Farm Pig Unit

The H1 environmental risk assessment submitted with the application for a bespoke environmental permit identified sources of noise with the potential to cause annoyance. Created this noise management plan (NMP) to support the overall environmental management system in place. The overriding principle is to ensure day-to-day activities are carried out in accordance with the plan so there is no reasonable cause for annoyance to people outside of the installation boundary. Significant pollution outside the boundary is not expected, operator has no record or recollection of noise concerns or complaints and will continue to foster good relations with neighbours.

Actions and contingency actions in this NMP are best available techniques (BAT) in accordance with Best Available Techniques (BAT) Reference Document 2017, Environment Agency (2005) Technical Guidance Note IPPC SRG 6.02 (Farming); Noise Management at Intensive Livestock Installations, and Environment Agency (2021) Guidance - Noise & vibration management: environmental permits.

Identified sensitive receptors within 400m of the installation boundary (excluding the nearest residential dwelling for the operator at Grove Farm and agricultural premises under the control of the operator) from a desk top study shown in Table 1 and Figure 1: -

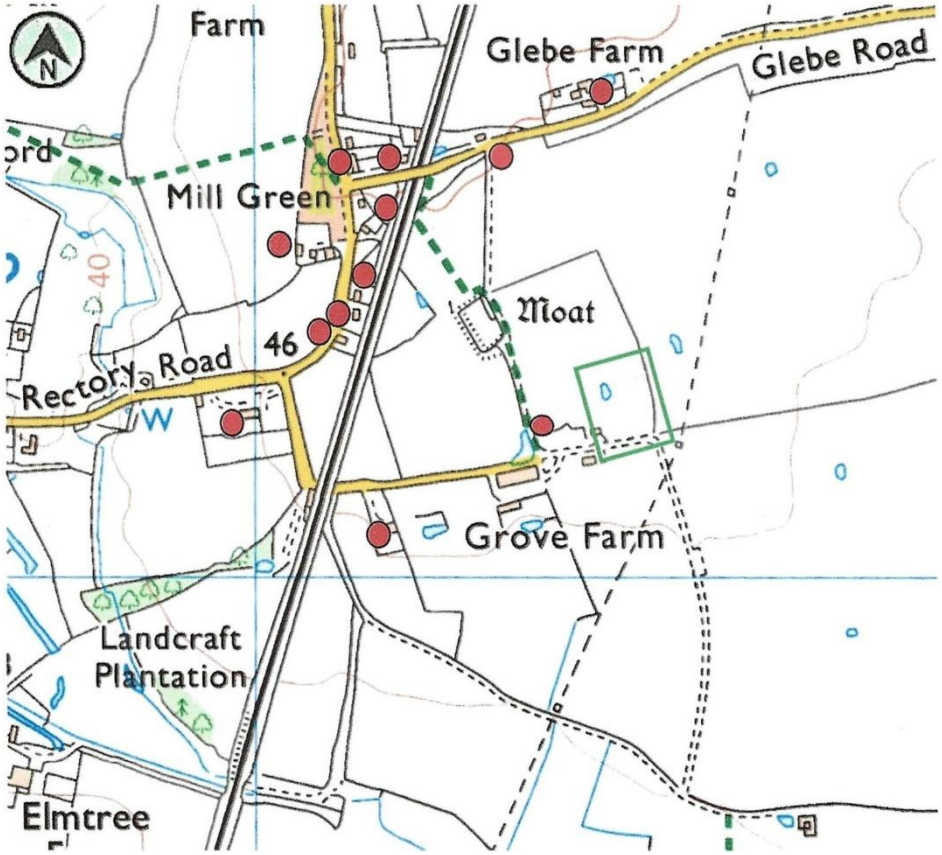
Table 1. Grove Farm Pig Unit sensitive receptors within 400m

