

AVAL



Odour Assessment

Site

Whitley Café, 168 Whitley wood Road, Reading, RG2 8LQ

Client

Mr Piyush Patel

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1 Introduction

1.1 Overview

Aval Consulting Group Ltd has been commissioned to carry an odour assessment for a proposed Café which will be situated at 168C Whitley wood Road, Reading, RG2 8LQ. The proposed development involves the change of use of Groundfloor from Post Office (Class A1) to café (class A3) and falls under the Reading Borough Council jurisdiction.

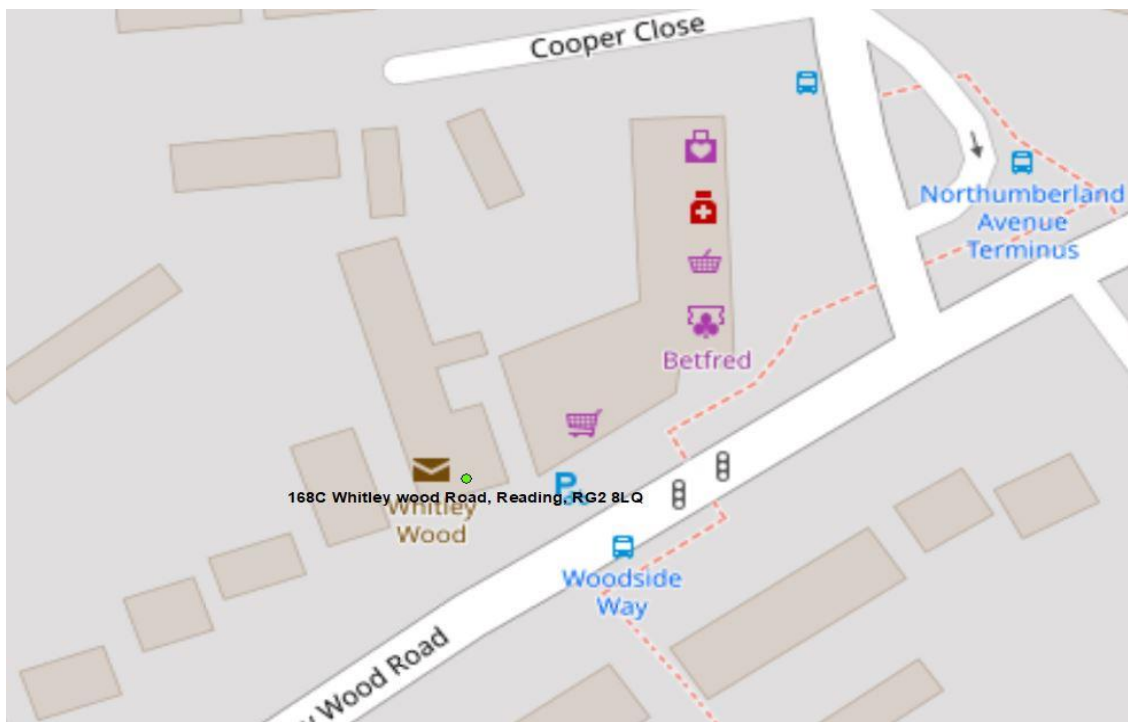
This report will investigate the odour impacts from the proposed development. The main purpose of this report is to carry out an assessment to determine if the odour impact from the proposed development is likely to have a detrimental impact on the nearby receptors and implement an odour mitigation plan if required with odour control specifications.

The assessment was carried out in accordance with the Institute of Air Quality Management's (IAQM) "Guidance on the Assessment of Odour for Planning" (2018) and the updated guidance of Control of Odour and Noise from Commercial Kitchen Exhaust Systems (2018). This guidance is an update of the Defra Guidance on the Control of Odour and Noise from Commercial Kitchen Exhaust Systems (2004).

