



Agenda for Licensing and Enforcement Sub Committee

Wednesday, 8th October, 2025, 11.30 am

Members of Licensing and Enforcement Sub Committee

Councillors: K Bloxham (Vice-Chair), O Davey and J Whibley (Chair)

Venue: Tale Room, Blackdown House, Honiton

Contact: Sarah Jenkins;

01395 517406 email sarah.jenkins@eastdevon.gov.uk

(or group number 01395 517546)

Monday, 29 September 2025

East Devon District Council
Blackdown House
Border Road
Heathpark Industrial Estate
Honiton
EX14 1EJ

DX 48808 HONITON

Tel: 01404 515616

www.eastdevon.gov.uk

1 Minutes of the previous meetings held on 30 July and 13 August 2025 (Pages 3 - 9)

2 Apologies

3 Declarations of interest

Guidance is available online to Councillors and co-opted members on making [declarations of interest](#)

4 Matters of urgency

Information on [matters of urgency](#) is available online

5 Confidential/exempt items

To agree any items to be dealt with after the public (including the Press) have been excluded. There is one item which officers recommend should be dealt with in this way at agenda item 8.

6 Review of premises licence Anchor Inn, Sidmouth (reconvened from 30 July 2025) (Pages 10 - 34)

7 Exclusion of press and public

The Vice Chair to move the following:

"that under Section 100(A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public (including the press) be excluded from the meeting as exempt information, of the description set out in the agenda, is likely to be disclosed and on balance the public interest is in discussing this item in private session (Part B)".

Part B

Due to the requirements of the Licensing Act 2003 only parties to the hearing are permitted to address the sub-committee (through their representative as appropriate).

[Decision making and equalities](#)

For a copy of this agenda in large print, please contact the Democratic Services Team on 01395 517546

EAST DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Licensing and Enforcement Sub Committee held at Council Chamber, Blackdown House, Honiton on 30 July 2025

Attendance list at end of document

The meeting started at 9.33 am and ended at 11.11 am

8 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 18 June 2025 were agreed and signed as a true record.

9 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

10 Matters of urgency

There were no matters of urgency.

11 Confidential/exempt items

There were no confidential or exempt items.

12 Application for a REVIEW of a Premises Licence under Section 51 of the Licensing Act 2003 - The Anchor Inn, Old Fore Street, Sidmouth EX10 8LP

The meeting was a hearing under the Licensing Act 2003.

The Chair introduced the members of the Sub Committee and the Officers present.

The Sub Committee's Legal Advisor, Giles Salter, outlined the procedure for the meeting.

The Sub Committee considered the application from a member of the public for a review of the premises licence under Section 51 of the Licensing Act 2003 at The Anchor Inn, Old Fore Street, Sidmouth EX10 8LP.

The applicant for the review, present and entitled to make representations, was Mr Steven Chalkley. Mr Chalkley was accompanied by Mr Stephen Spencer.

Present and entitled to make representations was the premises licence holder Mr Trevor Fudge. Mr Fudge was accompanied by Ms Michelle Anning.

Also present and entitled to make representations was Ms Denise Thomas.

The Licensing Officer highlighted the following points in the report:

- With regard to the dray work, the premises licence holders had now agreed to move the barrels to an alternative location during Sidmouth Folk Week. The alternative location was at the furthest point from the applicant for the review's property;

- Section 1.10 of the report [page 8] read as follows: “restricting dray work in the vicinity of bordering properties, limiting this to between 18:00 – 21:00 daily.” This section should read: “dray work in the vicinity of bordering properties should be restricted from 6pm to 9am daily.”
- The premises licence holders had confirmed that the maximum capacity of the beer garden was 547 people, however, the premises operated on the maximum number of 500 people.

In response to questions from Members it was noted that any noise complaints would be dealt with by Environmental Health rather than Licensing. An unwritten noise management plan was in place for the premises under review and the Environmental Health Officer had discussed this with the premises licence holder. It was noted that there was no requirement to have a noise management policy in place. Two complaints had been received in the previous year, one of which was from the applicant for the review.

The applicant for the review, Mr Chalkley, made his case and advised the Sub Committee that he had lived at his property, which shared a boundary with The Anchor Inn, since 2006. The applicant noted that noise levels had increased over the years, and he had made a complaint in September 2023, to which the Environmental Health Officer had responded. The applicant for the review was of the opinion that EDDC had wrongly interpreted the recommended noise levels in the Noise Council Code of Practice. Local residents did not want to affect business at The Anchor Inn, but did want unnecessary noise levels to be lowered. A noise limit of 65 decibels would be acceptable to residents.

The Environmental Health Officer advised that the noise management plan set an external decibel level of 70. In response to a question from Members, the Environmental Health Officer advised that, in his view, residents would only just notice a reduction of 5 decibels. The smallest perceived reduction in decibels is 3db. When The Anchor Inn garden was full, it would be likely that noise from the public audience would exceed noise from music played outside. The presence of the public audience would also attenuate the noise levels from the music to some extent.

The applicant for the review confirmed that the windows of his property were kept shut at all times during Folk Week in order to keep out noise and requested that Noise Council guidelines be adhered to.

In response to a question from Members, the applicant advised that music during the evenings of Folk Week was heavy rock and disco and therefore differed from folk music played during daytimes.

The Folk Week 2025 music listings for The Anchor Inn were submitted to the Sub Committee with the agreement of those present.

The applicant for the review advised that he had known the area when he bought his property and he was asking for a reduction in noise levels.

There were no questions from the premises licence holder or the interested person for the applicant for the review.

The premises licence holder's case was put by Ms Anning who advised that every effort had been made to be neighbourly and that the premises licence holder was happy to negotiate. Consideration should also be given to the number of people enjoying themselves during Folk Week.

In response to questions from Members of the Sub Committee, it was confirmed that an in-house professional sound engineer was always present during events and had been in post for the past 14 years. The Anchor Inn did not use bands' own sound engineers. Noise levels for amplified music were controlled through a sound desk.

The Environmental Health Officer advised that noise levels were the same regardless of the genre of music played, although it was noted that there would be a wider range of frequencies associated with rock music.

Regarding the applicant for the review's request for a reduction in noise levels to 65 decibels, the premises licence holder would not find this acceptable unless it applied to the whole of Folk Week and was not limited just to The Anchor Inn.

As Folk Week was so busy, the premises licence holder advised that flexibility was needed as to when to undertake dray work. Removing this flexibility would incur additional costs for the business if conditions on the timing of dray work were imposed for the whole of the year.

The interested person put her case and advised that her property was in close proximity to The Anchor Inn garden. In her view, The Anchor Inn was a nice family pub which provided a variety of music entertainment. In contrast to the applicant for the review, the interested person had not found noise levels intolerable during the previous years' Folk Week and advised that she had been able to hear her television and conduct phone conversations without difficulty or interference from noise. It was important for residents to remain objective with regard to the one week per year when Folk Week could be difficult for some. Residents should not be stipulating terms of business for premises trying to make a living.

The interested person responded to questions from Members of the Sub Committee regarding the proximity of her property to The Anchor Inn.

In response to a question from the Sub Committee regarding possible conditions, the Legal Advisor advised that any conditions imposed on The Anchor Inn solely for Folk Week would be publicised and that this may then generate complaints about other venues from complainants seeking the same conditions.

