

From: Mike Richardson <[REDACTED]>

Sent: 03 August 2022 10:19

To: harrywatkins [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: SRU139058 - Temporary Event Notice for The Old White Horse, Ockendon Road, Upminster

Dear Mr Watkins

I refer to the application for a TEN to hold a DJ event at The Old White Horse on 10 September 2022 between 12.00-23.00 hours. I am responding on behalf of the Council's Public Protection Unit, regarding the prevention of public nuisance.

I have significant concerns that the event will cause a public nuisance due to the music being played in the beer garden of the venue, and the impact that it will have on the nearest noise sensitive premises, with potentially 11 hours of music being played. Last year, a number of complaints were received regarding events held outside the venue, and whilst no nuisance was witnessed at the time, it would appear that these events did cause some disturbance to the local residents.

Within the application (which I appreciate is not required for a TEN) there is no information concerning a noise management plan or other such measures to control the public nuisance from the event, apart from stating that the "sound level will be kept at a consistent volume and will take into consideration the local area and inhabitants".

The closest noise sensitive properties are between 30-50m from the centre of the beer garden at the rear of the pub, so assuming that the noise levels are 95dB at 10m from the speaker at the venue (which one would consider reasonably consider to be required for a good audience experience), I have calculated that it would provide a noise level of between 80- 5dB at the closest noise sensitive premises. This is not a reasonable noise level for the residents to endure for the 11 hours of the event (although I appreciate that you indicate that the first and last hours would be for set-up/take down, but it is still a high noise level for the residents to endure for the day).

If the target level of 65dBA at the nearest noise sensitive premises is applied (from the Noise Council's Code of Practice on Environmental Noise Control at Concerts 1995), it would provide a noise level within the beer garden of about 75 dbA, which would not provide a good experience for the customers for a dance music event.

It should be noted that this calculation does not take into account the dominance of any bass frequencies, which would be more noticeable over longer distances and would cause a more significant issue at properties further away.

This predicted noise level is considerably above that suggested in the Noise Council's Code of Practice on Environmental Noise Control at Concerts 1995, which recommends that for 1-3 events in urban and rural sites, the Music Noise Level (MNL) is no higher than 65dBA, measured over 15 minutes at the façade of the noise sensitive premises. Whilst this guidance has been withdrawn as official guidance, no updated guidance has been produced, and therefore is often used in the absence of any other standards.

As such, I am not convinced that the music from the event will not cause a public nuisance to the nearby residential properties. Due to the nature of the event, it is unlikely that there will be periods of quiet, so residents will be subject to high noise levels for between 9-11 hours during the day into the evening.

Without a suitable noise management plan in place, I am unable to support the event, and therefore recommend the TEN is refused, due to it causing a public nuisance.

If you would like to discuss the matter further, or have any further comments to make, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards

Mike Richardson

Senior Public Protection Officer, Environmental Health

Town Hall Main Road, Romford RM1 3BB

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