1.2 Site Location and Proposal Information

Figure 1.1 shows the proposed site location. The site is bounded by residential/commercial properties to the east and west. The south part of the site faces Whitley Wood Road and a pedestrian pavement while the northern side faces a car park. It has been assumed that the food types being prepared within the proposed cafe are mainly sandwiches, Soup, Poached eggs, Panini's, toasties etc and would not include any fryer.

Figure 1.1: Site Location (Source: Arc GIS)



1.3 Key Pollutant – Odour

IAQM guidance defines odour as a mixture of many chemicals which interact to produce a 'smell'. While odour-free air refers to air containing no odorous chemicals, fresh air is usually perceived as air containing no chemicals or contaminants that could be 'unpleasant'.

While odour is not strictly speaking an air pollutant, certain combinations of chemicals can affect the human olfactory response (perception followed by psychological appraisal) and cause a loss of amenity. Perception of an odour can be subjective to the individual whether it is found as acceptable, objectionable or offensive.

Odour can be produced from a number of industries including food outlets, production, recycling, waste handling, vehicle respraying, power plants, traffic emissions, agriculture etc.

Factors that influence control of odour from commercial kitchens include:

- Size of the cooking facility- This influences the intensity of the odour and volume of ventilation air to be handled;
- Type of food prepared – This affects the chemical constituents within the ventilation air; and
- Types of cooking appliances used: This dictates the level of fat, water droplets and temperature within the ventilation air.

1.4 Regulation Governing the Design and Performance of Ventilation Systems for Commercial Kitchens

There is no legislation directly governing the design and performance of commercial kitchen ventilation systems. However, other regulations protecting the health and safety of employees, food safety and local amenity exists. The following legislations are considered relevant to this assessment:

- The Building Regulations 2000 (in response to Building Act 1984);
- The Environmental Protection Act 1990;
- The Town and Country Planning Act 1990;
- National Planning Policy Framework (England) 2018;
- Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992;
- Health and Safety Executive (HSE) Reference Sheet – 'Ventilation in catering kitchens (2017)';
- The Food Safety Hygiene (England) Regulations (2013) and EU Regulations 852/2004; and
- Relevant BESA standards for Kitchen Ventilation Systems.

2 Commercial Kitchen Ventilation Systems Design and Operation Requirements

Based on the updated guidance of Control of Odour and Noise from Commercial Kitchen Exhaust Systems (2018) the minimum standards for commercial kitchen ventilation systems performance are:

2.1 Minimum Ventilation Rates

- An internal ambient air temperature of 28-degree Celsius maximum.
- Maximum humidity levels of 70%.
- Internal noise level should be between NR40-NR50.
- Dedicated make up air system to be approximately 85% of the extract flow rate, and
- Extract flow rates for a commercial kitchen should be calculated using the thermal convection method only, as this overcomes heat and odour variation between different types of cooking appliances. Other less reliable methods remain available.

2.2 Minimum Requirements for Canopy

Velocity requirements

- Light loading – 0.25 m/s (applies to steaming ovens, boiling pans, bain maries and stock pot stoves.
- Medium loading – 0.35 m/s (applies to deep fat fryers, bratt pans solid and open top ranges and griddles); and
- Heavy loading – 0.5 m/s (applies to chargrills, mesquite and specialist broiler units).

Sizing

- Ideally, the plan dimensions of the canopy shall always exceed the plan dimensions of the catering equipment by a minimum of 250 mm on each free side.
- This should be increased to 600 mm in front of combination steaming ovens to cope with the steam or fumes released when the doors of the appliance are opened. Solid Fuel appliances must have an overhang of 300 mm from the door open position.

Materials

- A material that would comply with the food hygiene requirement is stainless steel.
- Grease Separation
- The grease extracted by the separators shall be collected and removed so that it will not accumulate in either the canopy plenum or the ductwork system, or fall back onto the cooking surface.
- The separator shall be constructed so that there are no sharp edges or projections and shall be easily removable for regular cleaning, and

- Primary filters that retain grease within the filtration matrix until cleaned shall not be used (not to be confused with those designed with purpose-made integral collection reservoirs).

