

# EventLambeth

## Guidance on the control of sound at out-door events (2016)

### Definitions

In this guidance:

**The Council** means the Mayor, and Burgesses of the London Borough of Lambeth

**EventLambeth** means the London Borough of Lambeth event service

**Licensing Sub-Committee** means a subcommittee established by the licensing committee to determine and review applications as required by the Licensing Act 2003, the Gambling Act 2005 and any other licensing functions as required.

**Premises** means a designated area within a Lambeth Park or Open Space being hired.

**Event** means event or function.

**Major Event** means an event as defined as major in the London Borough of Lambeth events strategy (2016)

**Licence** means premises licence or Temporary event Notice as required under the Licensing Act 2003

### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 This document replaces the previous guidance on the control of noise at out-door events (2008), which is now superseded and is therefore no longer in effect.
- 1.2 The setting of sound levels at outdoor events held in Parks and Open Spaces is carried out and regulated by the London Borough of Lambeth in consultation with approved acoustic consultants.
- 1.3 This document has been produced following the public consultation with regard to the Lambeth Events strategy (January 2015)
- 1.4 The aims and objectives of this guidance are to provide event organisers, sound engineers, acoustic consultants, residents and other interested parties with information on acceptable sound levels at outdoor events held in the key Parks and Open Spaces across Lambeth (Clapham, North Lambeth, Brixton, Streatham and Norwood).
- 1.5 This guidance, which will apply to music events from April 2016 onwards, recognises that there are competing and often conflicting interests relating to the use of Lambeths' key Parks and Open Spaces and that there is a need to manage expectations from residents and stakeholders.
- 1.6 To help achieve a sensible compromise a number of informed tools are used to assist in striking a reasonable balance between the need to protect the public interest from unreasonable or excessive noise whilst at the same time support the business need to successfully hold viable events.
- 1.7 It is not unreasonable to expect residents living close to a park, common or open space to experience some degree of noise disturbance during an event. On the other hand, event organisers and those attending events must also accept the fact that sound restrictions have to be imposed to protect the community.
- 1.8 This guidance will be referred to as part of any premises licence application

process. Any infringements or breaches of the guidance or licence conditions may lead to action being taken by EventLambeth Operations and/or referral to the councils Licensing Sub Committee.

## **2. Maximum Sound levels**

### **Key parks & open spaces**

- 2.1 The maximum sound levels outlined below will form part of any premises licence condition for major events held in the five key Lambeth Parks and Open spaces (up to a maximum of 8 major event days in each park per annum).
- 2.2 These are the maximum sound levels permitted for events taking place within the five key Lambeth Parks and Open spaces and will only be granted for major events as outlined in the London Borough of Lambeth Events Strategy (2016).
- 2.3 All other events taking place in the five key Lambeth Parks and Open Spaces will have lower levels set on a case by case basis by the London Borough of Lambeth in consultation with approved acoustic consultants.

### **Other locations**

- 2.4 All other non-major events taking place outside of the five key Parks and Open spaces will have lower levels set on a case by case basis by the London Borough of Lambeth in consultation with approved acoustic consultants.
- 2.5 The events referred to in 2.3 and 2.4 above may also be referred to the Lambeth Licensing Sub Committee in the following instances to determine the appropriate noise level:
  - Premises license application subject to representation/s (made by local residents, community groups etc).
  - Premises license application subject to representation/s (made by responsible authorities – as defined within the Licensing Act 2003)
  - Objection to a Temporary Event Notice (made by responsible authorities)

