

# NOVA

## ACOUSTICS

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### The NOVA Acoustics Way...

Delivering sustainable development by promoting good health and well-being through effective management of noise.

We are leading acoustic consultancy with expert consultants located around the UK offering the highest quality acoustic consultancy, sound testing and noise surveying services.

We take complete ownership of your acoustic consultancy project so you can progress your project rapidly. We partner with our clients to develop long term relationships to ensure every project is delivered on time and exceeds expectations with exceptional customer service to boot.

Our team deliver on their promises and have built up hundreds of 5\* reviews from trusted clients as a result.









We are an independent acoustic consultancy that places your project needs at the forefront. Our focus is on providing impartial and cost-effective expert advice. Our guidance is objective, tailored to suit your specific acoustical requirements. Our independence ensures unbiased advice, founded on comprehensive knowledge, extensive research, and a dedicated commitment to your success.

We take pride in offering trustworthy and impartial acoustics guidance, serving as your partner for reliable, honest, and completely independent acoustic consultancy services. With NOVA Acoustics, you're not just hiring a consultant; you're partnering with a dedicated, collaborative problem-solving team committed to uncompromising quality and technical excellence.

Our acoustic consultants are members of the Institute of Acoustics and undertake a broad range of acoustic consultancy, design and testing services spanning all sectors.

## OUR SERVICES

 Noise Surveys	 Acoustic Consultants	 Noise at Work	 Noise, Vibration & Dust Monitoring	 Soundproofing Products	 Sound Testing
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## SECTORS WE WORK IN

 Residential	 Education	 Specialist	 Offices	 Industrial	 Healthcare	 Leisure	 Sport
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If you need a team of reliable and trusted acoustic consultants that are straight talking and provide quality advice, then you are in the right place.

## Our Design Vision

Good acoustic design is embedded in every project we undertake and is essential for creating an acoustic environment that supports effective communication, reduces noise disturbance, and enhances the overall experience for the buildings intended purpose. Key aspects of the acoustic design approach that are applied to our projects include:

### Sustainability

Sustainable acoustic design practices will be considered, such as using eco-friendly materials and optimizing natural ventilation to reduce reliance on mechanical systems.

### Determine the Building's Function

The intended functions of different spaces will be scrutinised to ensure the end user's acoustic requirements have been accommodated.

### Set Acoustic Objectives

Clear acoustic objectives for each space based on its function will be established.

### Consider Building Layout

The building's layout will be planned to minimize noise transfer between spaces dependant on the sensitivity and activity noise level.

### Speech Intelligibility & Room Acoustics

The primary goal of acoustic design is ensuring speech is clear and intelligible within all spaces. The room acoustic design will be considerate of the function of each space.

### Sound Insulation & Noise Control

The design will assess and mitigate external environmental noise sources (e.g., traffic, construction) that may affect the acoustic performance.

### Acoustic Comfort

The acoustic comfort of the space will be considered to create an environment where user comfort, without excessive noise that can lead to stress or fatigue.

### Environmental Noise

The design will assess and mitigate external environmental noise sources (e.g., traffic, construction) that may affect the acoustic performance.

### Accessibility & Inclusivity

The acoustic design will consider the needs of all individuals, including those with hearing impairments. This may involve installation of hearing assistance systems.

### Compliance with Regulations

Pre-completion testing will evidence compliance with the relevant building regulations which is crucial to ensure that acoustic design meets requirements.

We take total ownership of your acoustics project so that you can progress your development rapidly.

# Acoustic Consultancy through the RIBA Design Stages

We can provide acoustic consultancy services across the entire range of RIBA Design Stages of a construction project. We have mapped out the support that we can provide architects and design teams at each stage.



## We are officially Carbon Neutral

We are dedicated to safeguarding our planet and mitigating our environmental impact. That's why we are taking significant steps towards achieving Net Zero by 2030.



