

# **‘Action Planning in Practice**

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# ***ACTION PLANNING***

- **Action Plans to be completed by July 2008 by Local Authorities.**
- **Local Authorities shall determine the measures to be included in Action Plans.**
- **Local Authorities must consult with EPA.**
- **Action Plan shall address priorities based on exceedances of any relevant noise limit value.**
- **In 1<sup>st</sup> instance address the most important areas.**

- **The EPA may establish other relevant criteria & inform Minister by 18<sup>th</sup> July 2013.**
- **Quiet Areas must be approved by Minister before being delimited in Action Plan.**
- **Not sure what legal status Action Plans have.**

## •ONE OF THE AIMS OF ACTION PLANNING

‘adoption of action plans by the Member States, based upon noise-mapping results, **with a view to preventing and reducing environmental noise** where necessary and particularly **where exposure levels can induce harmful effects on human health** and to **preserving environmental noise quality where it is good.**’

# ***CONTENTS OF ACTION PLANS***

- **Preserve the ‘quiet areas’ we have.**
- **Identify the areas that have high ambient sound levels that should be lower, i.e schools, hospitals, places of worship, public recreational areas such as parks and open spaces close to residential areas.**

**What approach will be the best?:-**

- **Tougher Planning legislation,**
- **Traffic restrictions,**
- **Congestion charging,**
- **Better Public Transport.**
- **Modal Change initiatives.**

**DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL**  
**Draft Action Plan**  
**Relating to the Assessment and Management**  
**of Environmental Noise**



**PUBLIC CONSULTATION DOCUMENT**

Comments/observations to [noise@cityofdublin.ie](mailto:noise@cityofdublin.ie)  
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Block 2, Floor 4, Civic Offices,  
Wood Quay Dublin 8

