

Smaller Consultancies: The Patrick Shortt Award



★ **Winner:** Peninsular Acoustics, Watery Lane

This project uses the latest research to improve coordination with other disciplines to the benefit of reducing complexity, reducing cost and reducing embodied and operational carbon. A window open at different extents provides varying air flow performance.

The amount the window is open can be a significant factor on whether a dwelling overheats or not. Acoustic consultants have commonly assumed 10-15dB for a 'partially open window'. However, how open is a partially open window and what is the air flow performance?

By utilising this new method of estimating open window sound insulation and using it to align acoustic and thermal models, additional mechanical ventilation was avoided in 25% of flats that would otherwise have had it specified. This is a significant saving in cost, embodied carbon and operational carbon for the development.

Client Design Manager: "We could have faced considerable cost due to the noise exposure and need to mitigate overheating, but their approach to using innovative research such as their alignment of acoustic and thermal modelling for open windows has meant we have a design that can mitigate overheating without introducing any additional cost to the development."

ACOUSTIC AWARDS 2024

These awards demonstrate the unique skills of UK based acoustic consultants in addressing challenges, championing innovation and originality and showcasing the significance of a profession which blends art and science to transformational effect.