2.3 Minimum Requirements for Ductwork

All ductwork should be Low-Pressure Class 'A' and constructed in accordance with BESA Specification DW/144 with a minimum thickness of 0.8 mm.

Duct velocities should be as follows:

Table 2.1: Duct Velocity

	Supply (m/s)	Extract (m/s)
Main runs	6-8	6-9
Branch runs	4-6	5-7
Spigots	3-5	5-7

All internal surfaces of the ductwork should be accessible for cleaning and inspection. Access panels should be installed at 2.0 m centres and should be grease tight using a heatproof gasket or sealant.

Ductwork should not pass through fire barriers and where it is not possible to immediately discharge the captured air, fire-rated ductwork may be required.

2.4 Minimum Requirements for Fans

Fans should be selected to handle the design resistance with an additional 10% airflow and 20% pressure margin allowed to suit possible extensions to the original kitchen plan.

Backward curved centrifugal, mixed flow or axial flow impellers are preferred as they are less prone to unbalance and are more easily maintained and cleaned due to their open construction. Fixed or adjustable metal impellers with a robust and open construction shall be used.

Care shall always be taken with the location of the supply and extract fans to ensure that there is enough space for regular cleaning and maintenance. Limited space shall not restrict the selection of the correct fan.

For fans serving canopies above solid fuel-burning appliances, the motor must be out of the airstream and impellers must have metal blades.

3 Methodology

3.1 Overview

The local authority requested that an odour assessment to be carried out for the proposed development. Hence an odour assessment has been carried out using the latest guidance produced by the IAQM.

3.2 IAQM Guidance

IAQM guidance is limited to assessing the effect of odour on amenity and not on human health. For exposure to odour to occur, there must be an emission source to the atmosphere, a pathway for the odour to travel and a receptor that could experience adverse effects. Therefore, the IAQM guidance is based upon Defra's Green Leaves 111 guidance¹ which presents the Source-Pathway-Receptor (S-P-R) concept. The S-P-R concept presents the hypothetical relationship between the source (S) of the odour, the pathway (P) by which exposure might occur, and the receptor (R) that could be adversely affected.

An example framework for conducting odour assessments is laid out in Appendix A of IAQM guidance and has been followed for this assessment.

It is recognised that in order to assess the magnitude of odour effects from a site it is necessary to estimate the odour generating potential of the site activity. The source odour potential takes into account the scale of the odour release (magnitude), how inherently odorous the emission is and the relative pleasantness/unpleasantness of the odour (its hedonic tone). Using Table A1 (Appendix A) the source odour potential can be categorised as small, medium or large.

Secondly, the effectiveness of the pollutant pathway for odour through the air versus the dilution/dispersion of the odorous emissions in the atmosphere needs to be estimated. Factors which may increase dilution and/or dispersion of the odour through the pathway will reduce the odour concentration at the receptor, thereby reducing exposure. Factors which need to be considered in this step are presented in Table A1 (Appendix A). The pollutant pathway can be categorised as ineffective, moderately effective or highly effective using Table A1 (Appendix A).

From this, IAQM guidance suggest that the risk of odour exposure (impact) for each receptor may be evaluated by combining the source odour potential and the pathway effectiveness using Table A2 (Appendix A).

IAQM guidance recommend classifying each receptor in terms of its sensitivity. Indicative examples of low, medium, and high sensitivity receptors are given in Table A1 (Appendix A), and should be used in combination with professional judgement to assess the sensitivity of receptors to odour.

Justification needs to be given for the selected categorisation of the source odour potential, pathway effectiveness, and receptor sensitivity. This typically involves some degree of quantitative assessment supplemented by the professional judgement of the air quality practitioner.

The likely magnitude of odour effect at specific receptor locations may be determined by combining the risk of odour exposure with the specific receptor sensitivity, as in Table A3 (Appendix A). The likely magnitude of odour effects may be classed as 'negligible', 'slight adverse', 'moderate adverse' or 'substantial adverse'.