**Traffic Noise & Air Quality Unit**  
**Dublin City Council**

## **What is Noise ?**

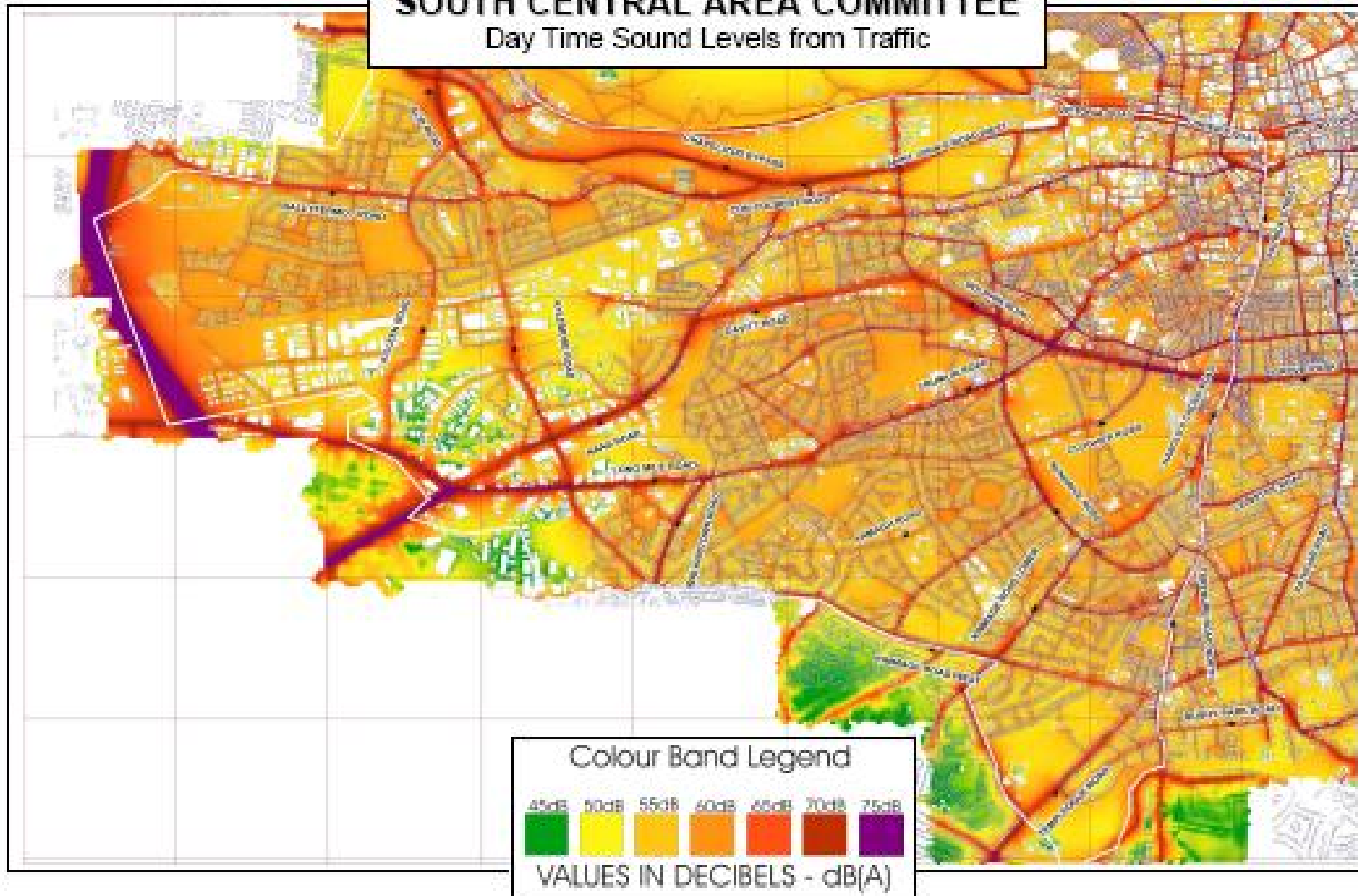
Unwanted sound:-

- At a time,
- At a place,
- Nature of the sound,

## **Public Perception**

- Are high sound levels alone cause for annoyance?
- What do people perceive as being 'Quiet'?

**SOUTH CENTRAL AREA COMMITTEE**  
Day Time Sound Levels from Traffic



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		<b>Priority Matrix</b>		
		<b>Location:</b>		
<b>Decision Selection Criteria</b>		<b>Score Range Day</b>	<b>Score Range Night</b>	<b>SubTotal</b>
<b>Noise Band(dB(A))</b>	<55	3	4	
	55 - 59	2	2	
	60-64	1	3	
	65-69	2	4	
	70-74	3	5	
	>=75	4	6	
<b>Type of Location</b>	City Centre	1	1	
	Commercial	1	2	
	Residential	2	3	
	Noise Sensitive Location	3	3	
	Quiet Area	3	3	
	Recreational open space	2	2	
<b>Type of Noise Source</b>	Road	2	3	
	Rail	1	2	
			<b>Total Score</b>	<b>0</b>

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#### **4.7 Areas with undesirable high sound levels**