## Key Staff Profiles



Adam Martin, MSc, CEng, MIOA, MCIEH

Position: Director  
Email: adam.m@novaacoustics.co.uk  
Academic Qualifications: MSc Applied Acoustics  
Professional Memberships: Corporate member of the Institute of Acoustics, Corporate member of the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health Corporate member of the Institute of Engineering Technology



Michael Caley MSc, MIOA

Position: Director  
Email: michael@novaacoustics.co.uk  
Academic Qualifications: MSc Applied Acoustics  
Professional Memberships: Corporate member of the Institute of Acoustics



Sebastian Chesney, MSc, MIOA

Position: Director  
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Academic Qualifications: MSc Acoustics  
Professional Memberships: Corporate member of the Institute of Acoustics



Courtney Hawkins-Smith, BSc, MIOA

Position: Acoustic Consultant  
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Academic Qualifications: Institute of Acoustic Diploma in Acoustics & Noise Control  
Professional Memberships: Corporate member of the Institute of Acoustics



Thomas Watkin, MSc, MIOA

Position: Senior Acoustic Consultant  
Email: tom.w@novaacoustics.co.uk  
Academic Qualifications: MSc Applied Acoustics  
Professional Memberships: Corporate member of the Institute of Acoustics

“Nova Acoustics have been beyond helpful. Super speedy response and excellent communication. The noise impact assessment has been completed at a very fair price.”

## Key Staff Profiles



Ross Chamberlain, BSc, MIOA

Position: Senior Acoustic Consultant  
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 Academic Qualifications: Institute of Acoustic Diploma in Acoustics & Noise Control  
 Professional Memberships: Corporate member of the Institute of Acoustics



Pablo Soler, BEng, MIOA

Position: Acoustic Consultant  
 Email: pablo@novaacoustics.co.uk  
 Academic Qualifications: BEng in Mechanical Engineering  
 Professional Memberships: Corporate member of the Institute of Acoustics

## Social Value

At NOVA Acoustics Ltd, we recognize the profound influence that the built environment has on the social fabric of communities. We understand that construction work extends far beyond bricks and mortar; it shapes the way people live, work, and interact. As stewards of this transformative process, we are committed to maximizing social value in every project we undertake.

careers local economic impact **safety** education collaboration  
**community engagement**  
 inclusive workforce development local organizations  
**support** effort long-term impact  
 ethical practices  
 personal development  
 green building standards eco-friendly  
**sustainable**  
 communication relationships wellbeing communities  
 adaptability

co-create spaces  
 transparency  
 partnerships



Value Engineered Advice



Responsive & Reliable



Fast Turnaround



Full UK Coverage

## Case Studies: Residential

### Assisting with RIBA Stage 2 for Oxlow Lane - 63 New Build Flats over Two Blocks

Client: *Mulalley*

Having worked on a number of projects over the years with construction specialists Mulalley, we were tasked with assisting in the redevelopment of 291 – 230 Oxlow Lane in Dagenham which included the demolition of existing building to make way for 63 modern flats comprised of two linked buildings.

We provided acoustic design input from RIBA Stage 2 to 6. Including noise surveys and assessments at the planning stage to ensure the site was suitable for development.

At stage 2 we were tasked with undertaking a noise break-in assessment and providing an indicative façade sound insulation scheme to achieve the internal noise criteria from BS 8233: 2014 – Guidance on Sound Insulation and Noise Reduction for Buildings and other relevant standards. We also provided an assessment of externally mounted plant and breakout from plant rooms in accordance with BS 4142:2014+A1:2019.

At stage 3 & 4 we provided acoustic design assistance for sound insulation to ensure the proposed construction specification complied with the Building Regulations Approved Document E. We also provided assistance with the acoustic design for reverberation control and mechanical services noise. Throughout stage 5 we were available to provide ongoing support to the design team and site inspections. At stage 6 we undertook pre-completion sound insulation testing to ensure the design achieved compliance.

This was a fantastic project to be involved with and the quality of the completed development is outstanding.



