## TEHNICAL FACTSHEET

# New Regulations on Noise From and Working Hours of Construction Sites

The Prince's Government wishes to remind Monegasque nationals and residents of the Principality that it is fully aware of the deficiencies of certain construction sites in terms of working hours and noise nuisance. It is remedying these issues.

The State's main aim, in agreement with professionals from the construction industry, is to give new impetus to the implementation of the Principality's major projects.

The way in which private and public construction sites are organised must be given a new meaning by reassessing, improving and regulating their conditions, which have an impact on quality of life.

It is also essential to offer construction professionals a genuine shared approach to the work. The projects they undertaking meet specific needs and are vital for the Principality, its economic dynamism and its future.

Quality of life is also an important factor in Monaco's attractiveness. Improving this quality of life through the publication of these two Decrees is a first step. The Government and its Departments will remain vigilant to ensure that their application, as from January 2019, is fully respected by all.

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Two Ministerial Decrees on noise from and working hours of construction sites were published in the *Journal de Monaco* today, Friday 7 December 2018. They aim to optimise the quality of life in the Principality.

These changes to the texts in force are in response to the high expectations of the resident population and construction professionals. Representatives of the Council of the Order of Architects, the Monaco Real Estate Developers' Union and the Construction Sector Employers' Chamber were consulted prior to the planned reform. They also intervened twice during the finalisation of the new regulations.

### Noise from construction sites

The first Ministerial Decree concerns noise from construction sites. The aim is to reduce it, by using techniques and equipment that generate less noise or make it possible to contain it effectively.

Short-term projects are required:

- to use the best available equipment, techniques and materials, with regard to the acoustic parameter;
- to implement the most appropriate and effective noise reduction measures;
- 4 to communicate with the neighbourhood.

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For longer-term projects, the contracting party must also provide for:

- 4 a preliminary study of site noise, undertaken by an acoustician;
- 4 a plan to prevent and reduce site noise, including a communications plan for local residents.

The preliminary study is a noise assessment tool that is undertaken before the start of operations. It is essential - it makes it possible to set a noise exposure level that is acceptable to the neighbourhood while remaining consistent with site requirements.

The contracting party must also identify the most efficient techniques, equipment and materials available with regard to the acoustic parameter, as well as the noise reduction measures selected.

A major step forward in combating noise nuisance is the obligation to put tools in place to measure the noise level of the site, which are, for the State, a means of monitoring this noise.

Improved communication with local residents is an important part of the new Decree; this applies to any construction site, regardless of its nature or duration.

### **Working Hours of Construction Sites**

From now on, no work must be carried out on any construction site on Saturdays.

During the week, work is authorised from 7.30 a.m. to 7.30 p.m., subject to the implementation of noise and nuisance mitigation measures.

In August, only low-noise interior work will be authorised.

The draft Decree will enter into force at the beginning of 2019 but provides for the continuation of the current regime for certain ongoing construction projects, for which the tenor of the contracts, particularly financing contracts, will be maintained, or in cases when the construction requirements do not allow the new measures to be applied without the risk of jeopardising the successful completion of the operation.

Of approximately 50 authorised construction sites, 19 could qualify for an exemption. Of these 19 projects, five will be completed in 2019.

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