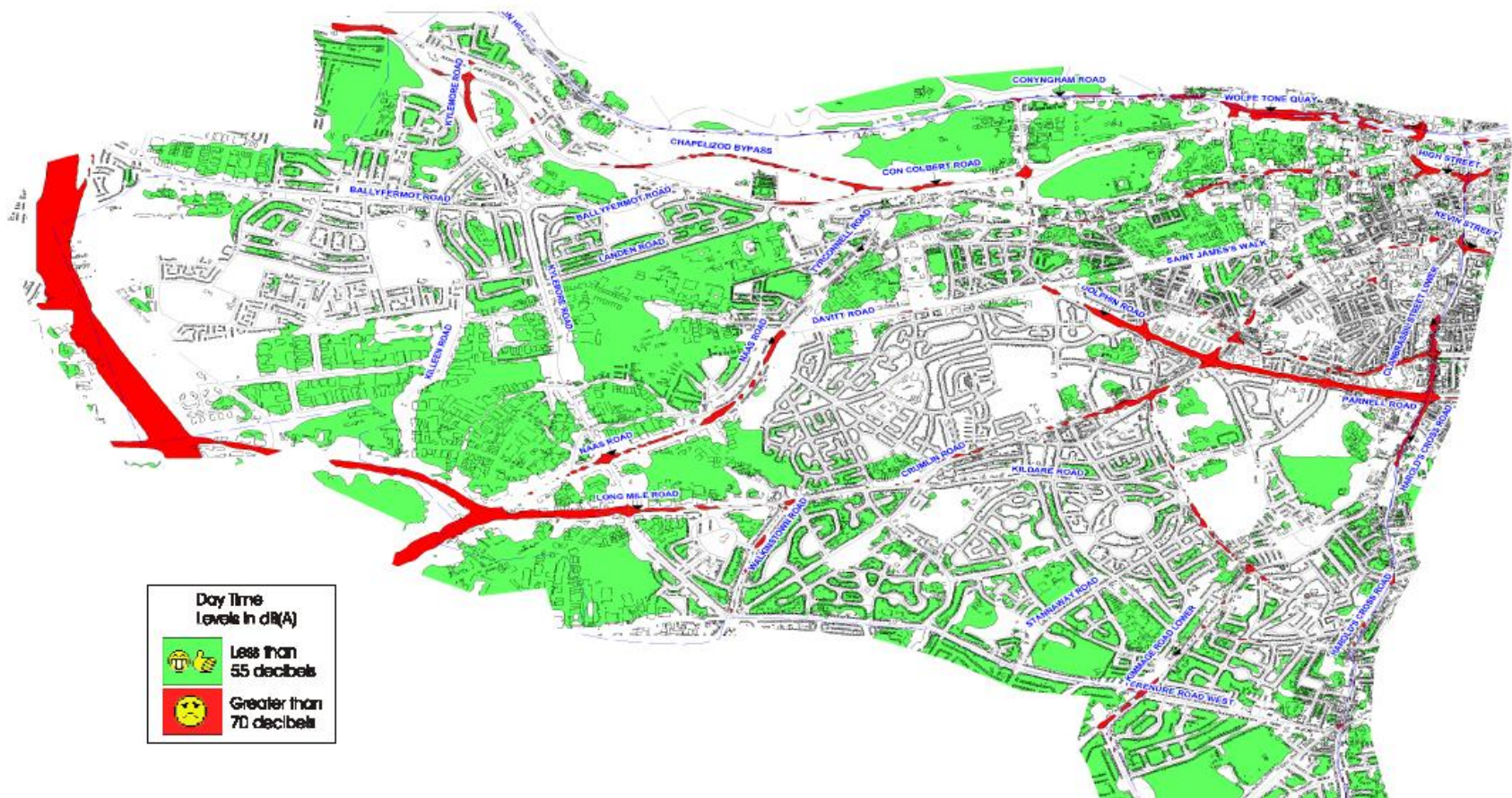
**4.7.1 *It is proposed that these areas are defined as areas with a night time level greater than 55 decibels and a daytime level greater than 70 decibels.*** Areas with undesirable high sound levels have been identified by the noise maps and can be seen in the noise mapping report in annex 3 to annex 7. .

#### **4.8 Areas with desirable low sound levels**

**4.8.1 *It is proposed that these areas are defined as areas with a night time level less than 50 decibels and/or a daytime level less than 55 decibels.*** Areas with desirable low sound levels have been identified by the noise maps and can be seen in the noise mapping report in annex 3 to annex 7.

