

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 April 2026 09:45
To: planninginfo
Subject: Application Ref DM/25/2824 – Installation of a New Scissor Lift in Store Service Yard in Haywards Heath Sainsbury's

[REDACTED]
Dear Planning Officer

I am writing to further comment on the above application.

I note that a noise assessment has now been submitted in support of the proposal. While this is a useful addition, I do not consider that it fully addresses the concerns previously raised, nor does it demonstrate that the proposal would not result in unacceptable impacts on nearby residential properties.

In particular, I would like to highlight the following:

1. **Operational Hours** - The assessment states that deliveries and servicing occur between 07:00–02:45. However, existing activity already occurs outside these hours and no enforceable mechanism is proposed to secure the assumed restrictions. Given the proximity to residential properties, early-morning and late-night activity could result in significant disturbance. I therefore request that a planning condition be imposed restricting operational hours of the lift and associated servicing activity.
2. **HGV Movements and Servicing Activity** - The application does not provide clear evidence that the installation of the lift will reduce or better manage HGV movements, as suggested. There are existing issues with delivery vehicles waiting or parking outside the store, contributing to noise, disturbance and congestion in the area. Without monitoring or control measures, there is no certainty that the proposal will improve the current situation. A condition requiring monitoring of HGV movements before and after installation should therefore be considered.
3. **Limitations of the Noise Assessment** – The submitted noise assessment is not fully robust. The background noise survey was undertaken over a limited weekend period (Friday–Sunday only), which does not capture typical weekday servicing and delivery activity associated with supermarket operations. The report records operational noise levels of up to 72 dB LAeq (trolley movements) and 69 dB LAeq (lift operation), which are used in the noise assessment process and compared against background noise levels in Section 7 to determine impact. Given the proximity of the nearest residential properties (approximately 64m), these levels remain relatively high in context and have the potential to cause disturbance, particularly during quieter periods, even after allowing for the reductions applied within the assessment. The assessment also assumes operating hours including late-night activity up to 02:45 which does not reflect current operational practice. Finally, mitigation relies on general measures such as an acoustic enclosure and ground surface improvements, but no detailed or enforceable Noise Management Plan is provided, limiting certainty of long-term noise control.
4. **Representativeness of Survey Conditions** - It is unclear whether site operatives were aware that noise monitoring was being undertaken and whether servicing activity during the survey period was representative of normal, unaltered operations. If monitoring was

undertaken under managed or atypical conditions, this could result in an underestimation of the true noise impact. In addition, the report does not confirm that any noise measurements were undertaken at or immediately adjacent to the nearest residential property, instead relying on monitoring within the service yard. Clarification should therefore be provided to demonstrate that the survey conditions and measurement locations are representative of typical real-world conditions experienced at the nearest residential properties.

Overall, while the submission of a noise assessment is welcomed, it does not in my view provide sufficient certainty that the proposal would not give rise to increased disturbance. The conclusions rely on a number of assumptions which are not secured through enforceable planning controls. I therefore request that should permission be granted, robust planning conditions are imposed to protect nearby residents from noise and disturbance.

Thank you for your consideration. I trust the ongoing concerns of nearby residents will be taken into account when determining this application.

Kind regards

