

Arlene Dunbar

From: Wendy Bradford [REDACTED]
Sent: 04 September 2014 11:38
To: Licensing; Ross Thomson; Diane Sande
Subject: Chester Hotel License Application (5.9.14)

Dear Ms Dunbar

I am writing to register my objection with regard to the Chester Hotel's application to Aberdeen City Licensing Board relating to the 'new external terraced area located off of restaurant at upper ground floor level' for consideration at the meeting due on 16th September 2014.

I am a local resident in close vicinity to the Chester Hotel and would be very concerned should this license be awarded for an outside eating and drinking area. The main issue to consider is noise pollution from patrons and the impact it has to our residential area and amenity therein. The prolonged hours to be considered are late and would be of a permanent recurring nature. Whilst we appreciate the area awaits planning permission both issues go hand in hand and the change of function to these premises has already impacted significantly and should not be considered independently. These issues have been highlighted to date with the helpful input from Ms Diane Sande, the Licensing Standards Officer and the Noise Pollution team who I am sure will be providing further information with regard to previous complaints. The balcony has the potential for day to day use and not just associated with functions.

We have experienced first-hand noise pollution from voices outdoors and social gatherings of patrons whilst at ground level. From a balcony area these noises travel a greater distance and would be more intrusive. Patrons enjoying themselves, under the influence of alcohol, tend to be less inhibited. Likewise tidy up time thereafter causes noise when collecting and dealing with glasses and bottles. Whilst being resident in a City we have been a quiet area, previously managing with hotels, schools and sporting facilities without having to cope with the recent problems associated with outside entertaining.

I have found your supporting documentation 'Aberdeen City Licensing Board, Statement of Licensing Policy', most helpful, and would concur with your 5 Objectives especially with regard to Public Nuisance, Protect and Improve Public Health and Protect Children from Harm. Noise has a huge impact on residents' wellbeing and stress. My children have the right to an undisturbed nights sleep as well. Likewise further supporting documentation has been provided by the WHO summary statement relating to Community Noise (summarised in the document 'Environmental Noise and Health in the UK, A report by the Ad Hoc Expert Group on Noise and Health, edited by Dr Andy Moorhouse ISBN 978-0-85951-668-6 2010). It is important to consider community health and wellbeing and is referred to in your own document which highlights the Human Rights Act 1998 'peaceful enjoyment of our own homes'.

I would be most grateful if the Committee would consider the issues we feel have and could impact further on our local community and our home life.

Many thanks and best wishes,

Dr Wendy A. Watson
[REDACTED]