

Crossrail 2 – our approach to managing noise and vibration

Introduction

One of the priorities for Crossrail 2 is the control of noise and vibration resulting both from the operational service and from the scheme's construction. As the design and construction planning progresses, detailed assessments would establish the likely levels of noise and vibration, when and where impacts could occur, and how potential effects could best be controlled to acceptable levels. This information would be detailed in the Environmental Statement, submitted as part of our application for powers to build the scheme.

Crossrail 2 must first establish how 'acceptable' noise levels are defined. It is the vision of government policy to promote good health and a good quality of life by effectively managing, controlling and, where possible, reducing noise. Crossrail 2 is preparing its own noise and vibration policy, based on best practice, to mitigate any noise to an acceptable level.



Altering track design



Concrete drilling during construction

Operational noise

The potential noise from trains running in the new Crossrail 2 tunnels would be limited, as those tunnels would be 20-30 metres underground.

In buildings situated above tunnels, the risk of noise and vibration would be mitigated by avoiding buildings with deep piled foundations wherever possible, or by using targeted engineering techniques to reduce its source. The Environmental Statement would consider the likely risks of these impacts so that altered track designs and other measures can be adopted as necessary. Where impacts are likely at the surface, mitigation proposals such as noise barriers may be required, and in some cases properties may qualify to have noise insulation installed.

The Environmental Statement would include a detailed study of the potential effects the proposed new railway may have on the surrounding areas when it becomes operational. The outcomes of the study would also identify any potential significant impacts to areas surrounding the surface sections of the route and recommend any appropriate mitigation measures to reduce them.

Construction noise

During construction, it is likely that there would be occasions when noise and vibration may cause disturbance. A detailed code of construction practice would be developed by Crossrail 2 to set out how these and other potential impacts would be managed and monitored. The code would be discussed with the relevant local authorities before work starts. It would detail the control measures that would be applied during construction to minimise adverse noise and vibration effects, and it would refer to noise insulation and temporary re-housing policies for the project.

In addition, before most of our works start, Crossrail 2 would seek specific agreement with the relevant local authority about how noise and vibration would be controlled. These 'section 61 applications' (for prior consent for work on construction sites) would include a programme of noise and vibration monitoring, details of best site practice and the procedure to notify sensitive receivers. Work would then only be permitted in accordance with these terms. Residents and other local users would be advised in advance of any periods of noisier than normal work along with contact details for the contractor so that any issues could be dealt with promptly.

With these measures in place, Crossrail 2 is confident that noise and vibration impacts would be effectively managed. Techniques for mitigating construction impacts are also increasingly effective. Experience on schemes such as Crossrail 1 has demonstrated noise reduction can be achieved through techniques such as quiet methods for removing piles and greater use of off site pre-fabrication.

To find out more

Visit www.crossrail2.co.uk where you can view and download a range of factsheets, maps and other information about the scheme.

Come along to one of our drop-in events where you will have an opportunity to view our proposals and speak to members of the Crossrail 2 team. Please visit www.crossrail2.co.uk for details about events in your area.

Please contact us to request a copy of this leaflet and other Crossrail 2 consultation material in hard copy, large print, audio or another language.

Contact us

- Email: crossrail2@tfl.gov.uk
- Helpline: 0343 222 0055*
- Post: Freepost Crossrail 2 Consultations
- Website: www.crossrail2.co.uk

*Service and network charges may apply. See tfl.gov.uk/terms for details

Have your say

This consultation gives you the opportunity to comment on proposals for Crossrail 2. Visit www.crossrail2.co.uk to leave a comment or provide a response to the consultation questions. The consultation will close on Friday 8 January 2016.

Development is still at an early stage. There will be more opportunity to provide feedback on Crossrail 2 as the scheme develops.