

ADDITIONAL ACOUSTIC INFORMATION STATEMENT

Air-conditioning condenser unit

Planning application	DM/26/1940
Site	40 Mill Green Road, Haywards Heath, West Sussex, RH16 1XQ
Applicant	Mr Cameron Pardue
Relevant drawing	721 / 02 / Revision C - Proposed Plans
Date	2 September 2026

Purpose of this note

This statement provides the additional acoustic information requested by Mid Sussex District Council following consultation with Environmental Health. It responds directly to the five information items identified in section 2.3.1 of the Planning Noise Advice Document: Sussex (November 2023) for a small-scale air-conditioning installation.

Status: This is a proportionate screening / additional-information note, not a formal BS 4142 acoustic assessment. The calculation below is deliberately conservative and does not claim credit for the building and roof screening shown on the submitted drawings.

1. Council / Environmental Health request

The Planning Officer advised that Environmental Health considered a full acoustic report may be required, but that the information listed on page 13 of the Sussex Planning Noise Advice Document might be sufficient for this single air-conditioning unit. The requested information comprises: hours and days of operation; manufacturer noise data; the equipment location; mitigation and predicted noise at the receptor; and the distance and type of nearby noise-sensitive premises.

The Sussex document itself states that small-scale development such as a single air-conditioning unit may not always require a noise report, provided sufficient basic information is supplied to allow the Local Planning Authority to judge likely sound impact.

2. Proposed equipment

Manufacturer / supplier model	Samsung AR9ARTX - 9,000 BTU wall-mounted split air conditioner with heat-pump function.
Rated output	Cooling 2.64 kW; heating 2.93 kW.
Outdoor unit size	Approx. 720 mm wide x 495 mm high x 270 mm deep; 23.2 kg.
Published outdoor noise	Linked supplier page: maximum outdoor sound level 49 dB(A).
Supporting acoustic data	Supplier / Samsung technical data for the corresponding 9,000 BTU AR35 / AR09ART unit of matching size and capacity states outdoor sound pressure 49 dB(A) at 1 m and outdoor sound power 62 dB(A).
Operating technology	Digital inverter split system using R32 refrigerant; installation and commissioning by an F-Gas-certified engineer.

Source note: the exact AR9ARTX web page publishes the maximum outdoor figure of 49 dB(A) but does not state the measurement distance. For the screening calculation in this note, 49 dB(A) at 1 m has therefore been adopted using the supplier/Samsung technical data for the corresponding 9,000 BTU unit with matching external dimensions and performance. The final installed condenser should be the stated model, or an equivalent with published sound output no greater than these figures.

3. Response to the five requested information items

Item	Information requested	Applicant response
1	Proposed hours and days of operation	For the purposes of this submission, operation is proposed between 07:00 and 23:00 on any day of the week. No routine operation is proposed between 23:00 and 07:00. The inverter system will modulate in response to room demand rather than operate continuously at maximum output.
2	Sound power / sound pressure data	Maximum outdoor sound level: 49 dB(A). Supporting matching-unit data identifies this as 49 dB(A) sound pressure at 1 m and gives an outdoor sound power level of 62 dB(A). The 49 dB(A) at 1 m value is used for the conservative receptor calculation below.
3	Location of equipment	External condenser positioned at roof level on the side of the host dwelling furthest from the party line, as shown on drawing 721/02 Rev C. The drawing specifically notes: "AIR CON UNIT TUCKED BEHIND PITCHED ROOF".

Item	Information requested	Applicant response
4	Noise mitigation and predicted receptor level	The condenser will be installed on resilient anti-vibration mounts; refrigerant/condensate pipework will be fixed to avoid rigid vibration bridging; it will not be mounted to the party wall; and the submitted roof/building arrangement provides physical screening. A conservative calculation gives approximately 38 dB(A) at a 5 m receiver after allowing +3 dB for façade reflection, before allowing any barrier/building screening.
5	Distance and nature of noise-sensitive receptors	All nearby noise-sensitive receptors are residential dwellings. Scaling from the 1:50 proposed plan, the condenser is approximately 5 m from the party line / nearest point of the adjoining residential property, with the host dwelling between the condenser and that neighbour. The nearest separate residential building shown on the 1:500 block plan is approximately 8 m from the closest proposed structure; the actual condenser-to-façade distance is slightly greater.

