

# Action Planning – What is Required?

**APA Workshop on Noise Action Plans**

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## Environmental Noise Effects

- EC Policy driven by health effects
  - Estimated that 44% of Europeans (over 210) are regularly exposed to noise levels considered potentially detrimental to health;
  - Each year 245,000 people in EU27 suffer cardiovascular diseases provoked by noise;
  - Estimated that there are 50,000 premature deaths per annum in Europe; and
  - EEA believes health impacts of noise are underestimated.

## EC Policy Objectives

- EU's Sixth Environmental Action Programme
  - **“to achieve reduction of the number of people regularly affected by long-term high noise levels from an estimated 100 million people in the year 2000, by around 10% in 2010 and by 20% in 2020”**

## EC Directive 2002/49/EC

### Aim

- *“to define a common approach intended to avoid, prevent or reduce on a prioritised basis the harmful effects, including annoyance, due to exposure to environmental noise”*

### Sets out three stages:

1. *Undertake strategic noise mapping to determine exposure to environmental noise;*
2. *Ensure information on environmental noise and its effects are made available to the public;*
3. *Adopt action plans, based upon the 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.*

# EC Directive 2002/49/EC

Scope:

- **Transportation and industrial noise in the environment**

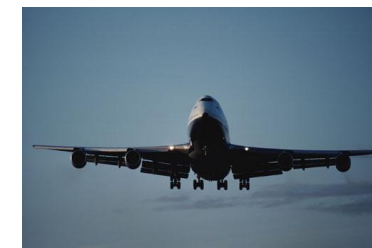
Defines:

- **Noise mapping**
- **Action plans**
- **Central European database**
- **Public information and participation**

Areas:

- **Agglomeration: population >100.000, high density**
- **Major roads: > 3.000.000 vehicles/year (8.000/day)**
- **Major railways: > 30.000 trains/year**
  - (10 min. daytime schedule)
- **Major airports: Civil airports**
  - with > 50.000 operations year (135/day)

Estimated 334 towns and cities to be mapped by 2012



## EC Directive 2002/49/EC

EC and DG Environment

- **WG-AEN Good Practice Guide for Noise Mapping**
- **NO equivalent GPG for Action Planning**
- **A devolved matter for each MS to determine what is appropriate for them**

# Electronic Noise Data Reporting Mechanism

## EC Recommended ENDRM

- **11 Data Flows cover all reports from 2005 to 2014**
- **DF4 – 31 December 2007**
  - Strategic Noise Maps delivered December 2007
- **DF7 - 18 January 2009**
  - Action plans related data as listed in annex VI for major roads, railways, airports and agglomerations concerned by 1st round + Any criteria used in drawing up action plans
    - Per agglomeration  $\geq 250,000$  inhabitants, including roads, rail, airports and industry :
    - Per major airport  $\geq 50,000$  movements/y
    - For overall major roads  $\geq 6$  millions vehicles/y
    - For overall major railways  $\geq 60,000$  trains/y

