

Planning Statement

Installation of a modular self-service launderette facility.

for ME Group International plc

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I. INTRODUCTION

- I.1 Plande has been appointed by ME Group International plc to submit a supporting statement for the installation of a modular self-service launderette facility.
- I.2 This statement should be read in conjunction with the supporting information submitted with the planning application. This statement has been prepared for the exclusive use of the applicant as part of their planning application and in accordance with the agreed scope of the project. The document may not be reproduced in whole or in part, without the prior written consent of Plande. The copyright in this document (including its electronic form) shall remain vested in Plande. Plande will not be liable for the contents or use of this document by any person for any purpose. The content herein, including but not limited to any assessments and conclusions, represents the author's opinions, not factual assertions, except where explicitly stated and independently verified.

2. MODULAR LAUNDERETTE FACILITY

- 2.1 ME Group International plc is instrumental in the development of the modular launderette concept, with over 1000 units located across the UK and Europe.
- 2.2 The 100% self-service launderette comprises three machines for the washing and drying of clothing textiles, with two washing machines and a single drying machine within a single 3.15m wide by 2.3m deep by 2.21m high unit. The launderettes are illuminated to assist with the operation. The illumination within the shelter theoretically emits 2640 lumen in the direction of the machines.
- 2.3 The launderette complies with CE Standards and policies N2012-412 and is both wind and water-resistant. The units are securely fixed to the ground with a protective cover to the sides and roof for users.
- 2.4 Disabled access was a priority in developing the designs for the units, with the machines and touchpads at the required height.
- 2.5 The launderettes units are designed to be economical and eco-friendly, with reduced power consumption (compared to a classical washing machine) and eco-friendly washing liquid.
- 2.6 The launderettes provide a valuable amenity to local people as well as providing diversification revenue for existing businesses, helping the existing business to remain viable.
- 2.7 Accompanying the application is a brochure that provides both general and technical information, including a Noise Certificate and details set out within the Installation Manual. An extract from the manual, reproduced below, sets out the relevant dB(A) sound level ratings.

Installation manual

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3.2 Technical data

		WH6-7	WH6-8	WH6-11	WH6-14	WH6-20	WH6-27	WH6-33
Weight, net	kg	145	158	202	263	354	425	560
Drum volume	litres	65	75	105	130	180	240	300
Drum diameter	mm	520	520	595	650	725	795	795
Drum speed during wash	rpm	49	49	46	44	42	40	40
Drum speed during extraction	rpm	1245	1245	1165	1113	1054	1007	1007
G-factor, max.		450	450	450	450	450	450	450
Heating: Electricity	kW	3.0	3.0	5.2	13	18	23	23
	kW	5.2	5.2	7.5				
	kW	5.4	5.4	10				
	kW	7.5	7.5					
Heating: Steam		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Heating: Hot water		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Frequency of the dynamic force	Hz	20.8	20.8	19.4	18.6	17.6	16.8	15.8
Floor load at max extraction	kN	1.8 ± 0.5	1.9 ± 0.5	2.5 ± 0.5	3.1 ± 0.5	4.2 ± 1.0	5.2 ± 1.0	6.2 ± 1.3
Sound power/pressure level at extraction*	dB(A)	73/58	73/59	76/62	78/62	84/68	83/68	82/66
Sound power/pressure level at wash*	dB(A)	57/43	61/47	61/46	63/48	66/50	64/48	66/50

* Sound power levels measured according to ISO 60704.

Figure I: Extract from the Installation Manual.

3. USE AND AMOUNT

- 3.1 The planning application is for the provision of a modular self-service launderette facility within the existing curtilage of the business.

4. LAYOUT, SCALE AND MASSING & APPEARANCE

- 4.1 The proposed siting of the unit is intended to facilitate safe and appropriate access to the launderette and is considered in relation to the surrounding context and specific site constraints and existing servicing, including mains water and drainage connections.
- 4.2 The units have been designed to have an elegant and contemporary appearance, using silver-grey coloured metal and glazed panels, to be in keeping with modern retail.
- 4.3 No amendments to the existing landscaping or boundary treatments are proposed as part of the application, unless shown on the accompanying drawings.

5. ACCESS

- 5.1 The proposed works make no alterations to the existing access, either from the main road or into the site. It is proposed that the nature of the launderette unit and the existing use means that there will be no material increase in vehicle or pedestrian movements into and out of the site, especially when compared to the potential maximum potential for the existing use.
- 5.2 The servicing provision and requirements remain as existing. The launderette unit is designed to be maintenance-free and is served by a network of over 150 local engineers who aim to attend to any breakdowns within 24 hours. Scheduled monthly visits (or as often as required) are undertaken by Engineers, including removing lint and debris from the filter and around the unit which is disposed of by the companies waste management system.