The final step for most assessments is to estimate the overall odour effect on the surrounding area as a result of the site, development or process. This assessment must take into account the different

¹ Defra (2011): Guidelines for Environmental Risk Assessment and Management (Green Leaves 111)

magnitude of effects at different receptors, and the total number of receptors that experience these different effects. IAQM guidance recommend the suggested descriptors for the total magnitude of odour effects, as reproduced in Table A3 (Appendix A). IAQM guidance suggest that “where the overall effect is greater than ‘slight adverse’, the effect is likely to be considered significant.”

3.3 Risk Assessment for Determining Odour Control Requirement

Odour control must be designed to prevent odour nuisance in a given situation. The following score methodology is suggested as a means of determining odour control requirements using a simple risk assessment approach. The odour control requirements considered here are consistent with the performance requirements listed in this report. The level of odour control required are proposed based on the following scores:

Table 3.1: Risk Score for Level of Odour Control Required

Impact Risk	Odour Control Requirement	Significance Score
Low to medium	Low level Odour Control	Less than 20
High	High level Odour Control	20 to 35
Very High	Very high-level Odour Control	More than 35

Table 3.2: Score for Criteria such as Dispersion, Proximity of Receptros, Size of Kitchen and Cooking Type

Criteria	Score	Score	Details
Dispersion	Very poor	20	Low level discharge, discharge into courtyard or restriction on stack.
	Poor	15	Not low level but below eaves, or discharge at below 10 m/s.
	Moderate	10	Discharging 1m above eaves at 10 -15 m/s.
	Good	5	Discharging 1m above ridge at 15 m/s.
Proximity of receptors	Close	10	Closest sensitive receptor less than 20m from kitchen discharge.
	Medium	5	Closest sensitive receptor between 20 and 100m from kitchen discharge.
	Far	1	Closest sensitive receptor more than 100m from kitchen discharge.
Size of kitchen	Large	5	More than 100 covers or large sized take away.
	Medium	3	Between 30 and 100 covers or medium sized take away.

Criteria	Score	Score	Details
	Small	1	Less than 30 covers or small take away.
Cooking type (odour and grease loading)	Very high	10	Pub (high level of fried food), fried chicken, burgers or fish & chips. Turkish, Middle Eastern or any premises cooking with solid fuel.
	High	7	Vietnamese, Thai, Indian, Japanese, Chinese, steakhouse.
	Medium	4	Cantonese, Italian, French, Pizza (gas fired),
	Low	1	Most pubs (no fried food, mainly reheating and sandwiches etc), Tea rooms.

4 Odour Impact Assessment

4.1 Overview

As discussed above, the odour impact assessment has been carried out following the IAQM guidance. Key information from the guidance is presented in Appendix A. The assessment has been divided into sub-sections to explain the outcome of each part of the assessment and how it was determined.

4.2 Receptor Sensitivity

The proposed site is located right next to a residential properties. Based on the criteria presented in Table A1 in Appendix A, these receptors are considered to have high sensitivity and is also presented in table 4.1.

4.3 Source Odour Potential

Based on Table A1 in Appendix A, it is assumed that the processes of the proposed restaurant are likely to have a small source odour potential.

4.4 Pathway Effectiveness

There are existing residential buildings around the diffusion stack of the proposed development. It is also proposed that the discharge stack will be designed to be above the roof level (minimum 1m above the ridge). The odour pathway effectiveness towards the identified receptors is considered to be 'Moderately Effective' based on Table A1 in appendix A.

4.5 Odour Exposure

The risk of odour exposure is calculated using the IAQM criteria summarised in Appendix A: Table A2. As stated above, the source odour potential was considered to be "Small" and the pathway effectiveness was considered to be 'Moderately Effective'. Based on IAQM guidance, the risk of odour exposure for the concerned receptors are considered to be 'Negligible Risk'.