4. Indicative noise screening calculation

The Council guidance requires predicted noise at the noise-sensitive receptor. In the absence of a site background-noise survey, the following is a simple distance-attenuation screening calculation only. It uses the maximum published outdoor sound-pressure figure and a deliberately short 5 m receiver distance.

Maximum outdoor sound pressure at 1 m	49.0 dB(A)
Conservative receiver distance	5.0 m
Distance attenuation	$20 \log_{10}(5 / 1) = 14.0 \text{ dB}$
Free-field level at 5 m	$49.0 - 14.0 = 35.0 \text{ dB(A)}$
Allowance for reflective receiving façade	$35.0 + 3.0 = \text{approximately } 38 \text{ dB(A)}$

This approximately 38 dB(A) screening figure takes no credit for the condenser being tucked behind the pitched roof, the shielding provided by the host building to the attached neighbour, or the fact that the inverter compressor will often operate below maximum output. It should therefore be regarded as a conservative indication rather than a prediction to BS 4142 methodology.

5. Noise mitigation / installation measures

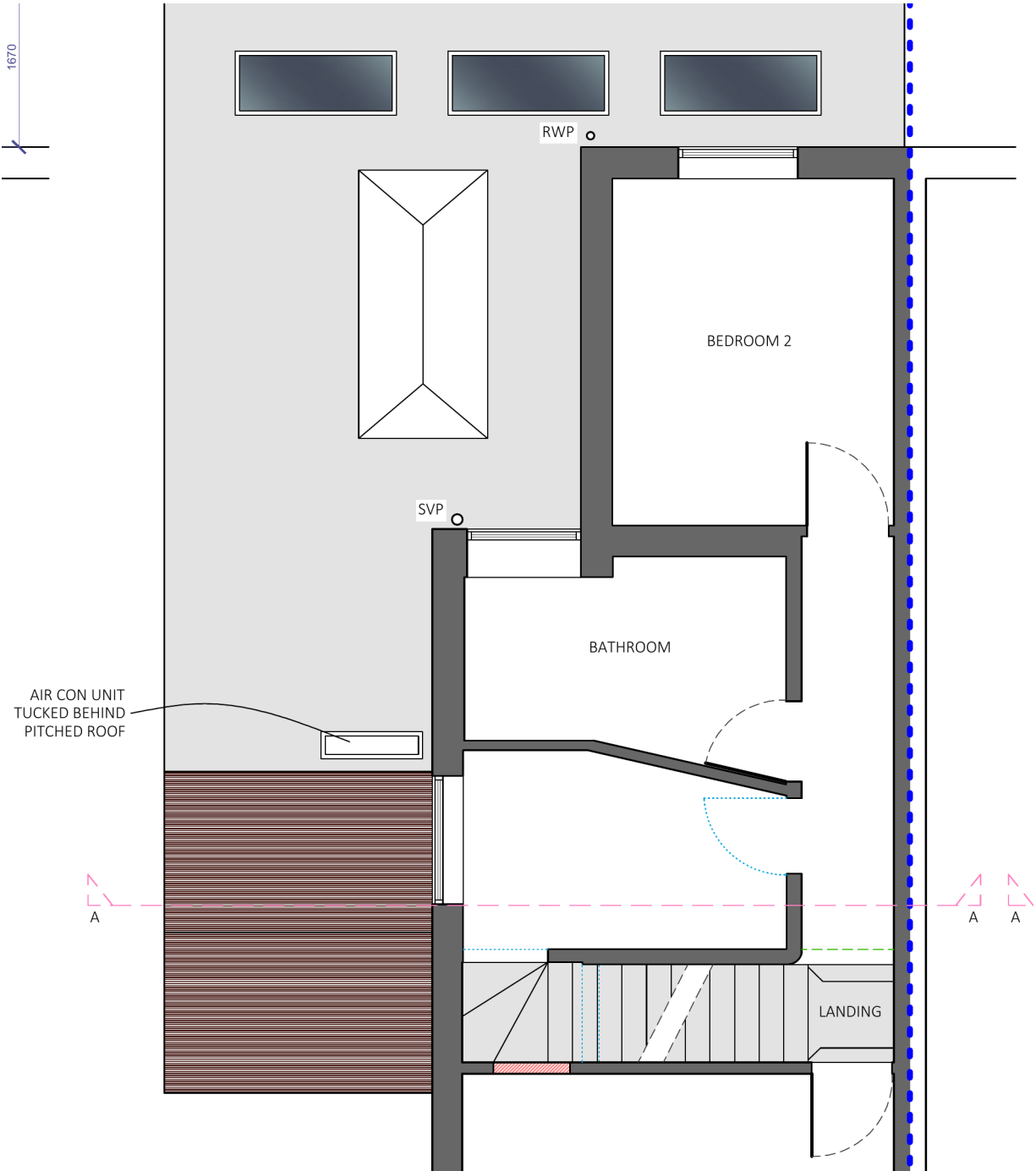
- Retain the condenser in the position shown on drawing 721/02 Rev C, tucked behind the pitched roof on the side of the dwelling away from the party line; do not mount the condenser or its primary support directly to the party wall.
- Mount the outdoor unit on proprietary resilient / anti-vibration pads or isolators and use suitable resilient pipework / fixings to avoid rigid vibration bridging where practicable.
- Install and commission the system by an F-Gas-certified engineer and maintain the condenser in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- Limit routine use to 07:00-23:00 as stated above.