### North Star House - Change of Use to form 286 High End Apartments

Client: *DRG Solutions*

The Shaviram Group transforms both residential and commercial properties into modern, state-of-the-art homes. In 2020 they began work on the redevelopment of a large multi-floor building previously owned by BT located at Swindon's North Star House, with the aim of creating 286 high-spec apartments.

Our team provided acoustic design input through planning permission providing an environmental noise assessment to ensure adequate internal noise levels were achievable with an appropriate façade sound insulation scheme. We also assisted with design and sound testing services to evidence compliance with the Building Regulations.



### Assisting a major housing development project through the planning process with detailed noise assessments and acoustic design

Client: *Cornovii Homes*

In 2023 a joint venture between Shropshire Council and local housing developer, Cornovii Homes, was revealed to the public with 85 brand new houses planned for construction in the quaint town of Oswestry.

To navigate any noise-related issues, we were approached to undertake noise assessments and provide support throughout the planning process. Working closely with both parties, we helped to help see the project through RIBA Stage 2, carrying out noise surveys and assessments to ensure compliance and good acoustic design principles are upheld.

“Really pleased with the service received from Nova Acoustics on a recent noise risk assessment of our production room.”

## Case Studies: Education

### Acoustic Design for Special Educational Needs Extension at Kings School

Client: *McAvoy Group*

McAvoy were appointed to redevelop and construct additional school buildings at Kings School in Winchester. The project proposals were for the expansion of Osborne School (SEN), in a new satellite provision on the nearby site of Kings' Secondary mainstream school in Winchester.

We've had the pleasure of working with McAvoy on projects in multiple projects over the years, and were glad to be able to assist in helping the project through RIBA Stages 3 to 6. We provided detailed guidance to ensure the development complied with Building Bulletin 93 (BB93) which sets our performance standards, acoustic criteria, acoustic principles and good acoustic design for schools.

Our acoustic design services provided effective and value engineered solutions to sound insulation, reverberation control and external noise ingress. We provided detailed guidance to ensure the development complied with Building Bulletin 93 (BB93) which sets our performance standards, acoustic criteria, acoustic principles and good acoustic design for schools.

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### BB93 Acoustics Design for Replacement School Block at ACE Luton

Client: *Luton Council*

Luton's Avenue Centre for Education (A.C.E.) is a referral education school set up to tutor students who have either been expelled or those unable to attend mainstream establishments due to medical reasons.

After the decision was made to expand the school's existing building to accommodate more students, Luton Council approached our team of acoustic consultants to assist in guiding the development product through RIBA Stages 3 to 6. We provided detailed guidance to ensure the development complied with Building Bulletin 93 (BB93) which sets our performance standards, acoustic criteria, acoustic principles and good acoustic design for schools. Our acoustic design services provided effective and value engineered solutions to sound insulation, reverberation control and external noise ingress.



### School Extension at Summerhill Primary School

Client: *Sefton Council*

Summerhill Primary School is located in Maghull, Liverpool. In an effort to address the ever-growing demand for school places in the local area, proposals were put forward by the local authority, Sefton Council, to redevelop their existing building by extending the school hall and raising its roof, creating a new kitchen area, adding a new single storey extension, playground area and expanded car park.

Our team of expert acoustic consultants were approached early on, during the design stages of the proposed redevelopment, to ensure a smooth transition through the planning process. Our expert team was able to provide an environmental noise survey that allowed a noise break in assessment to be undertaken to achieve adequate internal sound levels in accordance with Building Bulletin 93. As well as appropriate acoustic mitigation for external plant equipment.

"Nova undertook some work for us and were very patient while we resolved a payment issue with the client. Great to work with and we will definitely use them again in the future. Thanks!"

## Case Studies: Industrial

### Noise Impact Assessment for a large Yorkshire-based Food Manufacturing Site

Client: *Sedamyl*

Ten years after establishing their plant in Selby (Yorkshire), Sedamyl – leading manufacturer of starches, sweeteners, proteins and alcohol – announced plans to expand and double production.