## **3. Guidance for event organisers**

- 3.1 The licensee shall appoint a suitably qualified and experienced noise control consultant, no later than 4 months prior to the event. The noise control consultant shall liaise between all parties including the Licensee, Promoter, sound system supplier, sound engineer, EventLambeth Operations and the licensing authority on all matters relating to noise-control.
- 3.2 Full details of the proposed noise-control regime are to be submitted to EventLambeth Operations at least 3 months before the event and submitted as part of the licence application.
- 3.3 A pre-arranged sound test should be carried out prior to each event day to ascertain the maximum level that can prevail at the mixing desk(s) to enable the permitted sound levels to be met. This allows prevailing weather conditions to be taken into account. This should take place at a time agreed with EventLambeth Operations.
- 3.4 The noise limit at the mixing desk(s) should be determined, monitored continuously and brought to the attention of EventLambeth Operations to assist

with compliance monitoring. During the event, the acoustic consultant must carry out regular noise monitoring at agreed monitoring locations to demonstrate compliance with agreed limits.

- 3.5 Noise data from all monitoring positions must be submitted to EventLambeth Operations within a month of the event taking place and with any information or programmes required to read the sound levels.

For further information on this guidance please contact:

EventLambeth Operations on 0207 926 6207 during office hours or email [events@lambeth.gov.uk](mailto:events@lambeth.gov.uk)

Address: EventLambeth Operations  
London Borough of Lambeth  
Olive Morris House  
Brixton Hill  
London  
SW2 1RL

### **Maximum Sound Levels and Sound Level Monitoring Locations for the London Borough of Lambeth**

The maximum sound levels outlined below are intended to be used for a maximum of 8 major event days in the 5 key Parks and Open spaces of the London Borough of Lambeth (Clapham – Clapham Common, Brixton – Brockwell Park, North Lambeth – Kennington Park, Streatham – Streatham Common, Norwood – Norwood Park), only event organisers who have obtained approval agreements in advance will be permitted to operate using maximum sound levels. In the absence of such an agreement, events will be expected to operate at lower sound levels, which will be determined on a case by case basis by EventLambeth Operations in consultation with approved acoustic consultants.

**The maximum Music Noise Level (MNL) shall be 75dB L(A) eq 15 minutes (free field) outside any noise sensitive premises.**

**The maximum low frequency Music Noise Level (LFMNL) shall be 90 dB L(C) eq 15 minutes (free field) outside any noise sensitive premises.**

The above outlines the maximum sound levels that may be granted for any major event taking place within the five key Parks and Open spaces within the London Borough of Lambeth.

Sound levels for major events taking place within the five key Parks and Open spaces will be monitored at the following locations:

<b>Clapham Common (Map at Appendix B)</b>	
Location 1	8a Windmill Drive
Location 2	14 Clapham Common West Side
Location 3	Hospice 30 Clapham Common North Side
Location 4	53 Clapham Common South
<b>Brockwell Park (Map at Appendix C)</b>	
Location 1	Parkview Towers
Location 2	C/O Norwood Road and Rosendale Road
Location 3	33 Brockwell Park Gardens
Location 4	R/o 56 Dulwich Road
<b>Streatham Common (Map at Appendix D)</b>	
Location 1	32 Streatham Common South Side
Location 2	24 Streatham Common North side
Location 3	233 Covington Way
<b>Kennington Park (Map at Appendix E)</b>	
Location 1	1 Kennington Park Place
Location 2	o/s Vicarage 37 St Agnes Place
Location 3	Kennington Park Road – opp Blythe House
Location 4	3 Prima Road
<b>Norwood Park (Map at Appendix F)</b>	
Location 1	34 Salters Hill
Location 2	Junction of Salters Hill with the A214 outside Virgo Fidelis Convent
Location 3	Junction of Elder Road and Stable Mews
Location 4	Corner of Norwood Park Road and Benton's Rise

Sound levels linked to events at other locations outside of the five key Lambeth Parks & Open Spaces will be assessed on a case by case basis by EventLambeth Operations in consultation with approved acoustic consultants.

The sound levels for events at locations outside of the five key Lambeth Parks & Open spaces may be set at the MNL or LFMNL set for the five key Parks and Open Spaces – this will be determined by EventLambeth Operations in consultation with approved acoustic consultants and assessed by the Lambeth Licensing Sub Committee if required.

