

## Annual Newsletter 2024

Port Noise Liaison Committee (PNLC)

### Chairperson Catherine Taylor Wraps Up the Year

Having attended three meetings this year – two as the newly appointed Chairperson – I am pleased we are starting to make progress to address long-standing queries and issues relating to the oversight and management of noise at the port. I am still on a steep learning curve, but my experience as Independent Chairperson of the Nelson Airport Noise and Environment Advisory Committee is providing useful background.



Nelson City Council attended our November meeting, advising the committee that it was working with the port to assess and improve aspects of both the monitoring system design and the port's reporting of noise monitoring as required under the Nelson Resource Management Plan. A part of this agreement has already been reached between the Council's and port's acoustic engineers on the placement of a second noise monitor. It is intended that the new monitoring will also provide an evidence base to both understand any issues relating to port noise, and what options there may be to address any such identified issues. In addition to this Tonkin+Taylor has been commissioned by Port Nelson Limited to undertake an audit of noise levels at 70 Queens Road to check the accuracy of the assumptions underpinning the LMax 89Dba assumption.

It is my wish as Independent Chairperson that Port Nelson Limited and the residents representatives can work through these issues together. Through a consultative process, I hope we develop a common understanding of the management and monitoring of noise issues at the port.

I have been ably supported by the Port Nelson team and engaged with the residents representatives – Robin Whalley, Tony Vining, Ian Wright and David Hogg (substitute for one meeting)- to understand more clearly their concerns. I thank them for their patience in bringing me up-to-speed.

I also note the time and commitment of the former chair, Bob Dickinson, and wish him well in his retirement.

Port Nelson will have a new team next year, given Colin Devenish's move to Australia and Matt McDonald's appointment as Chief Executive.

I look forward to 2025 and working with Port Nelson Limited, resident's representative and Nelson City Council to progress outstanding matters.

I would like to wish residents and port staff a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Catherine Taylor

### Online Form for Newsletter Subscription

This annual newsletter is now digitised and published on Port Nelson's website. If you would like to receive this newsletter and other updates in the future, you can sign up by subscribing to our PNLC email list with the online form on Port Nelson's website, [www.portnelson.co.nz/community/living-near-the-port/port-noise-liaison-committee](http://www.portnelson.co.nz/community/living-near-the-port/port-noise-liaison-committee).



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## Port Nelson Noise Liaison Committee

The PNLC is comprised of seven members: three elected Port Hills Residents, three Port Nelson (PNL) appointed, and an Independent Chairperson). The PNLC meets four times per year and its role is to oversee the implementation of the Port Nelson Noise Mitigation Plan and to ensure that Port Nelson is aware of the noise concerns of its neighbours and is taking steps to minimise and mitigate future Port noise.

Four meetings were held in February, May, August, and November this year. The full minutes from all meetings can be found on the Port Nelson website and a summary of the meeting minutes is on page four.

If you would like to know more about the role of the PNLC or if you would like to discuss port noise; you can contact any of the community representative.

**Ian Wright** – Email: [ian.pnnlc@gmail.com](mailto:ian.pnnlc@gmail.com) Ph 021 997 885

**Robin Whalley** – Email: [robin@stepneyville.ch](mailto:robin@stepneyville.ch) Ph 027 747 7298

**Tony Vining** – Email: [tony.vining5@gmail.com](mailto:tony.vining5@gmail.com) Ph 021 463 739

The committee encourages all locals to register their noise concerns via the complaints system located on the Port Nelson website at <https://www.portnelson.co.nz/community/living-near-the-port/>. If you would like your contact details shared with the residents representatives, please mark the corresponding tick-box.

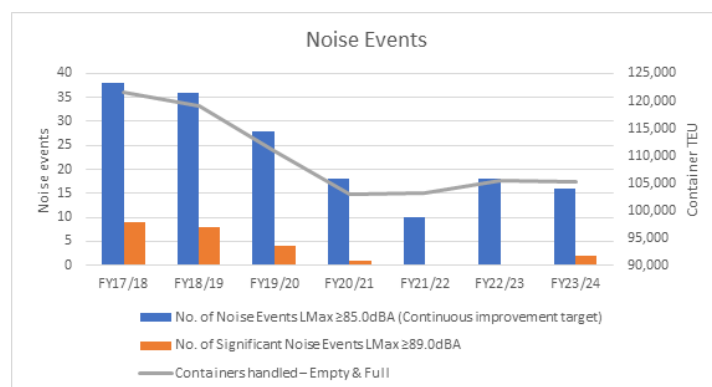
Residents Reps would like to thank all those people who have participated with us this year, either directly or via the Port Nelson noise complaints system.