Such a significant increase in facility size would of course have an effect on the acoustic environment. We were brought on board to assist with Sedamyl's environmental permit application process, and went on to conduct extensive analysis and testing of existing noise produced by the large scale site.

Using these results as a baseline, we were able to accurately estimate the change in noise emissions following expansion of the site. The assessment was carried out in accordance with BS4142:2014 + A1:2019, following which we provided guidance on effective noise control measures.

In addition, we undertook validation testing of mitigation measures that have been implemented to evidence the success of the design process. We provide ongoing support for further alterations on site and to assist with any further investigations required.



### Noise Impact Assessment for a Food Manufacturing Site in the North of England

Client: *Linden Foods*

Linden Foods (jointly owned by ABP Foods Group) is an award winning meat manufacturer with locations in Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland, England and Belgium.

In 2021 Linden Foods announced the completion of a £674,000 extension to their Burradon processing plant based in Tyne and Wear. This decision was made to install new equipment that facilitates the processing of by-products on-site.

We were approached to undertake extensive analysis of the noise emitted by the facility to assist with Linden Foods' environmental permitting application process.

Our team of experts were then able to assess the impact of the proposed extension in accordance with BS4142:2014 + A1:2019. To ensure that effective noise control measures continue to be implemented at the site.



### NHS Manchester University approached us to assist with a project involving the installation of a new plant room and 4 no. ground source heat pumps

Client: *NHS Manchester University*

NHS Manchester University approached us to assist with a project involving the installation of a new plant room and 4 no. ground source heat pumps. We supported the project by providing a noise impact assessment in accordance with BS4142:2014+2019.

Firstly, we established the background sound levels at the closest affected receptors to the plant area to establish the baseline for the noise impact assessment. We then undertook a detailed analysis of the noise emissions from the plant equipment and assessed the extent of impact in accordance with BS4142:2014+A1:2019.

This allowed us to supply a detailed technical report focusing on value engineered advice to ensure that noise emissions were well managed and evidencing compliance with the Local Planning Policy.

“MCC Homes have used the services of Nova Acoustics on our previous 5 developments. Queries have been dealt with promptly from Nova which fills me with confidence as a customer.”

## Case Studies: Various



### Redevelopment of Elsecar Heritage Site

Client: *Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council*

In 2023, Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council announced an exciting new vision for the former site of the Elsecar Ironworks – now the Elsecar Heritage Centre – including a new heritage railway, new rail college, outdoor events area and more.

We were approached by Purcell Architects in York to provide acoustic consultancy services for the project. We provided detailed acoustic design advice throughout RIBA Design Stages 3 and 4, including sound insulation design, reverberation control, building services noise control and external noise issues.

This was a fantastic project for our team of acoustic consultants involved with and the quality of the completed development is outstanding.



### Noise Impact Assessments for Water Treatment Works

Client: *Eric Wright Group*

It's fairly common knowledge that in the UK we all drink and bathe in recycled water. It is the job of a water treatment plant to make waste water fit for human consumption or release in to our rivers. Unsurprisingly, the use of large industrial machinery processing enormous quantities of water can result in a noise.

Our team of acousticians were approached by Eric Wright Group to undertake noise impact assessments at multiple water treatment plants across the UK to make sure noise emissions were not exceeding levels set out by the Local Planning Policy at each location. The detailed report provided by our team ensured compliance with BS4142:2014+2019 by setting out a number of ways to effectively minimise noise pollution created at each of the treatment works.



### Noise, Vibration & Dust Monitoring at Heckmondwike Bus Station

Client: *RG Carter*

In January 2024, plans were approved for an £8.6million project to improve the existing bus station in Heckmondwike, a town roughly 9 miles south west of Leeds. RG Carter was appointed to carry out the construction work, and subsequently approached us to assist the project with noise, vibration & dust monitoring services.

