

## **Summary of the requirements to show compliance with Approved Document E of Building Regulations & our services**

Building Regulations 2000 - Resistance to the passage of sound – Approved Document E 2003 Edition

To show compliance with these regulations one full SET of tests should be carried out per ten dwellings of a subgroup. A subgroup is comprised of units with similar construction and flanking details, and should be defined by your building control authority.

Typically one full SET of pre-completion tests in dwellings with separating walls would comprise of the following two tests:

- i) An airborne test on the separating wall between living areas
- ii) An airborne test on the separating wall between bedrooms

Typically one full SET of pre-completion tests in dwellings with separating floors would comprise of the following four tests :

- i) An airborne test on the separating floor between living areas
- ii) An impact test on the separating floor between living areas
- iii) An airborne test on the separating floor between bedrooms
- iv) An impact test on the separating floor between bedrooms

Where there are separating walls and floors all of the above six tests are typically required per 10 dwellings in a subgroup.

The number of tests that you may require is dependent on the number of plots, the number of subgroups, the plan layouts and the policy of your Building Control Authority. Given a good understanding of your site particulars The Building Test Centre can provide advice on the number of tests required, however please consult Building Control with regard to the proposed test program. If you would like us to liaise directly with your Building Control regarding testing requirements and test results, please indicate your permission on the quote acceptance form. Within reason, this service is provided free of charge however we withhold the right to charge according to our current consultancy rate for unforeseen complications.

The test report will be issued in PDF format by email. Ideally we would expect to issue this report within 15 working days, however you will be informed where a sharp increase in demand unduly delays the report. A verbal indication of the result can be given immediately on site to within 1 dB. The results will be downloaded and verified on site only on the occasion of the result being close to the PASS/FAIL criteria so you have a confirmed PASS/FAIL before we leave site.

If draft results are required before 2 working days following testing there will be a charge to cover the additional time required.

Where confirmation of the results is required before the official report is due to be issued, we are able to produce a printed draft copy of the results with associated covering letter summarising ADE pass/Fail results. These results will be marked as draft for document control reasons as they will not have gone through our checking process. However they should be sufficient for Building Control to sign off on plots

as by this stage the results will have been passed through verified software and checked by the tester and are unlikely to alter. This service must be requested in advance to ensure that the printer is available.

Details of our current consultancy rate should also have been included in this quote. Please be advised that this rate will be charged on hourly basis for unreasonable delays on site & basic on site investigations into failed tests.

In the unfortunate event that the test fails to meet your criteria, please be aware that while we would like to help you reach a successful conclusion, any opinions or advice expressed by our staff will be based on experience of previous remedial treatments that have worked in similar situations. However as you will understand each situation is unique and therefore we are not able to guarantee that the same solution will work in your case. You as the customer must decide on the course of action you want to carry out. The information provided by the customer regarding construction details must be correct & complete with regard to all flanking paths and junction details. We strongly recommend that you seek second opinions from your architects, specifiers and manufacturers before making your decision on the type of remedial treatment you want to carry out. We cannot accept liability for remedial treatment failing to raise the test result above the pass criteria, especially where the failure is due to another factor that was previously being masked.

Please be aware that the Building Test Centre is owned by British Gypsum Limited and that consultancy is not covered under the scope of UKAS accreditation

#### Additional Notes

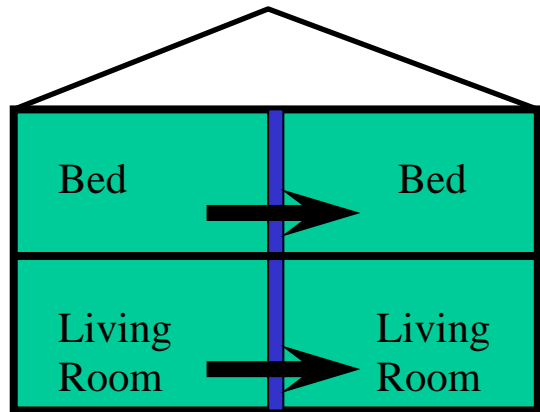
Please see our Method Statement, Terms & Conditions and Pre-Acoustic Testing Site Checklist included with this quote.

**OUR NORMAL WORKING DAY IS COMPRISED OF 8 HOURS AND INCLUDES TIME REQUIRED TO TRAVEL TO & FROM SITE. WE NORMALLY ESTIMATE ABOUT ONE HOUR IS REQUIRED PER TEST**

Where reasonable we will try to accommodate the required number of tests in the least number of days possible, however working beyond 8 hours is solely at the discretion of the members of BTC staff. Please note that we do not carry out site testing on Saturdays, Sundays or Public Holidays

Rooms selected for testing should be complete with doors hung etc; however carpets should not be laid for impact testing. Background noise should be kept to a minimum and we will need access to both sides of the separating element in order to conduct the tests. 240v power will also be required in order to operate our equipment

- Dwelling House
- 1 SET of tests per 10 plots
  - Bedroom to bedroom
  - Living room to living room
- Access required to both houses
- Potential number of tests = 2



- Flats
- 1 SET of tests per 10 plots
- Wall
  - Bedroom to bedroom (air)
  - Living room to living room (air)
- Floor
  - Bedroom to bedroom (air + impact)
  - Living room to living room (air + impact)
- Access required to at least 3 flats
- Potential number of tests = 6