# SOUTH CENTRAL AREA COMMITTEE

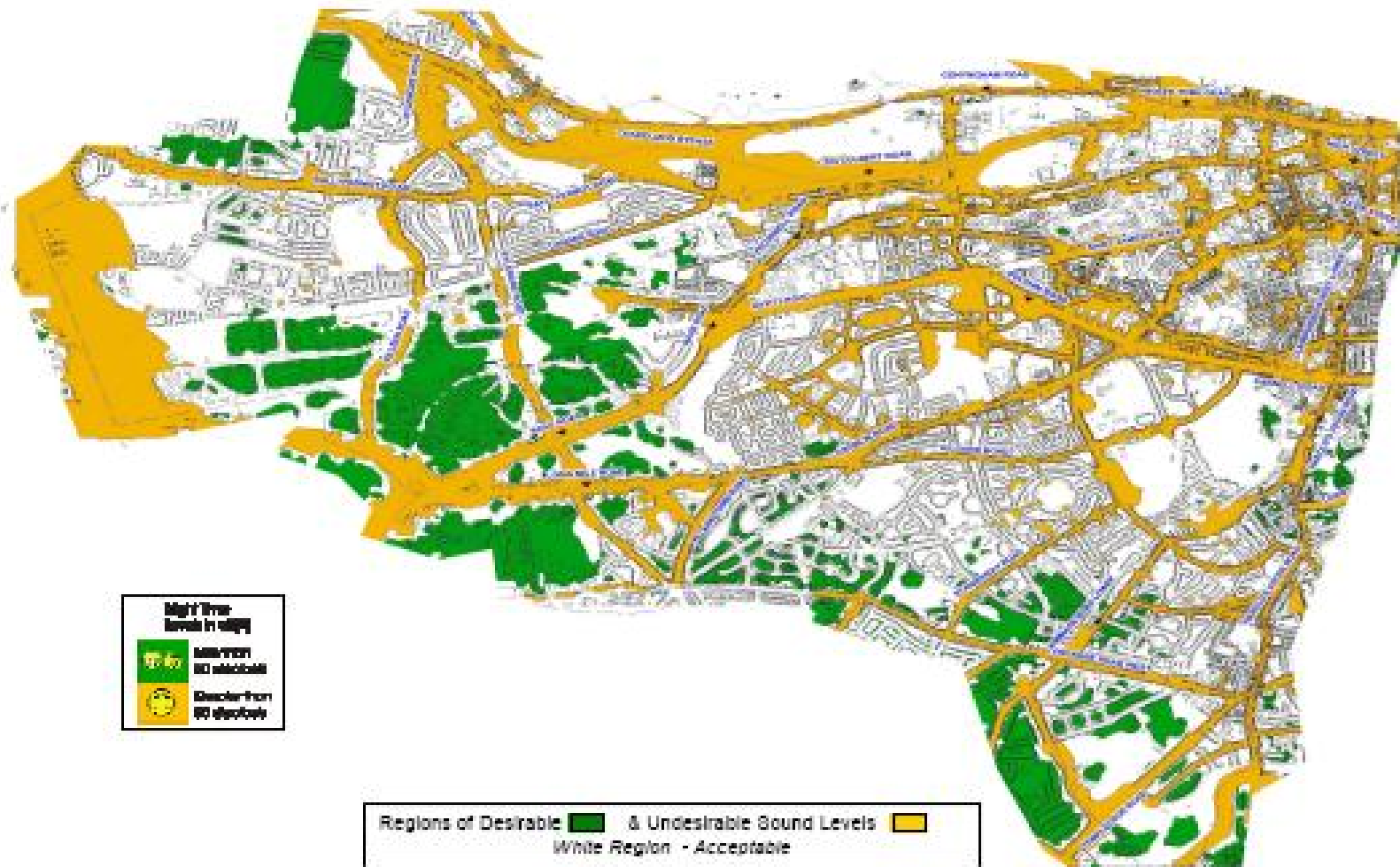
## Day Time Sound Levels from Traffic



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# SOUTH CENTRAL AREA COMMITTEE

Night Time Sound Levels from Traffic



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1. **Recreational open spaces** available to the City's population can be broken down into approximately 120 large open space\ recreational areas, approximately 260 playing fields, 230 play grounds, 180 public parks and gardens, 4 beaches, two nature reserves, one main river with associated boat clubs and river walks and two canals with associated green spaces and walks. There are 128 places of worship, 54 hospitals including nursing and convalescence homes, 346 educational institutions, and 396 childcare\crèche facilities.
2. **Using the decision\ selection matrix** it has been found that **96** of the 1279 areas identified as Noise sensitive, Quiet or Recreational Open Spaces have **a score of at least 17**. These include 32 Child Care facilities, 32 Educational establishments, 2 Nature Reserves, 7 Hospitals, 4 Nursing Homes, 12 Parks & Gardens and 7 places of Worship.

# Cost Impacts of Noise Exposure

Estimates of the annual financial damage in the EU due to environmental noise cover a range from 13- 38 billion Euro<sup>1</sup>

To Reduce the population to an exposure of 50dB(A) LDEN would bring a benefit worth €14,105,020

To reduce the population exposure between the bands 50-55Lden and 70-75Lden by 1 dB(A) would have a benefit of €8, 692,725

<sup>1</sup> Green Paper on Future Noise Policy

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