We also wish everyone in the neighbourhood a great festive season.

## Noise Statistics (Jul 23 - Jun 24)

Metric	FY23	FY24
Total number of complaints	194	79
Total number of Port Related Complaints	169	59
Total number of complainants	90	48
Complaints from within Port Effects Overlay	64	40
Container throughput (TEU's)	105K	105K
Vessel Visits (>100GRT)	747	715
Container Operations Complaints	29	16
Log Operations Complaints	0	1
Vessel Generator Complaints	140	44
Ship's horn complaints	1	15
Vehicle horn complaints	1	0
Complaints defined as "Source Can't Be Identified"	16	15
Non-Port Related complaints	9	5
Total Port Related Significant Noise Events* (≥89dBA at the Monitor) – Target: 0	0	2
Continuous Noise Improvement Target, i.e. Noise Events ≥85dBA – Target: 8	18	20

From the data recorded throughout the last seven years, there is a clear trend that shows a declining number of noise events recorded. There were two significant noise events recorded in January and June 2024, which were caused by a forklift moving a metal frame and a container handler engaging a container.



\*Significant Noise Event: any port noise exceeded 85dBA LMax at the 65dBA Ldn contour line on the Port Noise Contour Map between 2200hrs and 0700hrs (Nelson Resource Management Plan Ap29.A.2.i c1), equivalent to 89dBA at the noise monitor as it accounts for the distance from the noise monitor to the 65dBA Ldn contour line as it approaches the residential zone. This has been modelled and verified by three different Acoustic Engineers and accepted by NCC.





## 2024 Highlights

### New Chairperson of Port Noise Liaison Committee

Catherine Taylor was approached by Port Nelson Limited to be an independent Chairperson of the Port Nelson Liaison Committee following the retirement of Bob Dickinson earlier this year. Catherine has extensive governance experience across a wide range of sectors including central government, local government, not-for-profit and commercial activities. Catherine has also been the Independent Chair of the Nelson Airport Noise and Environment Advisory Committee for more than ten years.

### New Hybrid Crane minimises noise impact

Port Nelson celebrated the arrival of New Zealand's first electric dual-drive mobile harbour crane. The new crane will contribute significantly to the Port's sustainability strategy to reduce carbon emissions and add resilience to its cargo handling operations.

The crane, which can seamlessly switch to diesel, when necessary, will perform comparably to traditional diesel-driven cranes but with substantial benefits in efficiency, emissions, and noise reduction. Alongside this new addition, Port Nelson is retrofitting one of its existing diesel cranes with an electric motor which will also help reduce potential noise events. The crane is expected to operate in electric mode for up to 85% of the time; this will result in significant emissions reductions and a quieter port environment, as electric operations are substantially quieter than diesel.

The crane's diesel engine room is also equipped with complete acoustic treatment when diesel power is required, further minimising noise impact.

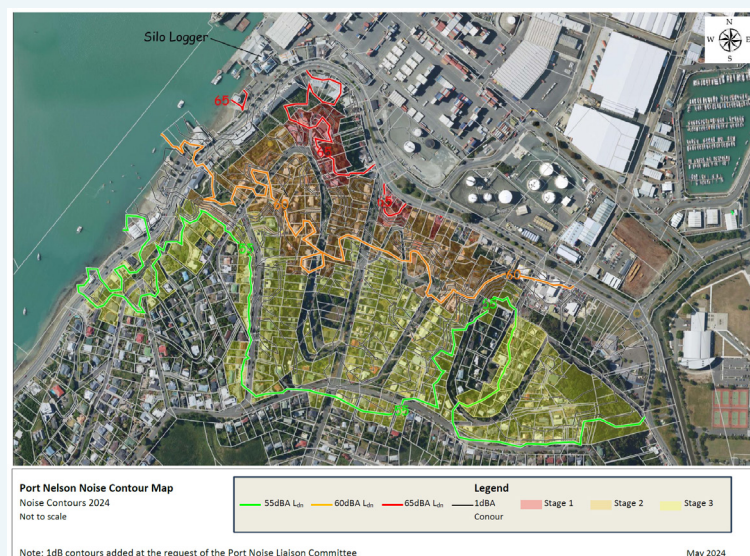


### Port Noise Contour Map

Port Noise Contour Map was reviewed and now adapted by Nelson City Council. The 2024 Contour Map is now available on Port Nelson's website. As there are no major changes in Port operations, the impacted properties identified are same as the previous version. As recommended by the Port Noise Liaison Committee, the 1dB contours are added to the latest Port Noise Contour Map.