## Appendices

### Appendix A – Acoustic Terminology

The human ear can detect a very wide range of pressure fluctuations, which are perceived as sound. In order to express these fluctuations in a manageable way, a logarithmic scale called the decibel, or dB scale is used. The decibel scale typically ranges from 0dB (the threshold of hearing) to over 120dB.

dB (decibel) - The scale on which sound pressure level is expressed.

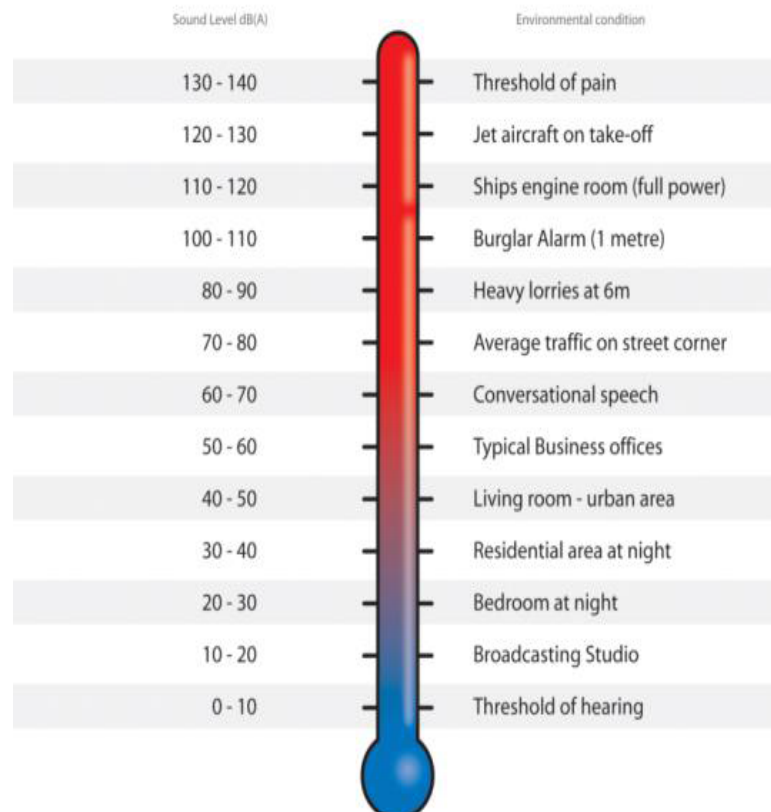
dB(A) A-weighted decibel - This is a measure of the overall level of sound across the audible spectrum with a frequency weighting ( 'A' weighting) to compensate for the varying sensitivity of the human ear to sound at different frequencies.

dB(C) C-weighted decibel - This is a measure of the overall sound taking into account the low (bass) frequencies.