Nº.	Receptor	Address	NGR	Direction	Distance from boundary metres
1	PROW	Grove Road, Gissing, Diss, IP22 5XA (Grove Farm)	TM 15385 85177	E	2
2	Residential	Grove Road, Gissing, Diss, IP22 5XA (The Harralds)	TM 15191 85075	W	183
3	Residential	Rectory Road. Gissing, Diss, IP22 5XB (The Old Rectory)	TM 15013 8/5201	W	342
4	Residential	Rectory Road. Gissing, Diss, IP22 5UZ (Meadow Sweet)	TM 15130 85317	W	273
5	Residential	Rectory Road. Gissing, Diss, IP22 5UZ (Redlands)	TM 15145 85353	W	284
6	Residential	Rectory Road. Gissing, Diss, IP22 5UZ (Maple Villa)	TM 15146 85384	W	292
7	Residential	Rectory Road. Gissing, Diss, IP22 5UZ (Millfield)	TM 15112 85442	NW	346
8	Residential	Rectory Road. Gissing, Diss, IP22 5UZ (Old Mill House)	TM 15072 85439	NW	386
9	Residential	Rectory Road. Gissing, Diss, IP22 5UZ (Sunnyside)	TM 15159 85482	NW	331
10	Residential	Rectory Road. Gissing, Diss, IP22 5UZ (Grove Bungalow)	TM 15153 85508	NW	352
11	Residential	Rectory Road. Gissing, Diss, IP22 5XB (Appleby)	TM 15192 85518	NW	329
12	Residential	Rectory Road. Gissing, Diss, IP22 5UX (Arch Bungalow)	TM 15150 85556	NW	386
13	Residential	Rectory Road. Gissing, Diss, IP22 5UX (Willow)	TM 15168 85579	NW	391
14	Residential	Rectory Road. Gissing, Diss, IP22 5UX (Spinney Cottage)	TM 15234 85599	NW	367

15	Residential	Rectory Road. Gissing, Diss, IP22 5UX (Bridge View)	TM 15195 85566	NW	362
16	Residential	Rectory Road. Gissing, Diss, IP22 5UX (Arch Cottage)	TM 15220 85571	NW	351
17	Residential	Hall Green, Gissing, Diss, IP22 5UY (Maybank)	TM 15173 85513	NW	340
18	Residential	Hall Green, Gissing, Diss, IP22 5UY (Hawthorns)	TM 15318 86503	NW	334
19	Residential	Hall Green, Gissing, Diss, IP22 5UY (High Grove)	TM 15310 85544	NW	283
20	Residential	Hall Green, Gissing, Diss, IP22 5UY (Glebe Farm)	TM 15462 85645	N	361

Distance from boundary to building facade measured on government website at magic.defra.gov.uk

Fig 1. Grove Farm Pig Unit sensitive receptor locations within 400m



Residential dwellings are high sensitivity receptors and reasonably expect enjoyment of a high level of amenity, and people would reasonably be expected to be present here continuously, or at least regularly for extended periods. PROW are low sensitivity receptors where there is transient exposure, where the people would reasonably be expected to be present only for limited periods of time as part of the normal pattern of use.

The following table sets out: -

- Sources of noise from a typical intensive pig unit
- Routine actions taken at Grove Farm Pig Unit to prevent or minimise noise levels
- Contingency actions to limit exposure to elevated noise emissions beyond the installation boundary.

Table 2. Routine actions and contingency actions to minimise noise and noise risks at Grove Farm Pig Unit

Noise related issue	Potential risks and problems	Routine actions to minimise noise and noise risks	Contingency actions to minimise noise and noise risks
Noise from routine work activity Mobile source	• Revving tractor engines • Reversing signals • Scraping on concrete • Moderate-loud noise	• Responsibility – Farmworkers. • Restricted to normal working times 07.00-23.00 hours, Monday to Friday and Saturday morning in accordance with How to comply. Outside these times in event of extraordinary circumstances. • Farm tractors used to pushout and load manure and take in straw, engine revs kept low and idling between jobs avoided to minimise noise, engines switched off when vehicle not in use. • Tractors enclosed inside pig houses most of the time. • Vehicles fitted with white noise reversing signals. • Vehicle access restricted to qualified operators. • Carry out pre-start-up safety checks, working properly, exhaust systems and silencers, etc repair faults or arrange for a professional contractor. • Planned preventive maintenance for farm vehicles in accordance with manufacturer's instructions, and keeping records of the work. • Buildings within the wider holding provide a screening effect or barrier to noise for some sensitive receptors.	
People noise	• Faint-moderate noise	• Responsibility – Farmworkers. • Contractors and visitors instructed to avoid raised voices or playing radios unnecessarily loud.	
Noise from large delivery vehicles travelling to & from farm	• HGVs, tractors & trailers • Release of air brakes • Revving engines	• Responsibility – Farmworkers. • Deliveries restricted to normal working times 07.00-23.00 hours in working week Monday to Friday and Saturday morning but exclusive of public and bank holidays in accordance with How to comply. Outside these times in event of extraordinary circumstances.	