4.6 Likely Magnitude Odour Effect

Table 4.1: Summary of likely odour effects at existing sensitive receptors

Receptor Details and Location	Source Odour Potential	Pathway Effectiveness	Odour Exposure	Receptor Sensitivity	Likely Odour Effect
Residential receptors	Small	Moderately Effective	Negligible Risk	High	Negligible Effect

Based on the results above and the criteria in Table A2, odour exposure is considered to be a 'Negligible Risk' for the residential receptors. Based on the IAQM guidance, the likely odour effect from the proposed development is considered to be of 'Negligible Effect'. Therefore, based on IAQM guidance, the overall impact is considered to be negligible and provided all the criteria in section 2 of this report are met for the kitchen equipment etc, no further mitigation is required.

4.7 Risk Assessment to determine Odour Control Measures

Based on the criteria in section 3 of this report, a risk assessment has been carried out to determine the level of odour control measure required and has been tabulated below.

Table 3.3 Risk Assessment for Odour Control System Requirement.

Source	Dispersion	Proximity of receptors	Size of Kitchen	Cooking Type	Total Score
Kitchen Extract	5	10	1	1	17

The resulting score from table 3.3 is classified as having a “Low to Medium” Impact Risk and therefore requires low level odour control.

5 Proposed Mitigation Measures

In regard to the previous sections of this report, it has been determined that the risk of odour is negligible. Therefore, it has been deducted that no additional mitigation measures are required other than it should be ensured that all the equipment and setup abide to the minimum requirements of the Updated Guidance of Control of Odour and Noise from Commercial Kitchen Exhaust Systems (2018) as stated in Section 2 of this report. We are therefore not proposing any odour filters, instead we propose a kitchen extract which comes with a baffle filter (see Appendix C). Kitchen Extract design will also ensure that the discharge stack is at least 1 m above the roof level of all present buildings. It is to be noted that if any of the requirements in section 2 is not met, mitigation measures might be needed.

6 Conclusions

This report provides an assessment of the potential odour impact during the development phase of the cafe.

A qualitative assessment of the odour effects has been undertaken for the proposed scheme. Based on the recommendations in section 2 and as per the results presented in section 4 of this report, the residual odour impact is considered to have a negligible effect and a risk assessment determined that low level odour control measures are required.

The proposed development is expected to abide to all the minimum requirements of a commercial kitchen as laid out by the Updated Guidance of Control of Odour and Noise from Commercial Kitchen Exhaust Systems (2018) (Section 2 of this report) following which no further mitigation has been deemed necessary.

It can, therefore, be concluded that the proposed development is not considered to conflict with any national, regional, or local planning policy in relation to operational phase odour impact on existing receptors.

Appendix A: Relevant extract from IAQM Guidance

Table A1: Examples of risk factors for odour source, pathway and receptor sensitivity based on IAQM (2018)

Source Odour Potential	Pathway Effectiveness	Receptor
Factors affecting the source odour potential include: • The magnitude of the odour release (taking into account odour-control measures) • How inherently odorous the compounds are, • The unpleasantness of the odour.	Factors affecting the odour flux to the receptor are: • Distance from source to receptor • The frequency (%) of winds from the source to receptor (or, qualitatively, the direction of receptors from source with respect to prevailing wind) • The effectiveness of any mitigation/control in reducing flux to the receptor • The effectiveness of dispersion/ dilution in reducing the odour flux to the receptor topography and terrain.	For the sensitivity of people to odour, the IAQM recommends that the air quality practitioner uses professional judgement to identify where on the spectrum between high and low sensitivity a receptor lies, taking into account the following general principles:
Large Source Odour Potential Magnitude – Larger Permitted processes of odorous nature or large STWs; materials usage hundreds of thousands of tonnes/m³ per year; area sources of thousands of m². The compounds involved are very odorous (e.g. mercaptans), having very low Odour Detection Thresholds (ODTs) where known. • Unpleasantness – processes classed as “Most offensive” in Table 5; or (where known) compounds/odours having unpleasant (-2) to very unpleasant (-4) hedonic score. • Mitigation/control – open air operation with no containment, reliance solely on good management techniques and best practice.	Highly Effective Pathway for Odour Flux to Receptor • Distance – receptor is adjacent to the source/site; distance well below any official set-back distances. • Direction – high frequency (%) of winds from source to receptor (or, qualitatively, receptors downwind of source with respect to prevailing wind). • Effectiveness of dispersion/dilution – open processes with low-level releases, e.g. lagoons, uncovered effluent treatment plant, landfilling of putrescible wastes.	High Sensitivity Receptor - Surrounding land where: • Users can reasonably expect enjoyment of a high level of amenity; and • The people would reasonably be expected to be present here continuously, or at least regularly for extended periods, as part of the normal pattern of use of the land. Examples may include residential dwellings, hospitals, schools/education and tourist/cultural.