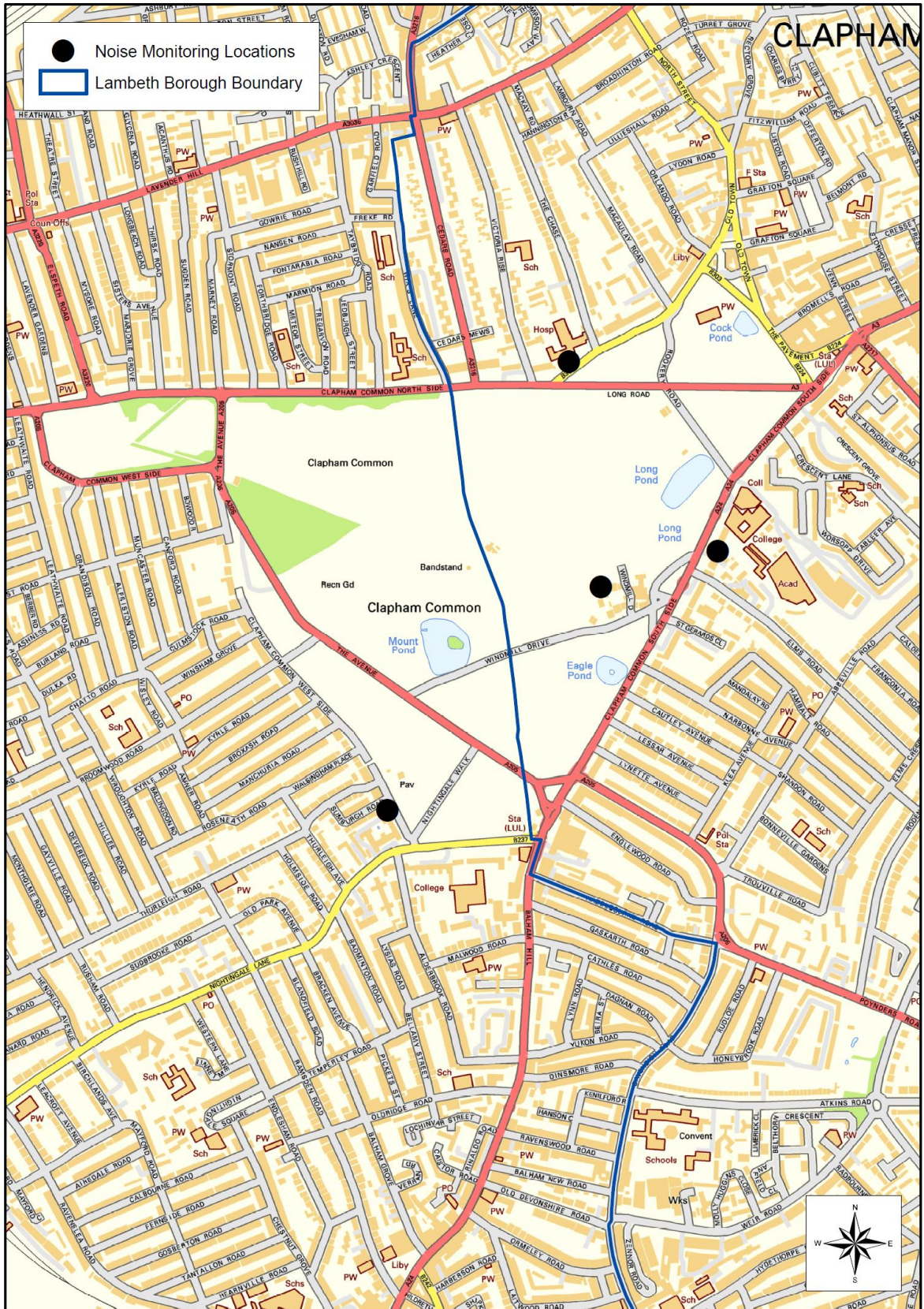
LAeq - This can be described in simplistic terms as the 'average' sound level over a given time period.

MNL – Music Noise Level - This is the (A-weighted) monitoring sound level of the music played at an event and is normally determined off-site, for example outside the nearest residential premises.

LFMNL – Low Frequency Music Noise Level - This is the (C-weighted) monitoring sound level of the music played at an event and is normally determined off-site, for example outside the nearest residential premises.