We deployed our state of the art noise, vibration and dust monitoring systems for baseline testing of the site prior to the works commencing. This system was deployed with solar power and was connected to the cloud to easily view data in real time.



### Noise Impact Assessment at Padel Social Club

Client: *Padel Social Club*

Situated in West London's Earls Court, Padel Social Club offers world class facilities for enthusiasts of the ever-growing sport featuring 5 outdoor courts surrounded by sustainably designed social spaces including premium changing facilities, sauna, a shop and even a rooftop bar.

Prior to construction starting, we were approached to carry out a noise impact assessment in order to determine and advise on how to mitigate the affects on the local area.

We carried out a predictive noise impact assessment utilising predictive modelling software SoundPlan to allow us to accurately depict noise emissions from the development.

“Ryan and his team were very professional, installing monitoring equipment regarding a proposed planning application. We can definitely recommend Nova Acoustics Ltd.”

## Case Studies: Various



### Noise Impact Assessment of 40MW Battery Storage Facility

Client: *Brownshore Management*

Brownshore Management provide Town Planning services across the UK and manage a diverse portfolio of sites and planning matters. After being appointed to manage the development of a 40MW battery storage facility, we were approached to carry out a noise impact assessment in accordance with BS4142:2014+2019.

We began by determining background sound levels at areas on the perimeter of the site, to act as a baseline for the assessment before undertaking a comprehensive analysis of noise emissions that would ultimately be emitted once the storage facility was operational. This work carried out by our team of acoustic experts meant that a full report could be provided to the Brownshore Management team, thoroughly detailing how noise emissions could be minimised in order to comply with the Local Planning Authority, to enable the surrounding residents to be protected from noise.



### Stowmarket Health Education Leisure Facilities

Client: *REAL Consulting & Suffolk District Council*

We worked alongside REAL Consulting and Suffolk District Council to support the redevelopment of sports facilities and pitches including an athletics track, football pitch, MUGA, indoor sport courts, cricket square, car parking and more.

For this particular project, our services were required to support the project through the planning process. Working together, we outlined the project's requirements by defining the acoustic objectives. We carried out onsite noise and vibration surveys, establishing the sustainability and regulatory criteria. We then advised on the fundamental principles of site and layout to minimise acoustic conflicts, pre-empting any problems that could potentially arise later. Following this, we provided guidance on noise generating aspects of the development to enable the local planning criteria to be achieved.



### Refurbishment and Fit Out of Bridgewater Place, Leeds to achieve BREEAM credits for acoustic performance

Client: *Richard Boothroyd & Associates*

Richard Boothroyd and Associates, reached out to us to collaborate on a project in our home town, Leeds. They required our expert acoustic design services for the iconic Bridgewater Place in Leeds to support the refurbishment of the site to achieve BREEAM credits for acoustic performance. We conducted an existing building fabric assessment to assess which areas required upgrading to achieve compliance with HEA05 and POL05. The design stage assessment included advice on internal ambient noise levels, sound insulation of walls and floors, reverberation control and plant noise emissions. Once the refurbishment is complete we will be returning to undertake pre-completion testing to assess compliance with the BREEAM requirements.



### Antrim Hospital Extension Acoustic Design to HTM-08-01

Client: *McAvoy Group*

We supported the design team at Mcavoy Group for RIBA Design Stages 2 – 4 for the new build extension adding a new wing to Antrim Hospital. We conducted an environmental noise survey in accordance with BS 7445:2003 to establish the ambient and background sound levels at the site and surrounding areas.

We provided acoustic design in accordance HTM-08-01 – Health Technical Memorandum 08-01: Acoustics (2013) including assistance with sound insulation between spaces, reverberation control, internal ambient sound levels and noise emission from new plant equipment. We provided value engineered and considered solutions in collaboration with the design team to ensure the project achieved the required performance standards.

“We have used Nova Acoustics for a sound testing for installation of a new floor.  
Tom the engineer was very thorough, prompt and professional.”



# NOVA

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