With regard to the current guideline of 70 decibels for Folk Week, the Environmental Health Officer advised that noise levels would be monitored during the upcoming week in order to establish whether there was a basis for complaints. The applicant for the review invited the Environmental Health Officer to visit his premises during Folk Week.

The applicant for the review made his closing statement and advised that he had no issue with the running of The Anchor Inn. The offer to relocate the dray work during Folk Week was accepted with thanks. The applicant reiterated that he sought a reduction of agreed noise levels to 65 decibels during Folk Week.

The hearing was adjourned for a short time to enable the Sub Committee to obtain legal advice.

On the resumption of the meeting, the Legal Advisor advised that the Sub Committee was of the view that it would be appropriate to adjourn the decision until after Folk Week to enable Members to visit Folk Week and to allow time for the Environmental Health Officer to undertake noise monitoring during the daytime at The Anchor Inn.

The premises licence holder expressed concern that Members visiting the premises during Folk Week would add additional stress during an already busy week. The premises licence holder was of the view that monitoring noise levels was the responsibility of Environmental Health.

The Chair advised that the Sub Committee was happy to rely on the noise monitoring data collected by the Environmental Health Officer during Folk Week.

The hearing was adjourned to a date following receipt of the noise analysis to be undertaken by the Environmental Health Officer during Folk Week. All parties would be informed of the date on which the decision would be made.

Attendance List

Councillors present:

K Bloxham (Vice-Chair)
O Davey
J Whibley (Chair)

Councillors also present (for some or all the meeting)

Y Levine

Officers in attendance:

Lesley Barber, Licensing Officer
Sarah Jenkins, Democratic Services Officer
Phillippa Norsworthy, Licensing Manager
Giles Salter, Solicitor
Zoe Jones, Licensing Officer
Ian Winter, Environmental Health Officer

Councillor apologies:

Chair

Date:

EAST DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Licensing and Enforcement Sub Committee held at Tale Room, Blackdown House, Honiton on 13 August 2025

Attendance list at end of document

The meeting started at 9.32 am and ended at 10.19 am

13 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

14 Matters of urgency

There were no matters of urgency.

15 Confidential/exempt items

There were no confidential or exempt items.

16 Application for the grant of a premises licence under the Licensing Act 2003 - Poltimore House, Poltimore, Exeter, EX4 0AU

The meeting was a hearing under the Licensing Act 2003.

The Chair introduced the members of the Sub Committee and the Officers present.

The Sub Committee's Legal Advisor, Giles Salter, outlined the procedure for the meeting.

The Sub Committee considered the application for the grant of a new premises licence at Poltimore House, Poltimore, Exeter EX4 0AU.

The applicant (Poltimore House Trust), present and entitled to make representations, was represented by Dr Peter Totterdill. Dr Totterdill was accompanied by Rosemary Exton (Poltimore House Trustee) and Dave Lee (Designated Premises Supervisor).

The interested persons, present and entitled to make representations, were James Westoby and Susan Westoby.

The Licensing Manager summarised the application as set out in the report and highlighted that the Police, having raised a representation, had reached an agreed position with the applicant which was set out at Appendix G of the report.

Environmental Health had contacted the applicant during the consultation process and the applicant had then provided a noise management plan and an example of an event management plan, as shown as Appendix I of the report. On that basis, Environmental Health had not raised a representation.

Two representations had been received from local residents based on all four of the licensing objectives. Poltimore House Trust had attempted mediation with the objectors. A statement from the objectors had been received subsequent to the publication of the agenda papers and had been circulated to the Sub Committee in advance of the hearing.

In response to a question from the Sub Committee, it was confirmed that events at Poltimore House were currently regulated through temporary event notices.

There were no questions for the Licensing Manager from the applicant's representative or from the interested persons. It was noted that Poltimore House is a Grade II* listed building.

The applicant's representative made the case for the application and highlighted the following points:

- In recent years the Poltimore House Trustees Board had sought to develop a sustainable plan for the future and build a professional board of trustees with good governance structures;
- It was a priority to secure a sustainable income source for the trust;
- Demand for the café had exceeded expectations and the café had been established as a separate company, popular with both local people and tourists;
- Opportunities for local employment were being created;
- The purpose of the application was to enable the café and farm shop to sell alcohol during normal business hours and also during regular evening events held at both the café and the outdoor arena;
- Should the application be granted, this would replace the need to repeatedly apply for temporary event notices and enable the Board of Trustees to expand the current offer;
- The Board of Trustees had introduced an events management process in order to ensure that events operated in accordance with agreed criteria.

Responses to questions from the Sub Committee included the following points:

- Prior to the fire in 2024, events had been held in Poltimore House. Since then greater use had been made of the grounds and the café. Evening events included local bands, outdoor theatre, a local orchestra and craft fairs;
- The purpose of the application was to provide a comprehensive licence to remove the need to apply for repeated temporary event notices;
- Should the licence be granted, it was planned to serve upmarket bottled craft beers with the potential to move to serving the same from kegs;
- The ethos was to serve locally sourced produce;

There were no questions from the interested persons for the applicant's representative.

The interested persons made their case and highlighted the following objections to the application:

- Should the off sales licence be granted, this would result in people leaving the premises with alcohol which would increase rubbish in the local area;
- There was no pedestrian access on the road to Poltimore House;
- Noise travels and the late hours applied for were a cause for concern due to the impact on the interested persons whose property was in close proximity to the events arena and the café;
- An off sales licence may result in cheaper beer being sold in the future in order to increase revenue;
- There had never been any communication from the Trustees with the interested persons;
- The interested persons had previously tried to make contact during events using the telephone number provided on the Poltimore House website, however, the calls had not been answered;
- The interested persons had a right to enjoy their property.

In response to questions from the Sub Committee, the interested persons advised that they had no wish to involve the Police, but wanted to be able to contact someone should there be issues with noise levels.

The applicant's representative confirmed that a contact person was always available on site during opening hours and events.

The Legal Advisor advised the applicant's representative, and those accompanying him, to contact the East Devon District Council Environmental Health Officer for advice on how to set and measure noise levels at the perimeter of the premises. Noise levels could then be included in the noise management plan and would future proof events as the trustees and the type of events changed over time.

Those present were also advised that premises licences may be reviewed should any issues with noise arise. These should be reported to Environmental Health.

The interested persons confirmed that an end time of 11:00pm for events would be acceptable.

There were no further questions or statements.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and advised that the decision would be notified in writing to all parties within five working days.

Attendance List

Councillors present:

I Barlow
Y Levine
J Whibley (Chair)

Councillors also present (for some or all the meeting)

T Dumper

Officers in attendance:

Sarah Jenkins, Democratic Services Officer
Phillippa Norsworthy, Licensing Manager
Giles Salter, Solicitor

Councillor apologies:

Chair

Date:

Report to: Licensing and Enforcement Sub Committee

Date of Meeting 8th October 2025

Document classification: Part A Public Document

Exemption applied: None

Review date for release N/A



Application for a REVIEW OF A Premises Licence under Section 51 of the Licensing Act 2003

Report summary:

The report summarises additional information received since the adjournment of the initial hearing on 30 July 2025.

Is the proposed decision in accordance with:

Budget Yes ☒ No ☐

Policy Framework Yes ☒ No ☐

Recommendation:

That the committee consider an application for a review of the following premises licence: PLWA0408 The Anchor Inn, Old Fore St, Sidmouth EX10 8LP.

Reason for recommendation:

To comply with statutory processes.

Officer: Lesley Barber, Licensing Officer, lesley.barber@eastdevon.gov.uk

Portfolio(s) (check which apply):

- ☐ Assets and Economy
- ☐ Communications and Democracy
- ☐ Council, Corporate and External Engagement
- ☐ Culture, Leisure, Sport and Tourism
- ☐ Environment - Nature and Climate
- ☒ Environment - Operational
- ☐ Finance
- ☐ Place, Infrastructure and Strategic Planning
- ☐ Sustainable Homes and Communities

Equalities impact Low Impact

Climate change Low Impact

Risk: Low Risk;

Links to background information:

[EDDC Statement of Licensing Policy 2021-2026](#)

Licensing Act 2003 Guidance issued under Section 182

APPENDIX A – Environmental Health Officer report

APPENDIX B – Additional email correspondence

Link to [Council Plan](#)

Priorities (check which apply)

- ☐ A supported and engaged community
 - ☐ Carbon neutrality and ecological recovery
 - ☒ Resilient economy that supports local business
 - ☐ Financially secure and improving quality of services
-

Report in full

1 Background

- 1.1 The Licensing Authority has received an application from a member of the public for a review of the premises licence under Section 51 of the Licensing Act 2003 at The Anchor Inn, Old Fore St, Sidmouth. The application has been submitted by a member of the public.
- 1.2 This application was considered at a hearing before the Licensing Sub-Committee on Wednesday 30th July 2025.
- 1.3 The hearing was adjourned to allow committee members to consider an additional report from the Environmental Health Officer regarding music noise levels over the duration of the Sidmouth Folk Festival 2025 events in The Anchor beer garden. The adjournment would also give committee members the opportunity to visit the location themselves if they wished to do so.
- 1.4 A summary of the grounds on which the review application is made:
 - Music noise levels from the daily/nightly Folk Festival events taking place in the beer garden to the rear of The Anchor are affecting neighbouring properties adjacent to the premises.
 - Dray work being carried out after 23:00 is causing a disturbance to adjacent properties. The applicant is seeking a formal licence condition to ensure dray work in the vicinity of bordering properties should be restricted from 6pm to 9am daily.

2 Additional Information Received

- 2.1 The report from the Environmental Health Officer evaluates music noise levels generated from the beer garden during Sidmouth Folk Week events.
- 2.2 The Environmental Health report is provided at **APPENDIX A**.
- 2.3 This report concludes that setting a music noise level of 96 dB (LAeq, 15min), measured 1 metre in front of a main stage speaker, strikes an appropriate balance. It allows the venue to continue delivering well received events during Folk Week while effectively limiting the potential for public nuisance.

2.4 Councillor Joe Whibley visited the premises beer garden on Friday 1st August and offered the following comments:

- 2 visits, one at 2.30pm, the other at approx 5pm.
- security with counting devices were on the door as stated, so the 500 limit.
- the barrels were nowhere to be seen ie not near the wall.
- there did appear, as stated, to be a central sound desk where all sound could be controlled centrally.
- the atmosphere was jovial, fun and not raucous.
- the music outside Mr Chalkley's window was at a level where I could still hear conversations several metres away.
- I didn't see or speak to the license holder which I feel was for the best. Olly, feel free to say I've visited already and his staff need not be on tenterhooks.
- I will be interested to see the result of any sound recordings, but I saw nothing of any concern.

2.5 Councillor Olly Davey visited the premises beer garden on Monday 4th August and offered the following comments:

I went along the back wall of the site at around 10.15 on the Monday of Folk Week. The band I could hear were audible, but I could hear the noise of the crowd above it. They had bass, but it was not thundering. I don't recall hearing drums. The band was jazz/funk with a S American feel. No "screaming vocals". I also briefly observed a ceilidh one afternoon. Again, the loudest sound was the caller, who was not shouting. Security staff were present, using clickers to note numbers entering and leaving.

Like Joe, I saw and heard nothing of any concern.

2.6 Additional email correspondence, received from the applicant in response to the Environmental Health noise monitoring is provided at **APPENDIX B**.

Financial implications:

There are no financial implications contained within the report.

Legal implications:

There are no further legal comments to be added to the original report.

Monitoring Music Noise Level for Licensing Review: The Anchor Inn, Sidmouth

Case Ref: 25/02531/LIPREM

Project Title: Review of music noise levels from the Anchor Inn over the duration of the Sidmouth Folk Festival.

Executive Summary: This report is an assessment conducted by Ian Winter, Environmental Health Officer with the Environmental Protection Team at East Devon District Council. It evaluates the music noise levels generated from the Beer Garden of the Anchor Inn during Sidmouth Folk Week, based on submitted evidence and on-site sound monitoring.

Historically, prior to 2014, a music noise level of 70 dB ($LA_{eq, 15min}$) was informally agreed upon between Environmental Health and the licensee as an acceptable limit at the boundary of nearby noise-sensitive properties. However, due to additional audience noise (reaching around 85 dB) this level was never formally adopted as the way it was written made it effectively impossible to monitor and enforce.

According to the Code of Practice on Environmental Noise Control at Concerts, for events held on between one and three days per year, the recommended music noise level should not exceed 65 dB ($LA_{eq, 15min}$) when measured at the façade of a noise-sensitive property. This assessment considers whether the 65 dB limit is realistically achievable at this venue, or whether a higher limit of 70 dB ($LA_{eq, 15min}$) would be more appropriate, given the constraints of the site and the frequency, scale and history of events held within the Beer Garden for Folk Week.

To inform this assessment, two sets of sound monitoring equipment were deployed during the week to gather accurate and representative sound data.

The first set was installed for the full duration of Folk Week inside a ground floor habitable room (dining room) at [REDACTED]. This location was selected because it provided a reliable representation of the noise levels experienced by nearby residential occupants.

The second set of equipment was used by the Environmental Health Officer during on-site visits, to monitor noise levels in real-time while live amplified entertainment was taking place.

Based on the findings, this report concludes that setting a music noise level of 96 dB ($L_{Aeq, 15min}$), measured 1 metre in front of a main stage speaker, strikes an appropriate balance. It allows the venue to continue delivering well-received events during Folk Week while effectively limiting the potential for public nuisance.

The sound data gathered from the recording equipment is considered a reliable and accurate reflection of the music levels produced during the event.

Equipment used:	<p>One NORSONIC 145NNR (Sound Level Meter) Serial Number: 14529799 One NORSONIC 150NNR (Noise Nuisance Recorder) Serial Number: 15030295 incorporating a Nor-150 Sound Level Meter, hand trigger and tripod for microphone support.</p> <p>The sound meters and microphones have been tested and calibrated in accordance to the following standards: IEC 61672-1: 2002 Class 1 IEC 61260-1 Class 1 Ed 1.0 2014-02 IEC 61094 Part 4 ANSI S1.4-1983 (R2001) with amd. S1.4A-1985 Class1 ANSI S1.43-1997 (R002) Class1 ANSI S1.11-2004 Class1 DIN 45 657, Applicable parts The Certificate of Calibration for both sets of equipment is dated 9th January 2024.</p>
Location and Noise Source	<p>Anchor Inn, Old Fore Street, Sidmouth, EX10 8LP</p> <p>This assessment specifically relates to live amplified music performed in the Beer Garden of the premises during the Sidmouth Folk Festival. The festival typically occurs annually in the first week of August, running from Friday to the following Friday, making it an 8-day event. Currently, no other live amplified music events take place in the Beer Garden at any other time during the year.</p>

Monitoring Location

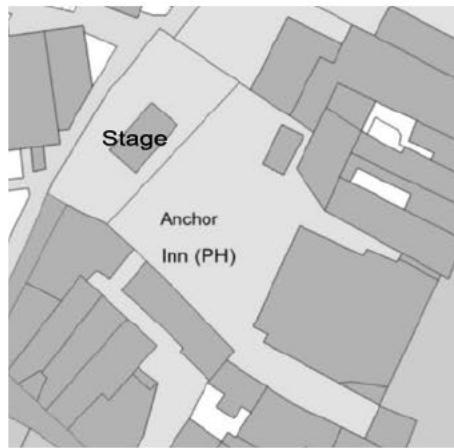


Figure 1



Figure 2

The plan of the Anchor Inn is shown in figure 1. The greatest density of noise sensitive properties are situated to the West of the premises.

Figure 2 shows the locations of the two main speakers located at each side of the main stage. They are represented in figure 2 by the two red points.

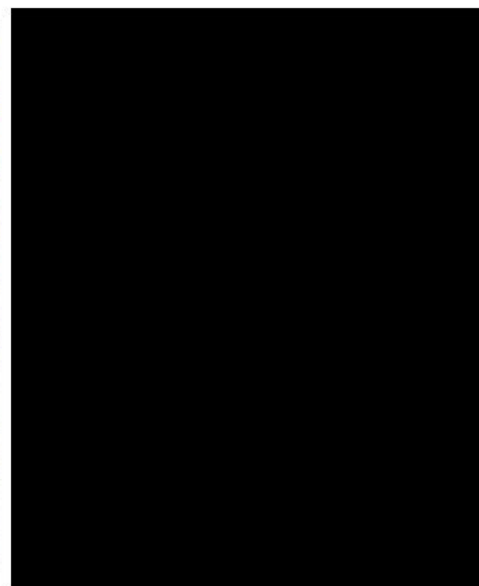
Monitoring point 1 was located 1m in front of speaker 1.

Monitoring point 2 was located below the window of Mr Chalkley's property. This is shown as a green point with a red outline. The distance of speaker 1 to Mr Chalkley's [REDACTED]

The distance between the speakers and Mr Chalkley's window is a key factor in assessing the impact from the music. As sound waves travel away from the source, they disperse over a wider area, resulting in a natural reduction in energy and volume. This phenomenon is known as distance attenuation and follows the inverse square law, meaning that with every doubling of distance from the speakers, the sound level decreases by approximately 6 decibels (dB).



Figure 3



	<p>A third monitoring location was established to assess music noise levels inside a [REDACTED] property. A set of sound recording equipment was installed within Mr Chalkley's home and remained there for the duration of Folk Week. This setup provided a reliable representation of the music noise levels experienced within nearby noise-sensitive properties.</p>																												
Set-up Procedure:	<p>Both sound level meters were calibrated at the beginning and end of each monitoring period using a sound level calibrator compliant with BS 7189:1989. No significant drift in calibration was detected.</p> <p>The equipment provided to Mr Chalkley was set up by the Environmental Health Officer and secured within a tamper-proof box. Operation of the equipment was controlled via a hand-held trigger. Log sheets were supplied to Mr Chalkley at the time of installation to record any perceived adverse impacts throughout the monitoring period.</p> <p>During installation, it was observed that the room in which the equipment was placed had double-aspect windows, with openable windows facing both the front and rear of the property.</p>																												
Post - Installation Analysis of the recordings made within Ebdons Mews Cottage	<p>The sound data accumulated over the monitoring period has been downloaded onto NorReview (the Council's noise data analysis software). Each recording has been reviewed in sequence. In total, 6 audio recordings were made totalling 2 hours and 6 minutes. The recordings were dominated by, music and people noise.</p> <p>On reviewing the recordings, no unexpected change in levels (signs of tampering) were identified on any of the recordings. It would appear that the noise recording equipment was operated and functioned correctly. On collection, the sound equipment was still securely locked.</p> <p>Six recordings were made by Mr Chalkley. Each recording lasted 21 minutes. This allowed for the calculation of the 15 minute continuous equivalent sound ($L_{Aeq\ 15min}$). These are shown in date order in table 1.</p> <p>No audio recordings were made by Mr Chalkley during the first 2 days of Folk Week. When questioned why no recordings were made during this period, Mr Chalkley inferred that he was happy with the music noise levels during this period, so no recordings were made.</p> <table><tr><th>Date</th><th>Monitoring Location</th><th>Time Period</th><th>Music Noise Level</th></tr><tr><td>03/08/2025</td><td>[REDACTED]</td><td>22:19 – 22:40</td><td>44dB ($L_{Aeq\ 15min}$)</td></tr><tr><td>04/08/2025</td><td>[REDACTED]</td><td>21:15 – 21:36</td><td>42 dB ($L_{Aeq\ 15min}$)</td></tr><tr><td>05/08/2025</td><td>[REDACTED]</td><td>21:57 – 22:18</td><td>41 dB ($L_{Aeq\ 15min}$)</td></tr><tr><td>06/08/2025</td><td>[REDACTED]</td><td>21:17 – 21:38</td><td>47 dB ($L_{Aeq\ 15min}$)</td></tr><tr><td>06/08/2025</td><td>[REDACTED]</td><td>22:47 – 23:08</td><td>42 dB ($L_{Aeq\ 15min}$)</td></tr><tr><td>07/08/2025</td><td>[REDACTED]</td><td>21:42 – 22:03</td><td>46 dB ($L_{Aeq\ 15min}$)</td></tr></table> <p>Table 1</p> <p>Detailed in Appendix 2 are the graphical representations of the six sets of audio recordings showing the L_{Aeq} level recorded throughout the event.</p>	Date	Monitoring Location	Time Period	Music Noise Level	03/08/2025	[REDACTED]	22:19 – 22:40	44dB ($L_{Aeq\ 15min}$)	04/08/2025	[REDACTED]	21:15 – 21:36	42 dB ($L_{Aeq\ 15min}$)	05/08/2025	[REDACTED]	21:57 – 22:18	41 dB ($L_{Aeq\ 15min}$)	06/08/2025	[REDACTED]	21:17 – 21:38	47 dB ($L_{Aeq\ 15min}$)	06/08/2025	[REDACTED]	22:47 – 23:08	42 dB ($L_{Aeq\ 15min}$)	07/08/2025	[REDACTED]	21:42 – 22:03	46 dB ($L_{Aeq\ 15min}$)
Date	Monitoring Location	Time Period	Music Noise Level																										
03/08/2025	[REDACTED]	22:19 – 22:40	44dB ($L_{Aeq\ 15min}$)																										
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05/08/2025	[REDACTED]	21:57 – 22:18	41 dB ($L_{Aeq\ 15min}$)																										
06/08/2025	[REDACTED]	21:17 – 21:38	47 dB ($L_{Aeq\ 15min}$)																										
06/08/2025	[REDACTED]	22:47 – 23:08	42 dB ($L_{Aeq\ 15min}$)																										
07/08/2025	[REDACTED]	21:42 – 22:03	46 dB ($L_{Aeq\ 15min}$)																										

Post - Installation Analysis of the monitoring attended within the Anchor's Beer Garden

The sound data from each attended visit has been downloaded onto NorReview. Each recording has been reviewed. In total, 7 attended recordings were made totalling a time of 1 hour and 45 minutes.

The recording periods were dominated by, music and people noise.

Each recording lasted a minimum of 15 minutes. This allowed for the calculation of the 15 minute continuous equivalent sound ($LA_{eq\ 15min}$). These are shown in date order in table 2.

Date	Monitoring Location	Time Period	Music Noise Level
01/08/205	Location 1 (speaker)	22:12 – 22:27	96 dB ($LA_{eq\ 15min}$)
01/08/205	Location 2 (window)	22:35 – 22:50	83 dB ($LA_{eq\ 15min}$)
02/08/205	Location 1 (speaker)	21:19 – 21:34	101 dB ($LA_{eq\ 15min}$)
02/08/205	Location 1 (speaker)	21:34 – 21:49	* 98 dB ($LA_{eq\ 15min}$)
02/08/205	Location 2 (window)	21:55 – 22:10	84 dB ($LA_{eq\ 15min}$)
05/08/2025	Location 1 (speaker)	12:35 – 12:50	93 dB ($LA_{eq\ 15min}$)
05/08/2025	Location 2 (window)	12:56 – 13:11	79 dB ($LA_{eq\ 15min}$)

Table 2

*The recording made on the 2nd August at 21:34 (at Location 1) was influenced by clapping. As demonstrated in this recording, the sound of the audiences applause, has been a contributor to the overall music noise level. Without the audiences applause, it's felt that the $LA_{eq\ 15min}$ would have been nearer to the 96 dB level.

The following calculations of music noise levels have been made, taking into account distance attenuation in accordance with the inverse square law:

A sound pressure level (L_p) of 96 dB 1 m in front a speaker would equate to a sound power level (L_w) of 104 dB. As the noise source is hemispherical a - 8 dB correction has been applied. A distance attenuation of 25m has been applied for speaker 1. This is shown as:

$$104 - 20\log(25) - 8 = 68 \text{ dB}$$

This gives us a sound pressure level of 68 dB(A) at Mr Chalkley's window for speaker 1. Applying a distance attenuation of to speaker 2 would be shown as:

$$68 - 20\log(30/25) = 66 \text{ dB}$$

This gives us a sound pressure level of 66 dB(A) at Mr Chalkley's window for speaker 2.

Adding the two decibel levels together is shown as:

$$10\log(10^{6.8} + 10^{6.6}) = 70 \text{ dB}$$

This results in a decibel level of **70 dB** at Mr Chalkley's window.

	<p>During the initial monitoring period, the Environmental Health Officer requested that music noise levels should be set closer to 92 dB (LA_{eq, 15min}) to assess the potential impact on the event. At this level, the music noise level at Mr Chalkley's window from both speakers was calculated to be approximately 66 dB (LA_{eq, 15min}).</p> <p>However, it quickly became clear that this volume was insufficient for the needs of the event. Audience members towards the middle of the car park, particularly those dancing, began shouting for the volume to be increased, as the callers for the Ceilidh could not be heard above the general background noise of the crowd.</p> <p>Audience noise levels remained consistent throughout the event, typically ranging between 80–84 dB (LA_{eq}), depending on the context i.e., type of music. A music noise level of 92 dB (LA_{eq, 15min}) proved to be unsustainable, as key elements of the performance, especially the vocal frequencies were being masked by the ambient noise from the audience. This level did not support the delivery of a successful event.</p> <p>Detailed within Appendix 2 are the graphical representations of the seven sets of sound data based on the LA_{eq} recorded throughout the event.</p>																												
Conclusion	<p>The music noise levels recorded on the 1st and 2nd August (Friday and Saturday night) have been assessed externally within the Beer Garden (at monitoring locations 1 & 2) and internally (at monitoring location 3) within Mr Chalkley's property.</p> <table><tr><th>Date</th><th>Monitoring Location</th><th>Time Period</th><th>Music Noise Level</th></tr><tr><td>01/08/205</td><td>Location 1 (speaker)</td><td>22:12 – 22:27</td><td>96 dB (LA_{eq, 15min})</td></tr><tr><td>01/08/205</td><td>Location 2 (window)</td><td>22:35 – 22:50</td><td>83 dB (LA_{eq, 15min})</td></tr><tr><td>01/08/2025</td><td></td><td>22:34 – 22:49</td><td>44 dB (LA_{eq, 15min})</td></tr><tr><td>02/08/205</td><td>Location 1 (speaker)</td><td>21:34 – 21:49</td><td>98 dB (LA_{eq, 15min})</td></tr><tr><td>02/08/205</td><td>Location 2 (window)</td><td>21:55 – 22:10</td><td>84 dB (LA_{eq, 15min})</td></tr><tr><td>02/08/2025</td><td></td><td>22:02 – 22:17</td><td>43 dB (LA_{eq, 15min})</td></tr></table> <p>Table 3</p> <p>When the music noise level was limited to 96 dB (LA_{eq, 15min}), the music noise at the façade of Mr Chalkley's property has been calculated to be 70 dB (considering only the music levels). However, when accounting for additional people noise from the audience, this level was shown to increase to 83 dB (LA_{eq, 15min}). Inside Mr Chalkley's home, the combined music and people noise was recorded at 44 dB (LA_{eq, 15min}). There is a slight time difference with the time comparisons made. This is due to the presence of other influencing internal noise within Mr Chalkley's property.</p>	Date	Monitoring Location	Time Period	Music Noise Level	01/08/205	Location 1 (speaker)	22:12 – 22:27	96 dB (LA _{eq, 15min})	01/08/205	Location 2 (window)	22:35 – 22:50	83 dB (LA _{eq, 15min})	01/08/2025		22:34 – 22:49	44 dB (LA _{eq, 15min})	02/08/205	Location 1 (speaker)	21:34 – 21:49	98 dB (LA _{eq, 15min})	02/08/205	Location 2 (window)	21:55 – 22:10	84 dB (LA _{eq, 15min})	02/08/2025		22:02 – 22:17	43 dB (LA _{eq, 15min})
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02/08/2025		22:02 – 22:17	43 dB (LA _{eq, 15min})																										

To put this in context, typical sounds at around 45 dB in the home include a quiet refrigerator, soft conversation, the sound of a washing machine, or keyboard typing. However, music noise is perceived differently. Even at lower levels, it can be clearly audible due to its contrast with the surrounding soundscape.

Mr Chalkley confirmed that on Friday and Saturday, when the music noise levels were restricted to 96 dB ($LA_{eq, 15min}$), he did not experience any nuisance.

Of the six audio recordings Mr Chalkley submitted, four were at or below 44 dB ($LA_{eq, 15min}$). This strongly suggests that the music noise at the time was within the 96 dB ($LA_{eq, 15min}$) level. These recordings were made during periods comparable to, or quieter than, the Friday and Saturday evenings, when no disturbance was reported by Mr Chalkley.

It is important to note that individual sensitivity to noise can vary, and complaints may arise simply because music is audible leading to the perception that it is too loud, even when it remains within the agreed levels.

Two of Mr Chalkley's recordings exceeded the 44 dB ($LA_{eq, 15min}$) level. One was recorded on Wednesday 6th August at 21:17, registering 47 dB ($LA_{eq, 15min}$) and another on Thursday 7th August at 46 dB ($LA_{eq, 15min}$). These levels indicate that the music at those times likely exceeded the 96 dB ($LA_{eq, 15min}$) threshold.

The Code of Practice on Environmental Noise Control at Concerts allows for some flexibility. It notes that where a single event occurs annually, a higher noise limit may be acceptable without causing undue disturbance. Given the unique nature of Folk Week, it is reasonable to apply a similar approach to events in Sidmouth, including those at the Anchor Inn.

Overall, the music noise levels from the Anchor Inn were generally consistent with the proposed Noise Management Plan. However, some improvements are necessary to ensure the 96 dB ($LA_{eq, 15min}$) level is consistently met each day.

The work of Environmental Health and the premises management (including the sound engineer), during Folk Week have shown that the effective control of music noise levels is achievable.

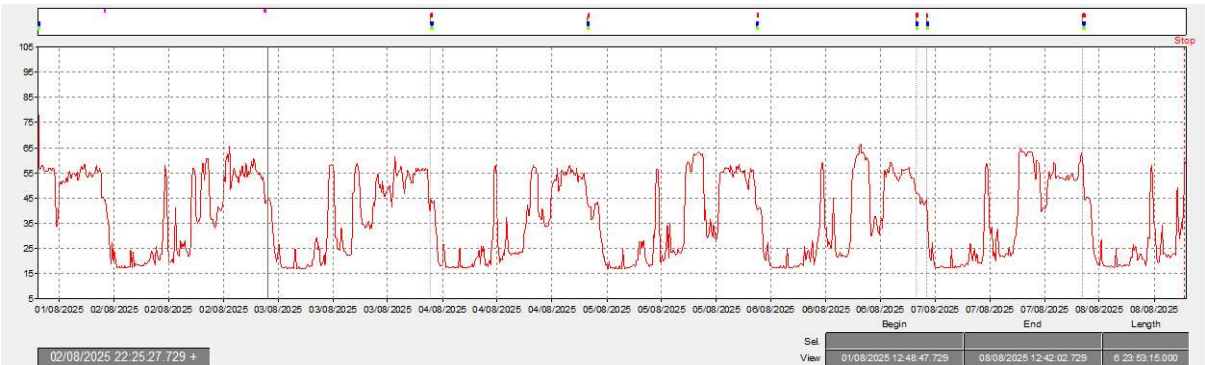
Based on the data collected throughout Folk Week and my professional assessment, I recommend setting the music noise level for the Anchor Beer Garden at 96 dB ($LA_{eq, 15min}$), measured one metre in front of a main stage speaker.

The sound level data clearly indicates that with committed management, effective noise control is possible, though it will require ongoing effort. This approach strikes a practical balance between enforcing appropriate noise controls and avoiding excessive restrictions on the premises, allowing successful events to continue while also minimising any public nuisance.

There is no evidence to suggest that the music noise levels recorded during Folk Week were unrepresentative of typical levels generated by the event.

Appendix 1

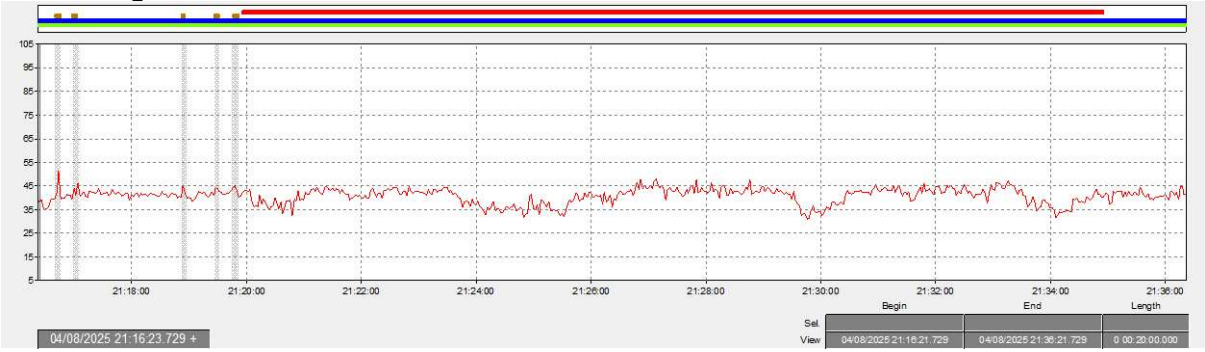
The LAeq is shown as a red line recorded within Mr Chalkley’s property. The X-axis shows the time and the Y-axis shows the decibel level. The solid red line (at the top) shows that the calculations have run for 15 minutes and tie in with the table above. The dark blue and green lines show where an audio recording has been made.



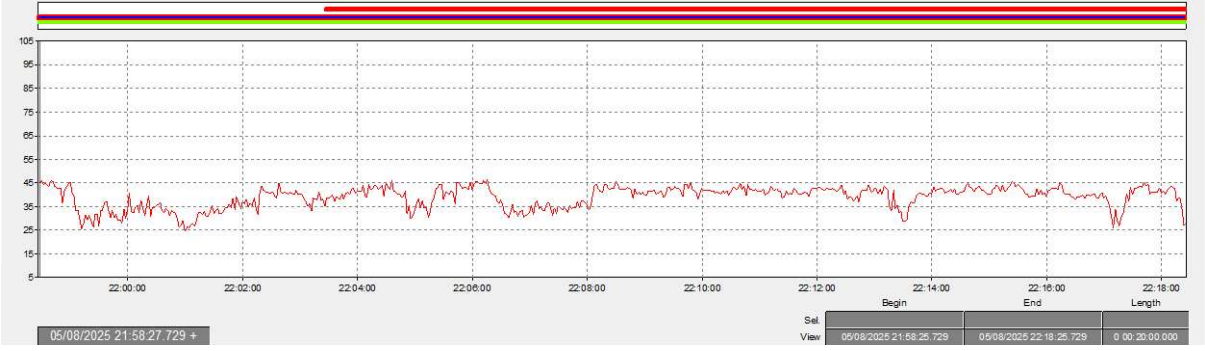
Total Monitoring period



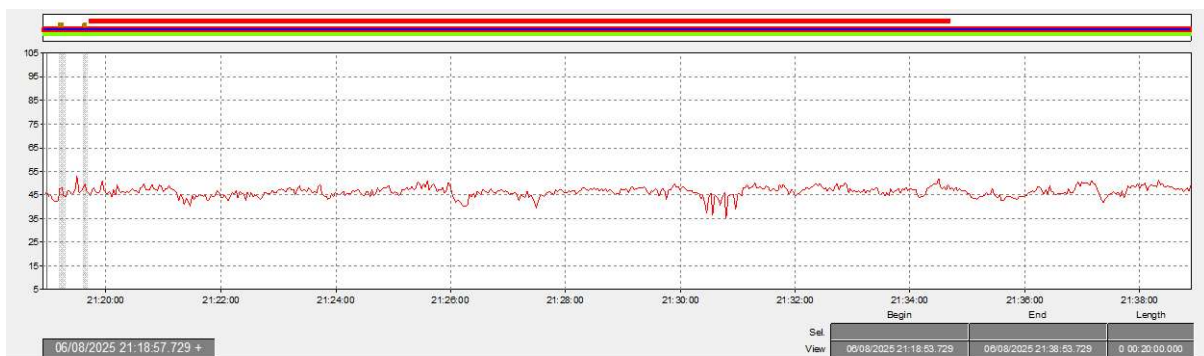
Recording 1



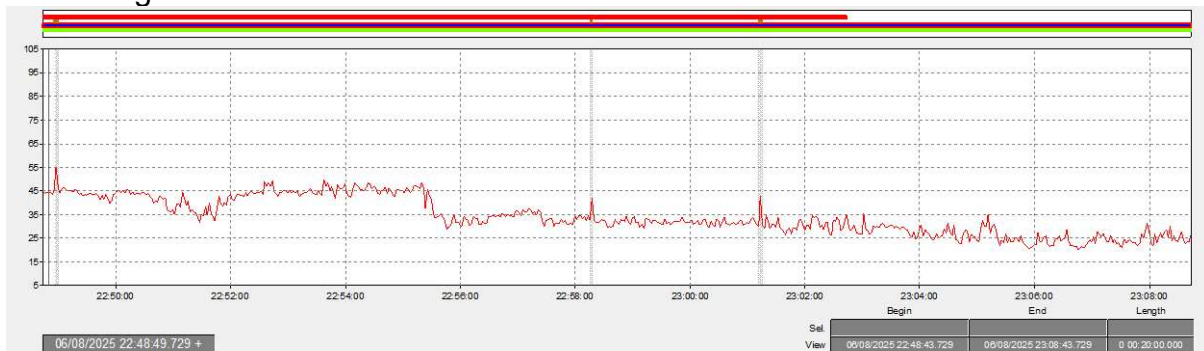
Recording 2



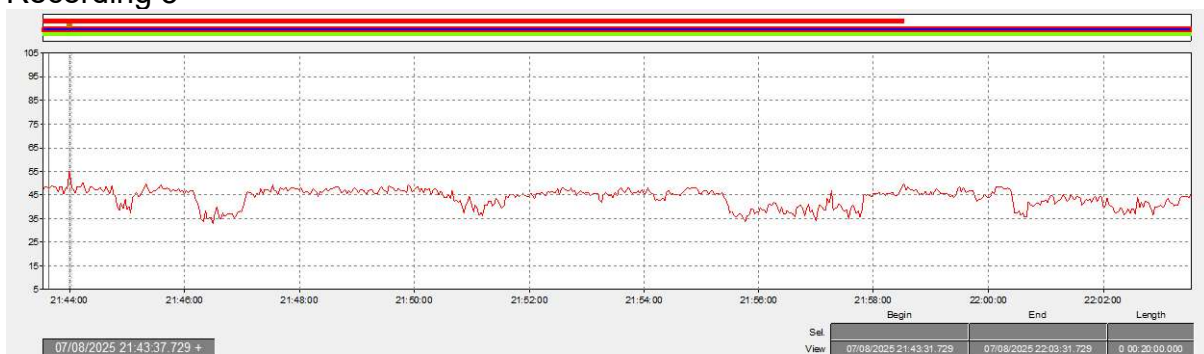
Recording 3



Recording 4



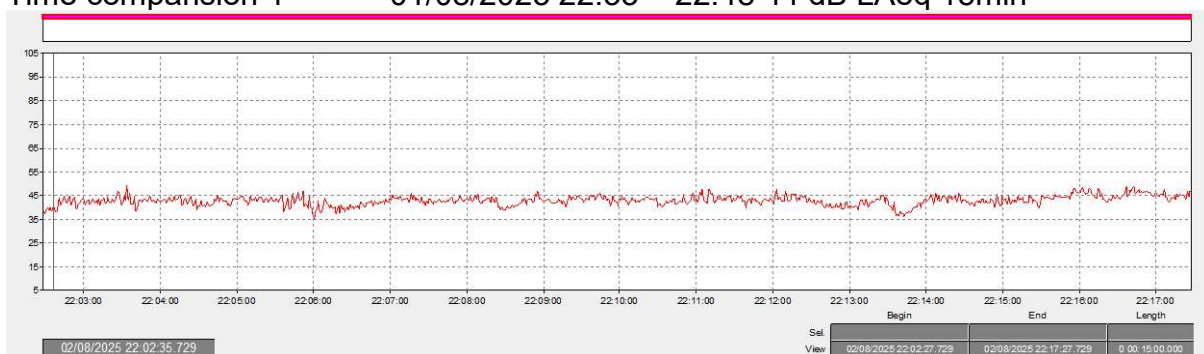
Recording 5



Recording 6



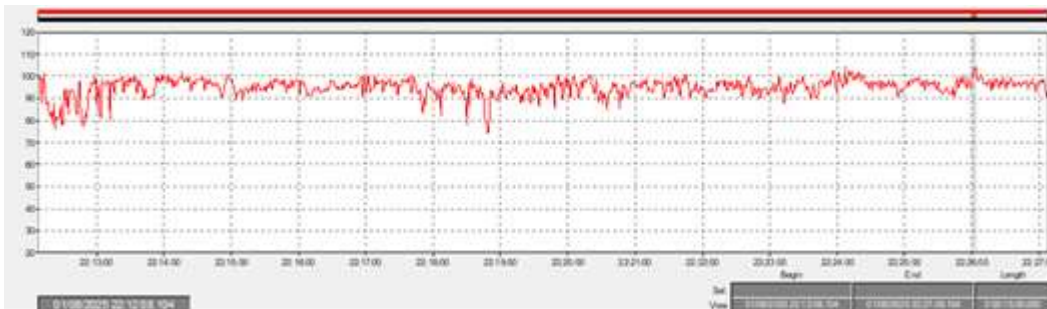
Time comparison 1 01/08/2025 22:33 – 22:48 44 dB LAeq 15min



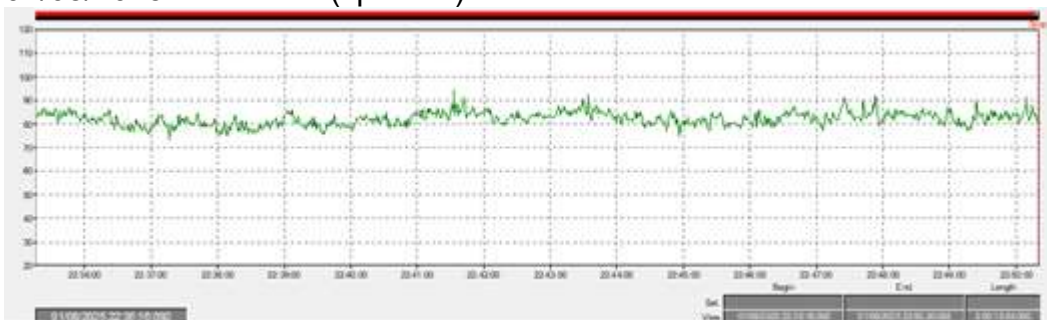
Time comparison 2 02/08/2025 22:02 – 22:17 43 dB (LAeq 15min)

Appendix 2

The LAeq is shown as a red line when taken 1m in front of the speakers and a green line when taken from below Mr Chalkley's window. The X-axis shows the time and the Y-axis shows the decibel level. The solid red line (at the top) shows that the calculations have run for 15 minutes and tie in with the table above. The dark blue and green lines show where an audio recording has been made.