Source Odour Potential	Pathway Effectiveness	Receptor
Medium Source Odour Potential • Magnitude – smaller Permitted processes or small Sewage Treatment Works (STWs); materials usage thou- sands of tonnes/m³ per year; area sources of hundreds of m². • The compounds involved are moderately odorous. • Unpleasantness – processes classed in H4 as “Moderately offensive”; or (where known) odours having neutral (0) to unpleasant (-2) hedonic score. Mitigation/control – some mitigation measures in place, but significant residual odour remains.	Moderately Effective Pathway for Odour Flux to Receptor • Distance – receptor is local to the source. Where mitigation relies on dispersion/dilution – releases are elevated, but compromised by building effects.	Medium Sensitivity Receptor– Surrounding land where: • Users would expect to enjoy a reasonable level of amenity, but wouldn't reasonably expect to enjoy the same level of amenity as in their home; or • People wouldn't reasonably be expected to be present here continuously or regularly for extended periods as part of the normal pattern of use of the land. Examples may include places of work, commercial/retail premises and
Small Source Odour Potential • Magnitude – falls below Part B threshold; materials usage hundreds of tonnes/m³ per year; area sources of tens m². • The compounds involved are only mildly odorous, having relatively high ODTs where known. • Unpleasantness – processes classed as “Less offensive” in H4; or (where known) compounds/odours having neutral (0) to very pleasant (+4) hedonic score. • Mitigation/control – effective, tangible mitigation measures in place (e.g. BAT, BPM) leading to little or no residual odour.	Ineffective Pathway for Odour Flux to Receptor • Distance – receptor is remote from the source; distance exceeds any official set-back distances. • Direction – low frequency (%) of winds from source to receptor (or, qualitatively, receptors upwind of source with respect to prevailing wind). • Where mitigation relies on dispersion/ dilution – releases are from high level (e.g. stacks, or roof vents >3m above ridge height) and are not compromised by surrounding buildings.	Low Sensitivity Receptor– surrounding land where: • The enjoyment of amenity would not reasonably be expected; or • There is transient exposure, where the people would reasonably be expected to be present only for limited periods of time as part of the normal pattern of use of the land. Examples may include industrial, farms, footpaths and roads.

Table A2: Risk of odour exposure (impact) at the specific receptor location based on IAQM (2018)

		Source Odour Potential		
		Small	Medium	Large
Pathway Effectiveness	Highly Effective Pathway	Low Risk	Medium Risk	High Risk
	Moderately Effective Pathway	Negligible Risk	Low Risk	Medium Risk
	Ineffective Pathway	Negligible Risk	Negligible Risk	Low Risk

Table A3: Likely magnitude of odour effect at the specific receptor location based on IAQM (2018)

Risk of Odour Exposure	Receptor Sensitivity		
	Low	Medium	High
High Risk of Odour Exposure	Slight Adverse Effect	Moderate Adverse Effect	Substantial Adverse Effect
Medium Risk of Odour Exposure	Negligible Effect	Slight Adverse Effect	Moderate Adverse Effect
Low Risk of Odour Exposure	Negligible Effect	Negligible Effect	Slight Adverse Effect
Negligible Risk of Odour Exposure	Negligible Effect	Negligible Effect	Negligible Effect

Appendix B: Drawings

[Please see planning portal for the most up to date drawings]