# Environmental Noise Regulations

Environmental noise Regulations 2006, S.I. No. 140 of 2006

- **Transpose EC Directive 2002/49/EC**

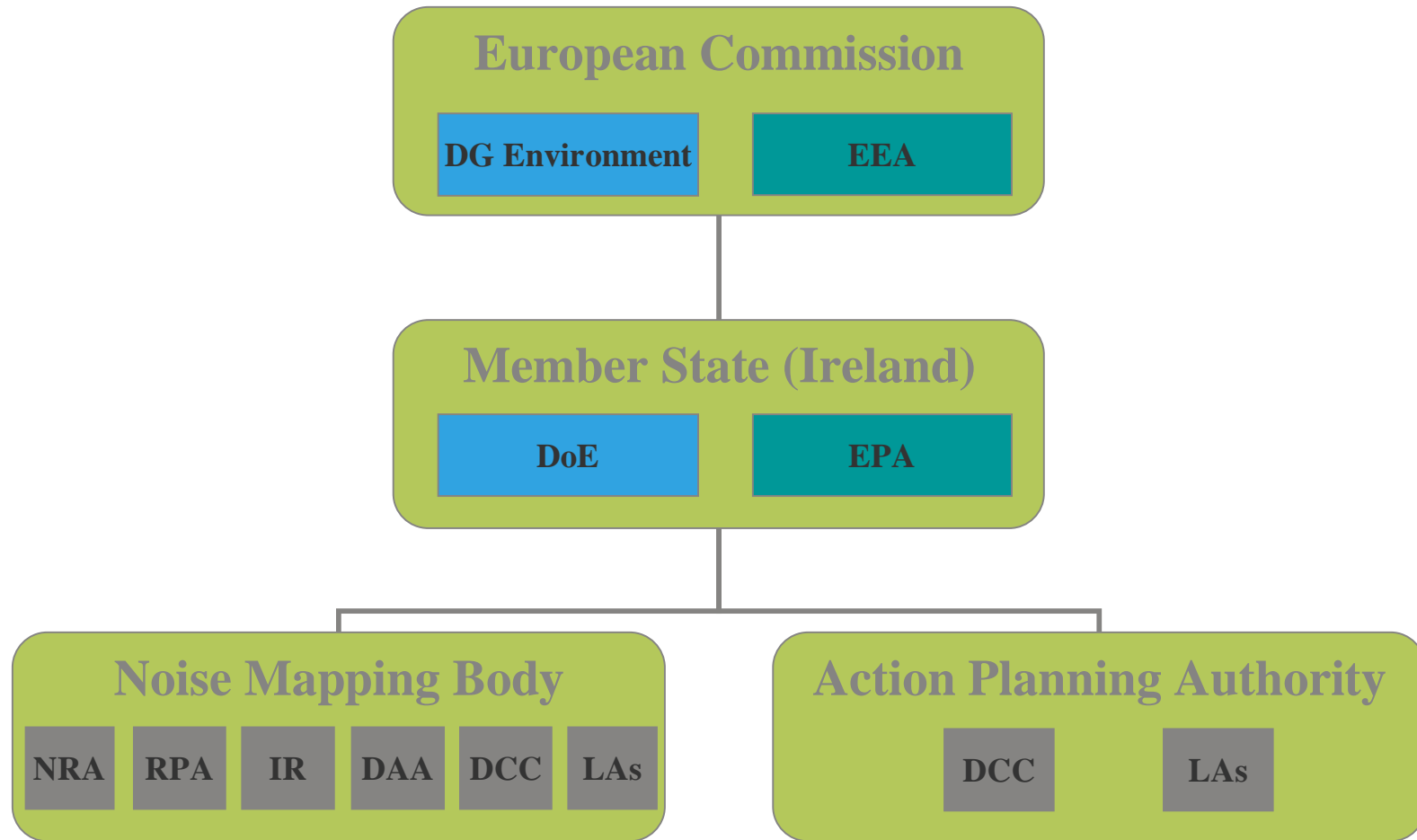
Objectives of the Regulations

- **The development of Community Measures**
  - To improve quality of life
- **Develop Action Plans**
  - To confirm intent, and manage development of Community Measures
- **Produce Strategic Noise Maps**
  - To assess extent of noise impact
  - To inform strategic policy making
  - To inform development of actions plans

Environmental Noise Sources and Coverage

- **Agglomerations**
- **Road, Rail, Industry & Air Noise**

# Transposition of END in Ireland



# Environmental Noise Regulations

## Section 3 – Interpretation

- **“Acoustical planning”** is defined as a **“controlling future noise by planned measures, such as land-use planning, systems engineering for traffic, traffic planning, abatement by sound-insulation measures and control of noise sources”**;
- **“Action plan”** is defined as **“a plan designed for the purpose of managing noise issues and their effects, including noise reduction if necessary”**;
- **“Quiet area in an agglomeration”** is defined as **“an area, delimited by an action planning authority following consultation with the Agency and approval by the Minister, where particular requirements on exposure to environmental noise shall apply”**; and
- **“Quiet area in open country”** is defined as **“an area, delimited by an action planning authority following consultation with the Agency and approval by the Minister, that is undisturbed by noise from traffic, industry or recreational activities”**.

# Environmental Noise Regulations

## Section 4 – Objectives and Scope

- **(1) These Regulations provide for the implementation in Ireland of a common approach within the European Community intended to avoid, prevent or reduce on a prioritised basis the harmful effects, including annoyance, due to exposure to environmental noise.**

## Section 7 – Action Planning Authorities

- **The following shall be designated action planning authorities for the purpose of making and approving action plans, in consultation with the Agency and the noise-mapping body for the noise-map involved.**

# Environmental Noise Regulations

## Section 11 – Action Plans

- **(1) The action planning authority or authorities concerned shall, no later than 18 July 2008, following consultation with the Agency, make an action plan**
  
- **(3) (a) Subject to prior consultation with the Agency and to paragraph (b), the action planning authority or authorities concerned, as the case may be, shall determine the measures to be included in an action plan**

