

# Sounding Brighton, 18-19 June 2012

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## The Government's Policy on Noise



# Noise Policy Statement for England, March 2010

"The effective management of noise requires a co-ordinated and long term approach that encompasses many aspects of modern society"

www.defra.gov.uk Noise Policy Statement for England (NPSE) larch 2010

# Vision of the Noise Policy Statement



 Promote good health and a good quality of life through the effective management of noise within the context of Government policy on sustainable development.

# First Aim of the Noise Policy Statement



 Avoid significant adverse impacts on health and quality of life from environmental, neighbour and neighbourhood noise within the context of Government policy on sustainable development.

## Second Aim of the Noise Policy Statement



 Mitigate and minimise adverse impacts on health and quality of life from environmental, neighbour and neighbourhood noise within the context of Government policy on sustainable development.

# Third Aim of the Noise Policy Statement



 Where possible, contribute to the improvement of health and quality of life through the effective management and control of environmental, neighbour and neighbourhood noise within the context of Government policy on sustainable development.

#### **Quiet Areas**



- One of the END requirements for action plans is Such plans shall also aim to protect quiet areas against an increase in noise
- Led to an increased interest in protecting quietness
- Related concepts of
  - Tranquillity
  - Quality of acoustic environment
  - Soundscape



#### **Quiet Areas**



HM Government

 Further policy development in England in the Natural Environment White Paper

The Government will work with local authorities to establish mechanisms for formally identifying and protecting urban Quiet Areas, so that people living in cities can benefit from access to areas of relative quiet for relaxation and contemplation

securing the value of nature

The Natural Choice:



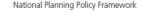
Extends the geographical scope to ALL urban areas

#### **Quiet Areas**



- And in the recently published National Planning Policy Framework:
- Planning policies and decisions should aim to

identify and protect areas of tranquillity which have remained relatively undisturbed by noise and are prized for their recreational and amenity value for this reason





### Two final questions



- How can concepts from soundscape research help to deliver policies related to quietness and tranquillity?
- How can concepts from soundscape research help to deliver wider policy objectives, such as the promotion of good health and a good quality of life / well-being?

## Thank you



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