# Appendix B – Map of the Monitoring Locations for Clapham Common Noise Monitoring Locations - Clapham Common

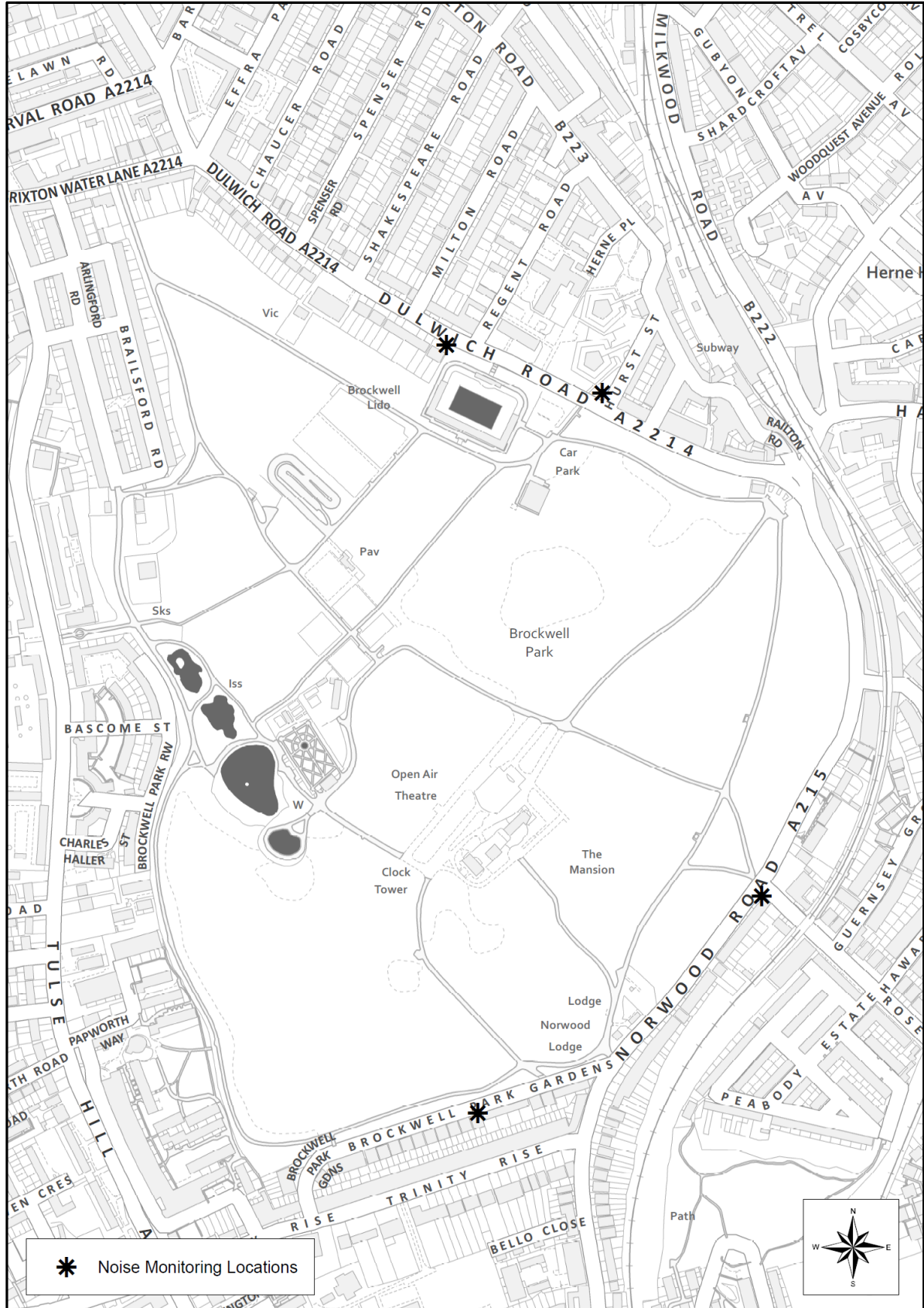


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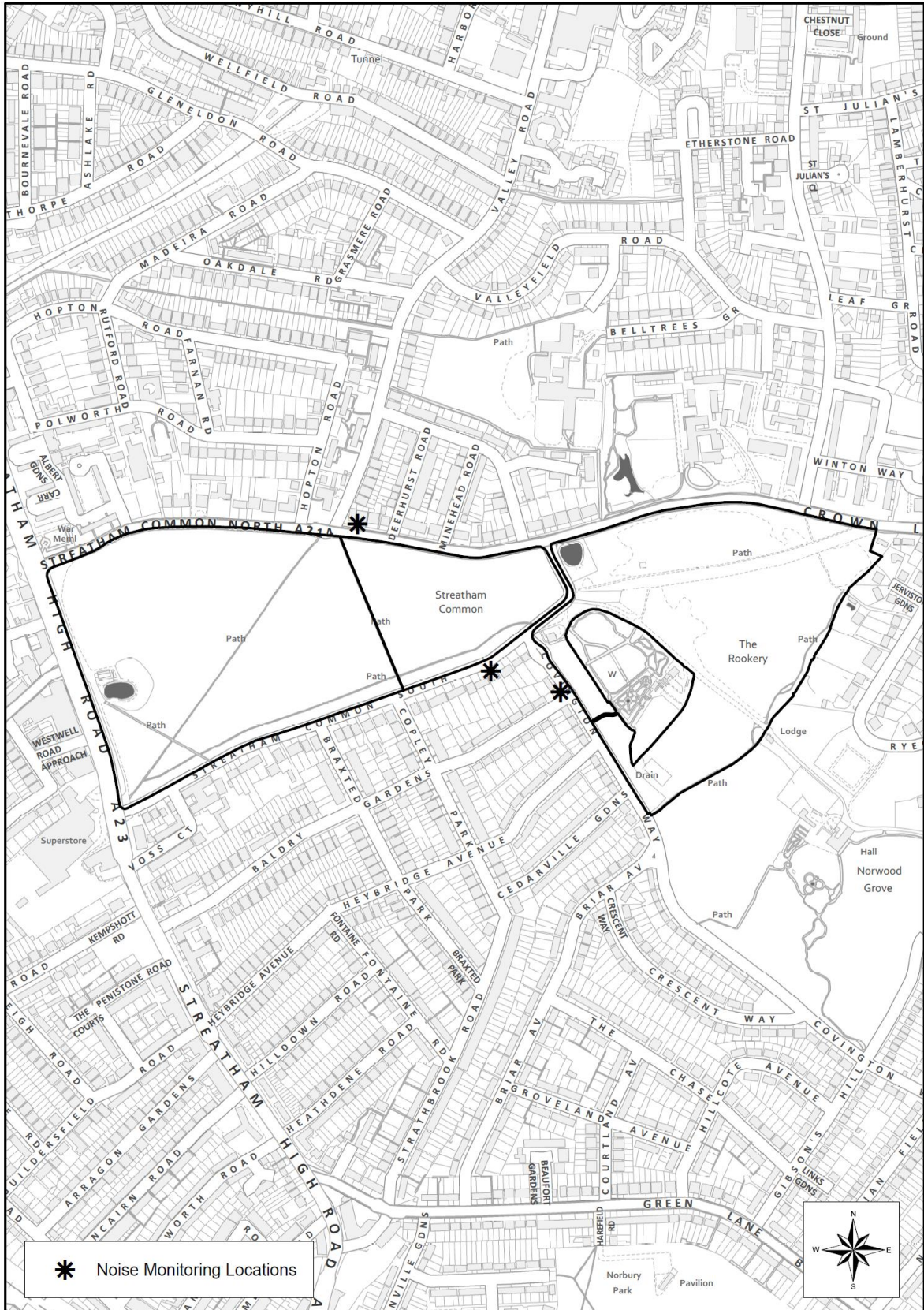
# Appendix C – Map of the monitoring Locations for Brockwell Park Noise Monitoring Locations Brockwell Park



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# Appendix D – Map of the Monitoring Locations for Streatham Common Noise Monitoring Locations Streatham Common



