

Regulatory and natural Resources Policy Division 6th Floor Goodwood House 44-58 May Street Belfast BT1 4NN

Telephone: 028 90 254834

Email: amy.holmes@doeni.gov.uk

Date: 21 September 2015

Dear Sir/Madam

Consultation on Guidance on the Identification and Designation of Quiet Areas

I am writing to advise you that the Department has issued a consultation on the draft Guidance on the Identification and Designation of Quiet Areas.

A consultation document containing copies of the draft Guidance is enclosed. Additional copies are available at

http://www.doeni.gov.uk/index/protect_the_environment/local_environmental_issues /noise/environmental_noise_directive-2.htm

The Guidance sets out the staged approach that the Department followed when identifying Candidate Quiet Areas. The identification of such areas is a legal requirement of the Environmental Noise Directive (Directive 2002/49/EC) and the Environmental Noise Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006.

Please note that it is only the Department, district councils and competent authorities designated pursuant to the Environmental Noise Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006 that have obligations under or are required to have regard to the Guidance.

Any comments on the draft Guidance should be sent to the postal or email address above by **16 November 2015.**

Yours faithfully

Amy Holmes

Air and Environmental Quality Unit Regulatory and Natural Resources Policy Division Department of the Environment