# Environmental Noise Regulations

## Section 11 – Action Plans

- **(3) (b) Each action plan shall address priorities which: (i) may be identified on the basis of exceedances of any relevant noise limit value or other relevant criteria established by the Agency in accordance with sub-article 4, and (ii) shall, in the first instance, address the most important area or areas, as the case may be, established by strategic noise mapping.**
- **(4) Without prejudice to any relevant statutory limit value for noise, the Agency may, following consultation with noise-mapping bodies and action planning authorities, establish other relevant criteria for action plan priorities for road-traffic noise, rail-traffic noise, aircraft noise around airports and noise on industrial activity sites, and shall, no later than 18 July 2013, inform the Minister, the Minister of Transport and the Commission of such criteria.**

# Environmental Noise Regulations

## Section 11 – Action Plans

- **(5) Action plans shall:**
  - (a) satisfy the minimum requirements set out in the Fourth Schedule.
  - (b) aim to protect quiet areas
  
- **(6) Action planning authorities shall ensure that: -**
  - (a) the public are consulted on proposals for action plans;
  - (b) the public are given early and effective opportunities to participate in the preparation and review of action plans;
  - (c) the results of public participation are taken into account in finalising action plans or reviews of action plans;
  - (d) the public are informed of the decisions taken in relation to action plans;
  - (e) reasonable time-frames are adopted to allow sufficient time for each stage of public participation.

# Environmental Noise Regulations

## Section 11 – Action Plans

- **(7) (a) Action planning authorities shall be responsible for the review and, where necessary, revision of action plans.**
  - **(b) An action plan shall be reviewed and, if necessary, revised:**
    - **(i) in the event of a material change in environmental noise in the area concerned,**
    - **(ii) if requested by the Agency, or**
    - **(iii) not later than five years after the date on which it was made or last reviewed.**
  
- **(9) Action planning authorities shall ensure that, for the purpose of article 5(4), a summary of each action plan or revised action plan is sent to the Agency no later than one month after the date on which the action plan or revised action plan, as the case may be, was made**

# Minimum Requirements for Action Plans

- 1. An action plan must at least include the following elements:
  - a description of the agglomeration, the major roads, the major railways or major airports and other noise sources taken into account,
  - the authority responsible,
  - the legal context,
  - any statutory limit values in place,
  - a summary of the results of the noise mapping,
  - an evaluation of the estimated number of people exposed to noise, identification of problems and situations that need to be improved,
  - a record of the public consultations organised in accordance with article 11(6),
  - any noise-reduction measures already in force and any projects in preparation,
  - actions which the action planning authorities intend to take in the next five years, including any measures to preserve quiet areas,
  - long-term strategy,
  - financial information (if available): budgets, cost-effectiveness assessment, cost-benefit assessment,
  - provisions envisaged for evaluating the implementation and the results of the action plan.

## Minimum Requirements for Action Plans

- 2. The actions which the action planning authorities intend to take in the fields within their competence may for example include:
  - **traffic planning,**
  - **land-use planning,**
  - **technical measures at noise sources,**
  - **selection of quieter sources,**
  - **reduction of sound transmission,**
  - **regulatory or economic measures or incentives.**
- 3. Each action plan should contain estimates in terms of the reduction of the number of people affected (annoyed, sleep disturbed, or other).

## Timetable

- Action Plans to be submitted to the Agency by 18 July 2008
- Summary of Action Plans to be submitted to the Agency by 18 August 2008
- Delimited “quiet areas” to be approved by the Minister
- Summaries of Action Plans and other DF5 data to be submitted to the EC by 18 January 2009

## Proposed Timetable

- Draft Action Plans - 18 July 2008
  - **Submitted to the Agency and NMBs**
  - **Public Consultation – 8 weeks (to 12 September)**
- Action Plans – 3 October 2008
  - **Revised to accommodate Public, NMB and Agency feedback**
- Summary of Action Plans – 3 November 2008
  - **No more than 10 pages**
- Delimited “quiet areas” to be approved by the Minister
- ENDRM DF5 to the EC by 18 January 2009

## A Few Questions

- Given current practice:
  - **IPPC 55 dB Ldaytime (0800-2200) and 45 dB Lnight-time (2200-0800) free-field**
  - **NRA Guideline 60 dB Lden free-field**
  - **DAA**
    - **Schools offered noise insulation >60 dB Lday-evening**
    - **Residential offered noise insulation >63 dB Lday-evening**
    - **Residential offered buy-out >69 dB Lday-evening**
- Is the current noise impact acceptable?
  - **ENDRM DF4 indicates >20,000 exposed to road traffic noise levels >75 dB Lden**
- Could this be considered harmful to health?

**Any Questions ?**

**Thank you for your attention**

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