6. Conclusion

The submitted information responds to each item requested by Environmental Health for this single air-conditioning unit. Using the published maximum outdoor sound level and a deliberately conservative 5 m assessment distance, the screening level is approximately 38 dB(A) at a reflective receptor façade before any allowance for the roof and building screening shown on the plans. With the proposed siting, anti-vibration installation and 07:00-23:00 operating period, a low noise impact is expected. If Environmental Health nevertheless requires assessment against measured background sound, a suitably qualified acoustic consultant can undertake a formal BS 4142 assessment.

Appendix A - Submitted drawing extracts

Figure A1 - Proposed plan extract showing condenser location



Drawing 721/02 Rev C identifies the condenser at roof level and labels it “AIR CON UNIT TUCKED BEHIND PITCHED ROOF”. The blue dotted line on the opposite side of the dwelling denotes the party line.

Figure A2 - Block plan extract showing surrounding residential context



The 1:500 block plan shows the host dwelling within the red application boundary and nearby residential buildings. The approximately 8 m separation referred to in this statement is scaled conservatively from the closest proposed structure to the nearest separate residential building; the condenser itself is set within that structure and therefore has a slightly greater separation.

Appendix B - Information sources

Council request: Anna Tidey, Planning Officer, Mid Sussex District Council, email dated 27 August 2026, forwarding Environmental Health Officer Jane Cooper's request for the page 13 information.

Local acoustic guidance: Planning Noise Advice Document: Sussex, November 2023, sections 2.3.1 and 3.4.

Submitted drawings: Ellisdon Architectural Associates, Job 721, Drawing 02 Proposed Plans Rev C and Drawing 03 Location & Block Plan Rev 0, July 2026.

Proposed unit: Appliances Direct, Samsung AR9ARTX A++ 9000 BTU Wall Mounted Air Conditioner with Heat Pump:
<https://www.appliancesdirect.co.uk/p/ar9artx/samsung-ar9artx-air-conditioner>

Supporting acoustic data: Appliances Direct Samsung AR09ART listing / Samsung Climate Solutions AR35 data: outdoor sound power 62 dB(A), outdoor sound pressure 49 dB(A), outdoor unit 720 x 495 x 270 mm.

Applicant confirmation before submission: this draft adopts a proposed operating restriction of 07:00-23:00 daily. If overnight operation is intended, the operating-hours response and the acoustic assessment approach should be revised before this statement is submitted.