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Mobile source	• Rattling empty trailers • Reversing signals • Loud-very loud & intrusive	• Make drivers aware of driving slowly on and offsite in forward gear to minimise noise and engines to be switched off when vehicle not in use. • Speed restriction onsite 5mph. • Vehicles fitted with white noise reversing signals. • Well maintained vehicles & trailers for livestock and feed expected of contractors to minimise noise. • Planned preventive maintenance includes access road for any defects, cracking or potholes to minimise trailer noise and keeping records.	
Noise from small vehicles travelling to & from farm Mobile source	• Farmworkers, visitor's cars, courier van deliveries all considered to be low risk	• Responsibility – Farmworkers. • Restricted to normal working times 07.00-23.00 hours in working week Monday to Friday and Saturday morning but exclusive of public and bank holidays in accordance with How to comply. • Make drivers aware to drive into parking area without excessive noise. • Speed restriction onsite 5mph.	
Noise from feed transfer into bulk silos Fixed source	• Engine noise from vehicle & blower • Loud-very loud & intrusive	• Responsibility – Drivers. • Restricted to normal working times 07.00-23.00 hours in working week Monday to Friday and Saturday morning but exclusive of public and bank holidays in accordance with How to comply. Outside these times in event of extraordinary circumstances • Well maintained units and bulk trailers are expected of haulage contractors to minimise noise. • Large capacity trailers minimise number of deliveries. • Blow feed over as short a distance as possible.	

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		• Blowers on trailers are noisy, but blowing in is short duration activity less than an hour for a full load. • There may be multiple deliveries on a particular day • Delivery monitored by drivers and switch off blowers when not in use, in between each delivery point and as soon as finished.	
Noise from automatic feeding equipment Fixed source	• Location of silos • Feed distribution • Very faint-faint noise	• Responsibility – Farmworkers. • Package silos, pipes, augers and feeding equipment produce only slight noise in normal operation, unlikely to be perceived offsite. • Much screening effect of buildings and earth banks provide a barrier to noise owing to most equipment is inside the houses. • Electric motors with flexible augers in tubes run only intermittently for a few seconds each time day & night to transfer feed into houses, although frequency & duration increase during rearing period as pigs grow. • Check feeding equipment is working properly during walk through checks every day. Repair minor faults or arrange for a professional electrician to attend and keep records of the work. • Check feed levels in silos regularly to avoid running out. An empty auger running continuously might be noticeable offsite, especially at nighttime. • Planned preventive maintenance for buildings and equipment or arrange for a professional electrician or builder to attend and keep records of the work.	• Responsibility - farmworkers. Trigger • Auger running continuously. • Empty silo. Timeframe for implementation • Immediate, same day. Contingency action • Switch off auger • Order a feed delivery Duration of action • Normally achievable same day. Cessation of action • Feed delivered and resume normal operation.

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Noise related issue	Potential risks and problems	Routine actions to minimise noise and noise risks	Contingency actions to minimise noise and noise risks
Noise from pigs	• Not considered probable cause for annoyance.	• Feed pigs ad-libitum 24/7 and avoids behaviours and squealing in anticipation of feeding.	
Noise from pigs loading (In&out) Fixed source	• Pigs squealing • Loud-very loud & intrusive	• Responsibility – Operator • Load batches of pigs in & out three times per year. • Generally restricted to normal working times 07.00-23.00 hours in working week Monday to Friday and Saturday morning but exclusive of public and bank holidays in accordance with How to comply. • Outside these times loading out can start before 07.00 at nighttime to meet factory requirements but more exception than rule, and occasionally on public and bank holidays, but latter will rarely happen here. • Qualified, farmworkers & drivers responsible for loading & unloading. Careful handling to minimise excitement, stress, pigs quickly settle down in trailers. • Short duration of noise as pigs loaded quickly. • Loaded trailers promptly moved offsite.	
Noise from washout Mobile source	• Engine noise • Faint-moderate clearly audible noise	• Responsibility – Farmworkers. • Washout houses after destocked three times per year • Restricted to normal working times 07.00-23.00 hours in working week Monday to Friday and Saturday morning but exclusive of public and bank holidays in accordance with How to comply. Outside these times in event of extraordinary circumstances. • Park tractors and pressure washers inside or behind buildings. Walls of buildings provide noise screening	