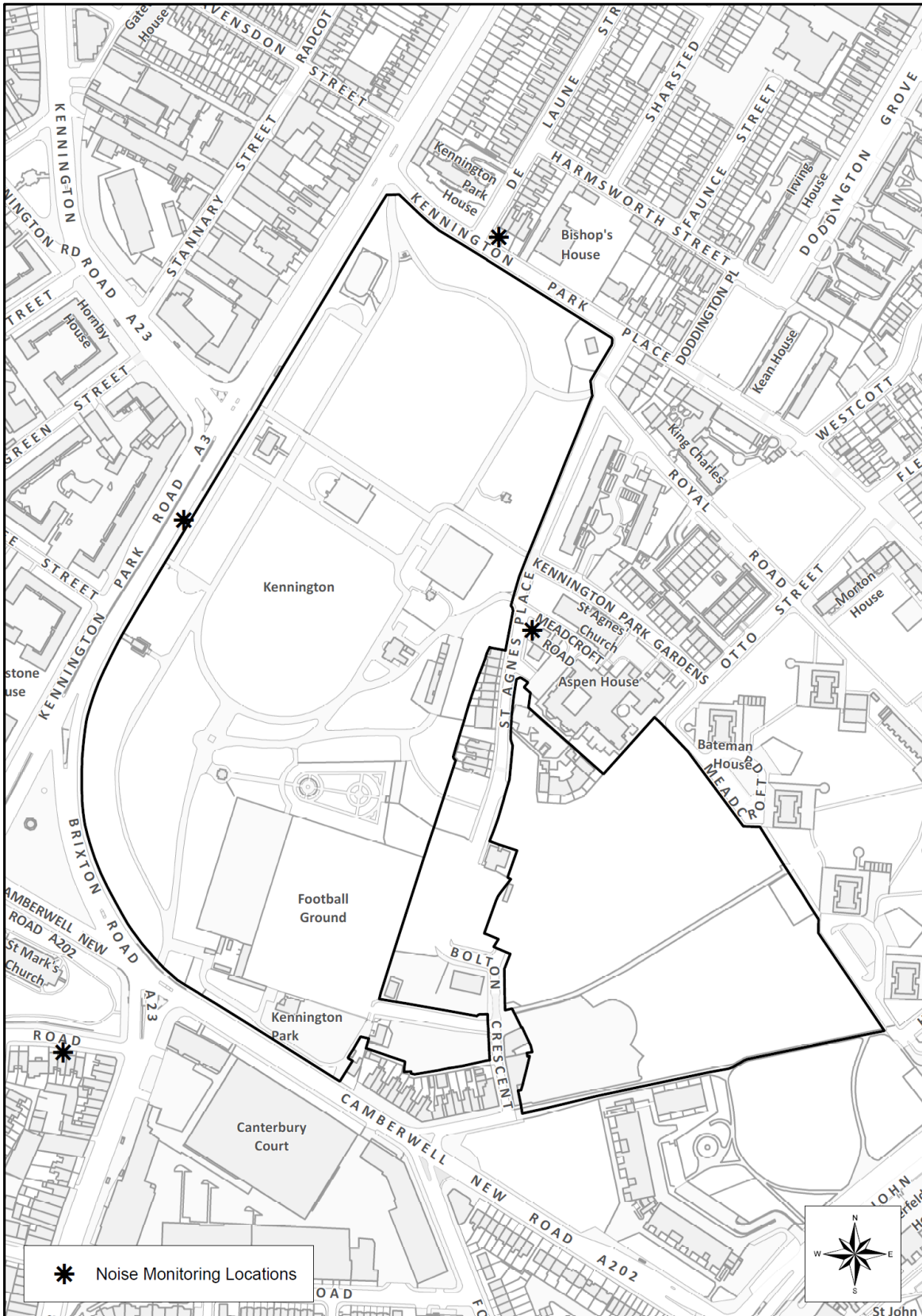
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# Appendix E – Map of the Monitoring Locations for Kennington Park

