

Jennifer Rowney Senior Licensing Officer Regulatory Services and Health Cheshire East Council Working for a brighter future; together

Public Health Westfields Middlewich Road Sandbach CW11 1HZ

DATE: 16/08/2022

Dear Jennifer,

Review of Premises Licence held by Cholmondeley Estate

Further to your email of 8th August regarding a review of the premises licence at Cholmondeley Estate, I am writing as one of the Responsible Authorities for licensing in Cheshire East.

My comments relate to the licensing objective 'the prevention of public nuisance' although it could be argued that some complainants were of the view that the loud music was causing harm to their children through lack of sleep and impact on their education when they returned to school after the weekend.

It is well established under licensing conditions that to prevent public nuisance, amplified music, whether played by a DJ, juke box system or by live performers must be controlled. The control measures put in place should ensure that the music is "not intrusively loud" at the boundary of the premises, i.e. a person outside the premises should not be disturbed by the entertainment occurring inside the premises.

It is evident from the large number of complaints and the nature of those complaints that this event and the loud music emanating from it caused significant public nuisance over an extended period of time (four days) and over a wide geographical area. Many complainants (including estate tenants) were very angry at the intrusion and impact of the noise on both themselves, family members, pets and livestock. A few people moved out of their homes to a hotel or relatives because they found the noise so intolerable. Some business owners also complained, concerned about the impact on their business with, for example, people leaving campsites early. The nature of the complaints indicates that high levels of stress and mental anguish were caused to individuals aggravated by lack of sleep. Significant nuisance was caused to these complainants over the course of the four days.

Although there were efforts made to control the sound levels and some complainants received visits over the weekend, these arrangements were inadequate and failed to address the complaints of the majority until the fourth night (the Sunday) when the event was ended at midnight.

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On the basis of the evidence provided by the complainants I would therefore support the proposal that future licenceable activity is only permitted until midnight and that a contact telephone line / email address be made available for any events with more than 499 attendees, to allow complaints to be logged and resolved.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Matt Tyrer Director of Public Health