



Licensing Act 2003 - Representation in respect of Premises Licence

Details of person or body making representation	
Your Name:	Neil Cooper
Your Address:	Environmental Health Officer Noise and Pollution Control Leicester City Council Phoenix House 1 King Street Leicester LE1 6RN

Details of premises representation is about	
Name of Premises:	Aura
Address of premises:	33-37 Belvoir Street Leicester LE1 6SL
Application No. (if known)	

Please tick one or more of the licensing objectives that your representation relates to:	
Prevention of crime and disorder	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Public Safety	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Prevention of public nuisance	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Protection of children from harm	<input type="checkbox"/> No

Please summarise your concerns about this application:
<p>The sound insulation scheme between the premises and flats above is not sufficiently robust to adequately mitigate noise, in particular live and amplified music after 2300, which is likely to cause a statutory nuisance to occupiers of flats above. The operation of the busy bar will result in noise breakout through the front doors, which is likely to cause a noise nuisance to occupants of flats opposite the premises.</p>

Please give further details of why you believe this application will have an adverse effect on the licensing objectives

The premise is located directly below flats.

This premises has previous operated as a restaurant and then as a bar for several years, during which time recurring noise nuisances were witnessed from music in the bar.

Despite the installation of a noise limiter, which the management of the premises assured the Noise Team was set whenever music was played, noise nuisances continued to be witnessed, both in flats above the premises and flats opposite as a result of breakout through open front doors.

Although some noise issues resulted from poor management at that time, I have concerns that the sound insulation between the premises and flats above is inadequate to mitigate music played at a level that is likely in a city centre bar/restaurant. A noise limiter set at a level to prevent a noise nuisance is likely to require that music is played at a volume that is effectively background music. The insulation scheme between the premises and flats above was installed at a time when the premises operated as a restaurant, and was no doubt designed taking account of noise levels in a restaurant, rather than a bar, i.e. background music.

If live or amplified music is included on any licence granted, as applied for until 0400, it is likely that this will result in a noise nuisance to occupiers of flats above.

The experience of the Noise and Pollution Team when the bar has previously been operated is that this premises is unsuitable for use as a bar due to flats being located directly above, with a sound insulation scheme that is inadequate to mitigate noise levels from a bar.

With regard to noise breakout through the front doors, our experience when the bar was operating previously was that, thanks to customers arriving and leaving constantly on a busy night, keeping doors closed was not practical, and consequently that noise breakout was inevitable if the internal noise level is at a volume typical of a city centre bar.

I therefore recommend that this application, as submitted, be refused.