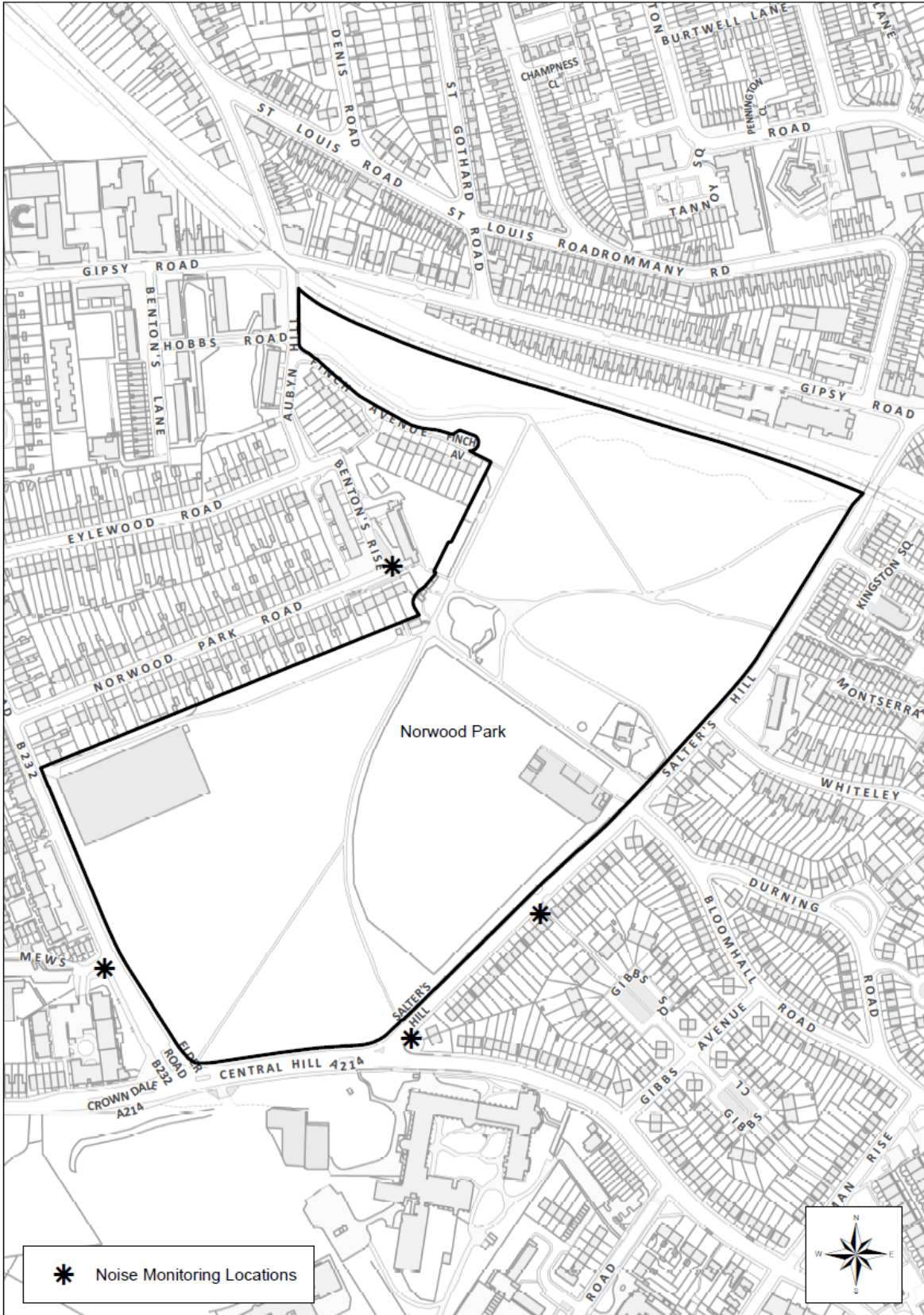
## Noise Monitoring Locations Kennington Park



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# Appendix F – Map of the Monitoring Locations for Norwood Park Noise Monitoring Locations Norwood Park



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