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		and barrier between tractors, pressure washers and sensitive receptors. • Rinse down first before washout to reduce duration.	
Noise from loading solid manure Mobile source	• Engine noise • Moderate-loud noise	• Responsibility – Farmworkers. • Export solid manure offsite for land spreading. • Restricted to normal working times 07.00-23.00 hours in working week Monday to Friday and Saturday morning but exclusive of public and bank holidays in accordance with How to comply. Outside these times in event of extraordinary circumstances. • Loading in as short a time as possible.	
Noise from loading slurry Mobile source	• Engine noise • Moderate-loud noise	• Responsibility – Farmworkers. • Export slurry offsite for land spreading. • Restricted to normal working times 07.00-23.00 hours in working week Monday to Friday and Saturday morning but exclusive of public and bank holidays in accordance with How to comply. Outside these times in event of extraordinary circumstances. • Load in as short a time as possible.	
Repairs	• Ordinarily not considered probable cause for annoyance • Loud-very loud & intrusive	• Restricted to normal working times 07.00-23.00 hours in working week Monday to Friday and Saturday morning but exclusive of public and bank holidays in accordance with How to comply. Outside these times in event of extraordinary circumstances.	• Responsibility – Operator. Trigger • Extraordinary noisy work, vehicles onsite. • Noisy work outside normal working times. Timeframe for implementation • Advance notice of works. Contingency action

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Noise related issue	Potential risks and problems	Routine actions to minimise noise and noise risks	Contingency actions to minimise noise and noise risks
			• Sensitive receptors likely to be seriously affected to be notified in event of any extraordinary noisy work, including expected start, finish time. Duration of action • Further notice if later finish expected. Cessation of action • Repairs complete, vehicles removed offsite.
Monitoring noise	• Monitoring can help identify any increase in noise levels with time so remedial action can be taken to avoid risk of causing annoyance.	• Responsibility – Farmworker • Carry out site tour every day and check for any abnormal or elevated noise levels. • Report any with potential to cause annoyance offsite.	• Responsibility – Operator Trigger • Abnormal, extraordinary, elevated noise level. Timeframe for implementation • Immediate, same day. Contingency action • Check routine and contingency actions to minimise noise and risks are being adhered to. • Inform people at receptor locations and anyone else likely to be seriously affected, what has been done or still needs to be done to reduce noise levels and duration with timescales. • Decibel meters are inexpensive & easy to use for monitoring especially if there are complaints. Duration of action • Normally achievable same day, next day. Cessation of action • Check noise has reduced back to normal low level including at the boundary or near sensitive receptors. • Record events and actions in the farm diary.

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Noise related issue	Potential risks and problems	Routine actions to minimise noise and noise risks	Contingency actions to minimise noise and noise risks
Complaint	• Noise sensitivity likely to increase in warm weather when people want to enjoy their gardens and have windows open more. • Slow response • Elevated level of annoyance.	• Responsibility – Operator • Investigate any complaint reported by the Agency, local authority, or sensitive receptors.	• Responsibility – Operator Trigger • Complaint reported on Saturday or Sunday by email from Agency, local authority, not considered likely from anywhere else. Timeframe for implementation • As soon as possible on opening email. Contingency action • Investigate if alleged noise can be substantiated. Even if no longer apparent the investigation must still be carried out and recorded same day, next day. • Check routine and contingency actions to minimise noise and risks are being adhered to. Establish:- • Time noise occurred, duration, description of noise. • Activities taking place onsite at time of complaint. • Any noisy activities taking place offsite in the vicinity • Record all details of investigation and action taken on noise complaint report form. Keeping records for future reference, or inspection with the Environment Agency. Duration of action • Investigation likely achievable same day, next day. Cessation of action • Notify the Agency, local authority, complainant, anyone else likely to be seriously affected, same day as soon as possible result of investigation and corrective action or what still needs to be done with timescales. • Operator must review the NMP for adequacy or make changes within 24 hours of a substantiated complaint.

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Noise related issue	Potential risks and problems	Routine actions to minimise noise and noise risks	Contingency actions to minimise noise and noise risks
Review	Keeping up to date	• Responsibility – Operator • Review the NMP annually. • Make changes anytime sooner after: • Any change to operations at the installation • Within 24 hours of a substantiated complaint.	

Change history	Date	Name
Last updated	13/10/2026	Karl Collett
Last review		
Next review	12/10/2026	-
13/10/26 Created plan to support an application for a bespoke environmental permit.		

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 *(e.g., dry, rain. Fog, snow)*	
Wind strength and direction *(e.g., light, steady, strong, gusting)*	
Callers' description of noise *(e.g., hiss, hum, rumble, continuous, intermittent)*	
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: