

## APPENDIX C

**From:** [Licensing Shared Email](#)  
**To:** [Robson, Debra](#)  
**Cc:** [Stone, Derek](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Ref:23/02417/LAREVI Review Premises 69 Castle Road  
**Date:** 19 July 2023 09:54:21

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**From:** David O'Reilly [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 19, 2023 9:45 AM  
**To:** Licensing Shared Email [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Ref:23/02417/LAREVI Review Premises 69 Castle Road

Hi, I sent in a mail earlier which was the first draft. This is what I should have sent for representation.

Apologies.

Regards

David O'Reilly

The past few owners of 69 Castle Road have constantly caused issues with licensing and planning violations. They have attracted similar anti social clientele who have no respect for the neighbours and the residents have really felt they have been left to deal with the ongoing issues. Over the past several years numerous noise complaints have gone in, after hours licensing complaints have gone in. We have had to deal with the police being called, police requesting CCTV footage. We have had to navigate through large drunken groups of people to get to our front door and are often abused. Whilst this has been horrendous for the immediate neighbours it has also affected many neighbours up and down the street.

The owners have never understood, cared or even, it seems, read their licencing and planning restrictions which has had a very detrimental effect on the people in the street and especially those opposite and adjoining. Strict planning restrictions on noise and opening hours are in place as this situation was foreseen by planning. It was to stop this encroachment into peoples lives and their wellbeing. There seems to be a lack of harmony between licensing and planning and how it is to be enforced.

However, the latest incumbents of 69 Castle Road have taken this to a new level. The latest owners and licensee have been absent and left someone who is wholly unqualified and unsuitable to run the establishment and has

run it like an Ibiza style bar with constant thumping music blaring out into the street and thumping through the walls, leaving residents with nowhere to escape from the noise. That mixed with the shouting and screaming of drunken parties out in the street that can start as early as 11:30am on a weekend to past midnight has made our lives hell.

All attempts to negotiate with the "Bar Manager" and the owners were rebuffed and they called the Police for harassment, yes you read that right. That is the level we are dealing with. Their attitude towards the neighbours and Licensing was highlighted by your licensing team who said, after speaking to the owners both in person and on the phone, "They don't care about the neighbours, they are purely in it for the money." They had no interest in any adjustments to their unlawful business model that was being very disruptive and having a detrimental effect on the neighbours' homes and quality of life.

At the beginning of this year we had a member from the Licencing team visit our home to investigate a breach the licenced operating hours. Given the evidence, he felt there was good reason to go to court over these breaches and a potential prosecution. This hit a wall and we heard no more even though we continued to follow up. This went dead. No explanation or rationale was supplied to us. The residents were left to fend for themselves.

During this period and given the persistent problems, the licensing officer felt the case for a licensing review was strong and should align their license with others in the vicinity. The Licence Holder was offered, by the licensing officer, the opportunity to voluntarily put these conditions in relation to live music, CCTV and staff training into their license, which they refused. So again, Neighbours were left to take action and fend for themselves.

The premises finally had a noise abatement placed on them after the levels recorded were ten times over the permitted level. That's ten times! Yet they still ignored it on a number of occasions, complaints went in but nothing was done. Again the residents were left to fend for themselves.

**A few weeks ago on the 17th June, there was another noisy party, music blaring people shouting, screaming and swearing right outside our home. I went outside to politely ask the bar clientele to move away from our window and was headbutted in the face and repeatedly attacked by the patrons of Montys. The police were called and were horrified at what they saw as I have the full incident recorded on high grade CCTV leaving no doubt to this completely unprovoked violent assault by a large group of**

**the bars clientele. The firearms officers who attended the scene and witnessed the attack on my CCTV said instantly, "There should be severe sanctions or closure for that" The firearms officers are senior and have witnessed many incidents in their time. Yet he still felt horrified at what he saw. The CID are now actively looking to make at least four arrests for the attack. That was outside my front door. My home. Yes. MY HOME. So again, neighbours of 69 Castle Road literally fending for themselves, their life in fact. That's how it felt at the time. I am having to deal with the ongoing personal trauma of the attack. As a community we all feel the trauma, the fear and anxiety which exists solely because of this establishment, this is the legacy we have to deal with. Enough is enough.**

Adjustments we have had to make to our home and lives before this incident are numerous.

- Wearing bodycams because of verbal abuse and threats
- Avoiding going out at certain times because of the drunken groups congregating outside our home
- Avoiding coming to our home in certain directions to avoid the drunken groups outside our home.
- Extra soundproofing that just cannot cope with the level of volume emanating from 69 Castle Road
- Installed High Grade CCTV to ensure we have incidents captured and recorded as we have had the owners and the bar manager either lying or misreporting incidents.
- My wife has taken self defense classes and calls me when she has parked the car so I can watch her walk down the road, making sure she is safe.

We have had to make many adjustments to our lives that have had a large financial impact as well as having to manage the detrimental effect on our mental health. The owners and licensee have been absent, leaving their business in the hands of a very unstable bar manager who should never have been allowed to be in that position. They clearly chose to believe his version of events though they could turn on and view their own CCTV which would be shocking, even better they could be physically present at their own business. We have had nothing from the Owners / Licence Holder - no contrition, no acknowledgment that there is a problem even after the violent assault.

So I really do hope PCC's licensing department will read this for what it is and can see that this situation has got to the point of no return. There are many more details that affect our lives on a daily basis, customers urinating in the driveway opposite, vomiting in the flower filled planters, using residents window ledges like a bar... the list goes on and on.

It would be naïve to think the temporary closure and sale of the lease will change this situation. The last four lease holders have all had similar clientele, the only way to break the cycle and end the premises reputation that attracts violent and anti social behaviour is to remove the Alcohol Licence.

**Limited budgets or a lack of resources cannot be a factor in actively providing the necessary support for tax paying residents, when Licences are being abused action must be taken especially when that abuse is causing both actual physical and mental harm to a large number of residents. The residents are fed up with having to fend for themselves, to put up and shut up. This is seriously detrimental to our lives and wellbeing and the license should be removed from those that abuse it. The premises has repeatedly shown it is unsuitable for music and the late opening hours, it is now apparent that it is simply unsuitable for a licenced premises.**

**David O'Reilly**

**71 Castle road.**