



# Southampton International Airport

## Noise Insulation Scheme

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# Southampton Airport Noise Insulation Scheme

## Guidelines for applying for noise insulation

Version 11: 12 Feb 2024 (update to contact details section)

### *Introduction*

*The Noise Insulation Scheme (NIS) has been established to provide sound insulation, where required, for households, care homes and schools that are affected by average daytime noise levels from aircraft that are at or above a specified level (60dB LAeq 16hr). The NIS reflects our aim to be respectful of the local community and our impact on people who live and learn in close proximity to the airport.*

*This document outlines how the NIS works and how eligible households and properties can apply for noise insulation.*

*The management of the NIS is overseen by a Management Committee made up of airport managers and representatives of the local communities, known as the Airport Consultative Committee (ACC).*

### *Aim*

We are aware that noise created by aeroplanes taking off from, and landing at, Southampton Airport can sometimes cause disturbance to our neighbouring communities.

The aim of the NIS is for the airport to work collaboratively with the community to ensure that the indoor living spaces of eligible households and care homes, and classrooms in schools, are not unduly adversely affected by the noise from aircraft. To achieve this, eligible properties will be offered and, where accepted, provided with proportionate insulation to ensure that habitable rooms have satisfactory internal protection from the noise generated by aircraft taking off and landing at the airport.

### *Eligible Properties*

The NIS will be available to all homes, care homes and schools that exist on 1 June 2021 and are or become situated within the 60dB 16 hour summer day LAeq noise contour area which is published annually by the airport. These are predictive maps of noise levels in decibels (dB), produced each year which can be found on our website here: [www.southamptonairport.com/about-us/aircraft-noise](http://www.southamptonairport.com/about-us/aircraft-noise)

### *What does the Noise Insulation Scheme cover?*

Upon receipt of a valid application, the airport will arrange for an assessment to be made of your property which will identify what, if any, insulation would be effective in achieving appropriate noise reduction. If the survey identifies that additional insulation would be

effective in reducing internal noise levels, it will identify the most appropriate form of insulation to be employed in each case.

Examples of improvements that could be made, and which this NIS will cover the cost of, are set out below:

- Replacement/enhanced windows
- Acoustic air vents or simple wall mounted ventilation systems
- Loft insulation
- Replacement/enhanced external doors

Guidance on Technical Specification on home improvements is available on the website [www.southamptonairport.com/about-us/aircraft-noise](http://www.southamptonairport.com/about-us/aircraft-noise)

If a householder wishes to supplement the offered insulation with additional thermal, acoustic and/or aesthetic features, we will make a contribution to the cost of the installation proportionate to what was deemed necessary by the survey.

#### *How do I know if I am eligible?*

The NIS will be available to properties falling within the 60dB 16 hour summer day LAeq contour which is published by the airport. These are predictive maps of noise levels in decibels (dB), produced each year.

The area covered by the noise contour can change dependant on the number of flights for the previous year. The latest available noise contour map can be found at the end of this document and a more detailed view of our noise contours can be found on our website at: [www.southamptonairport.com/about-us/aircraft-noise](http://www.southamptonairport.com/about-us/aircraft-noise)

If your property falls within the published noise contour in any given year, we will write to you during January of the relevant year and provide an information pack setting out how to apply for the scheme. You will be able to identify the letter because the envelope will bear Southampton Airport branding. We will also write to the local authority of the affected areas to determine if any of the properties which are eligible are owned by Social Housing companies or are community noise sensitive buildings.

Your property will not be eligible if it has been provided with noise insulation by the airport in any previous year.

You can access the scheme whether you own or rent your property. Where you rent, you will need the consent of your landlord.

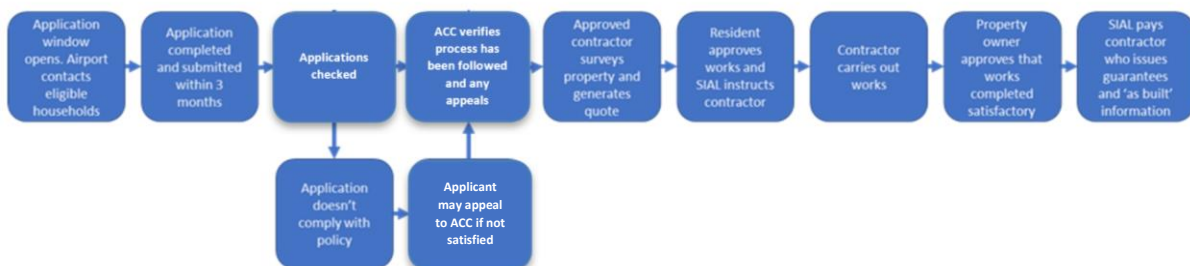
It is not compulsory for a home owner or tenant to participate in the NIS. Residents may decline to participate, but may still apply in a later year should you change your mind.

If we do not hear from you, we will write to you again as a reminder during February of the relevant year. To ensure that you have received the letters and understood the scheme, we will visit those homes that have not responded to check that you do not wish to participate during March.

### *How do I apply?*

The application process is outlined in the flow diagram below. The Noise Insulation Grant Application Form must be completed and submitted to use within the application window (Q1: 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> March) in each year.

### *Noise Insulation Scheme Process:*



The Noise Insulation Application Form will be made available to all eligible properties at the beginning of the application window each year. Paper copies may also be requested by phoning or emailing the contact details which will also be made available during the application period. Applications will be considered by the ACC to confirm eligibility.

### *What support is available if I have difficulty completing the application?*

The Airport is happy to support residents in completing their application. Please respond to the airport using the form and pre-paid envelope which will be included as part of the notification pack.

The letter that we send to eligible households will feature the key messages in several languages.

### *What happens next?*

The applications are considered by the ACC, after which you will be contacted to let you know if you are eligible. Applicants who meet eligibility criteria will then be contacted by our approved agent who will complete a survey of your property to ascertain eligible improvements and costs thereof. Both you and the airport will receive a copy of the survey. Once approved, our approved agent will then carry out the works at a mutually convenient time.

If you would like to supplement the offered insulation with additional thermal, acoustic and/or aesthetic features, we will make a contribution to the cost of the installation that is proportionate to what was deemed necessary by the survey.

### *The Survey and Installation Process*

To ensure a high quality of work, SIAL has appointed approved agents to carry out the works. Once your application is approved, our agent will visit your property to discuss your needs and produce a quote for eligible works. A copy of the report will be sent to you together with a form on which to accept the works. Once you are happy to proceed, please sign this and return it to the Airport's Noise and Flight Evaluation Unit. The Airport will instruct the agreed works to be carried out.

When completed, please ensure you are happy with the completed works, including reinstatements of plaster and paintwork paint around your windows. You will be asked to complete a further form notifying us that the work is complete. We will then release payment for the work to our agent. If you have any further questions then please contact the [Airport](#) at the contact details provided.

### *Dispute Resolution*

If you disagree with the recommendations following the survey and/or our proposals for insulation of your home, you can appeal to the ACC. Details of how to appeal will be available on our web site at the links above. The decision of the ACC on an appeal will be final. The appeal is established on a case by case basis.