The Port continues to provide financial support for acoustic treatments, in accordance with the Port Nelson Noise Mitigation Plan, for impacted properties identified within the Nelson City Council Port Nelson Noise Contour Map. For FY24, i.e. July 2023 to June 2024, there are six properties that have applied for the subsidy, and five have been assessed by the Acoustic Consultant.

To check whether your property is eligible to Port Nelson's subsidy on the acoustic treatments, you may check with the latest Noise Contour Map on Port Nelson's website: [www.portnelson.co.nz/community/living-near-the-port/](http://www.portnelson.co.nz/community/living-near-the-port/). You may also fill in the online form and select "Noise Mitigation Package" for your enquiry.





# Annual Summary of Meeting Minutes

## 6 December 2023

- Discussion with Hegley Acoustic regarding the correction factor on significant noise event and the existing noise monitoring location on top of the silo.
- Residents Representatives motioned PNL to consider installing the second noise monitor at 70 Queens Road for a 12-month trial period.
- NCC advised that they were working with their consultant, Styles Group, for the second noise monitoring location, which should be on the Eastern side of the Port.
- PNL reported that piling works were undertaken for the Slipway redevelopment project, which only occurred within the daytime hours until the end of February.
- PNL advised that the Draft Master Plan had been approved by the board and planned to be shared with the stakeholders.

## 13 February 2024

- Chairperson advised his wishes to step down from the position. PNL would come up with a new independent chairperson.
- PNL responded to the motion of trial monitoring at 70 Queens Road in writing prior to the meeting.
- PNL provided an overview of the approved Draft Master Plan, including the possible initiatives to be undertaken in the short, medium and long term.
- PNL advised there was one significant noise event recorded in January 2024, which was caused by a forklift moving a large metal frame. No related noise complaints were received.
- PNL advised that the Port Noise Contour was under Hegley Acoustic's review.
- PNL advised the process of the new crane procurement, which would be a diesel/electricity hybrid.

## 15 May 2024

- Discussion on the utilisation of the soft touch technology by the crane operators. PNL advised that it varied due to different situations.
- Residents Representatives forwarded an enquiry of a property owner regarding the zoning of the Port Noise Contour. PNL would investigate with the Acoustic Consultant.
- Discussion on noise complaints without triggering the recording threshold of the noise monitor. PNL advised that the noise monitoring location was agreed and adopted by NCC with the modelling prepared by Hegley Acoustic. CCTV footage is part of the investigation on noise events.
- PNL provided an update on the Slipway project and advised that tubular piles installation would be completed and moved onto sheet piling works which would be less noisy.

## 7 August 2024

- PNL provided an update regarding the Port Noise Contour zoning enquiry from the property owner.
- Resident representatives requested an audit of the Port's noise monitoring system. Chairperson suggested PNL engaging an independent consultant for the audit.
- PNL reported that there was a significant noise event recorded on 29 June 2024 caused by a container handler engaging a container. A meeting had been arranged with the Stevedoring Team for more information and preventive actions. No related noise complaints were received.
- PNL provided an update on the second noise monitor and waiting for an agreed location by NCC.
- PNL advised that there is no longer the opportunity to collaborate between ports across the country. PNL would continue to implement the NEPTUNE System and have 'noisy' vessels tested.

## 13 November 2024

- PNL advised that Tonkin+Taylor had been engaged for auditing the Port's noise monitoring system and waiting for the suitable conditions for the audit.
- NCC confirmed that they had been working alongside PNL for the second noise monitoring location, which aimed to provide additional information for reviewing Port Noise Management in the Nelson Resource Management Plan.
- PNLC discussed the noise complaints with PNL's investigations and findings.
- PNL provided an update on the new hybrid crane, Crane 5.