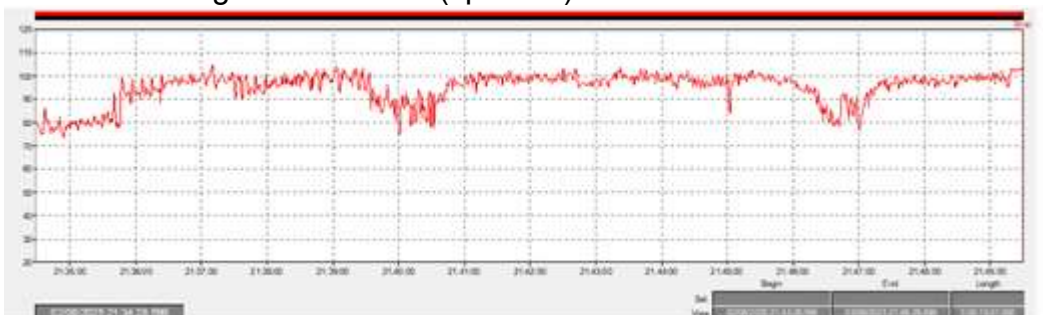
01/08/2025 Location 1 (speaker)



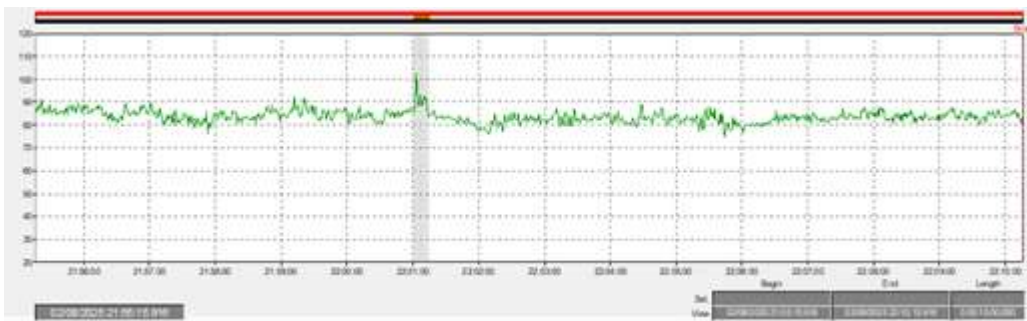
01/08/2025 Location 2 (window)



02/08/2025 August Location 1 (speaker)



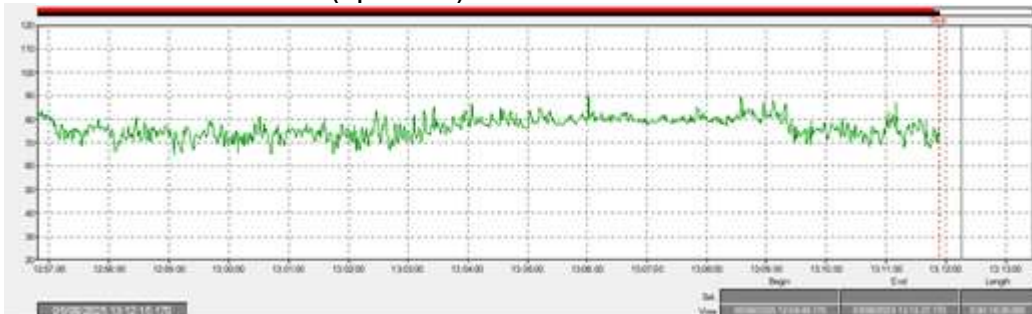
02/08/2025 August 21:06 Location 1 (speaker)



02/08/2025 Location 2 (window)



05/08/2025 Location 1 (speaker)



05/08/2025 Location 2 (window)

Lesley Barber

From: Licensing EDDC
Sent: 18 August 2025 11:09
To: Steven Chalkley
Subject: RE: Licence Review - Anchor Inn Sidmouth

Dear Mr Chalkley

Thank you and all noted. I will ensure your comments are passed to the committee.

Regards
Lesley Barber

From: Steven Chalkley <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 14 August 2025 08:36
To: Lesley Barber <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Licence Review - Anchor Inn Sidmouth

Dear Mrs Barber,

I write to let you know that Mr Winter collected the DAT recording equipment last Monday (11th August).

The music levels during the first Friday and Saturday night performances were low enough not to cause a problem and I did not initiate any recordings. I noted that the audience still enjoyed the music. Mr Winter tells me that he actually attended on both those evenings to set music noise levels at the front speakers which would equate to 70dB(A) at the facade of my rear wall.

However, from Sunday 3rd August to the end of Folk Week I had cause to press the record button as it was obvious that music volume levels had been increased.

The afternoon Ceilidhs and acoustic folk related music were no problem throughout the week.

There were no issues with the relocation of the empty beer barrels - it was a pleasure to be able to get to sleep from 11pm.

Could you pass forward this email to Democratic Services so that the committee members are aware?

Thanks & Regards,

Steve Chalkley.

Lesley Barber

From: Steven Chalkley <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 18 August 2025 13:37
To: Lesley Barber
Subject: Fw: Anchor Inn Noise Recordings

Categories: Lesley

Dear Mrs Barber,

Thank you for today's email. Please see below content of an email sent to Mr Winter. Again, could you ensure this is sighted by members of the committee.

Many thanks & kind regards,

Steve Chalkley.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Steven Chalkley
To: Ian Winter
Sent: Monday 18 August 2025 at 13:33:10 BST
Subject: Re: Anchor Inn Noise Recordings

Dear Mr Winter,

Thank you for your email with the attached noise data from the recent recordings.

The legend on the graph and x/y axis is somewhat difficult to read but the waveforms give a general picture and the table is very useful in showing the averaged noise levels.

In your evidence to the Licence Review Committee you stated that you had, in an advisory capacity, discussed a written MNP with the Anchor that set a noise level of **70dB(A)** at the facade of my boundary wall.

You stated to the Committee that a front of house noise level of **90dB** at the speakers would equate to a distance attenuation of **70dB** at my boundary wall and that with a typical reduction of **33dB** from a closed window would give a level of **37dB** internally, suggesting therefore that this would be acceptable.

As declared in the statement I signed at the bottom of the recording log, my windows were shut at all times during the audio and data recording period. My windows have sound frames and are double glazed.

However when you collected the DAT recording equipment on 11th August you stated that you had attended the venue on the Friday and Saturday and set the music noise levels at the speakers to **96dB** and suggested this would 'distance equate' to **70dB** at my rear windows. This, of course, is an increase of **6dB** at the speakers from what you originally quoted at Committee.

I advised you that for the Friday & Saturday night events, when you attended, the noise levels did not appear to cause a problem so I had no reason to activate the recorder. Other neighbours

also commented the following day that those levels were acceptable. However, I did activate the recorder for the remaining days as the MNLs were increased.

The Music Noise Level data from those nights that you produce in the table indicate internal noise levels consistently in excess of **37dB(A)** allowing for **33dB** attenuation from my closed windows and indicates an average MNL at my property rear facade of **76dB(A)**. This is an increase of **6dB(A)** from the **70dB(A)** level you quoted at the Committee.

What are your thoughts on setting a front of house speaker level to the suggested **90dB** which would, from the above evidence, give a level of **70dB(A)** at the outside wall which is what you told the committee? You should also accept that the surrounding buildings of the Anchor beer garden, especially the rear structure of the pub itself which is in direct line of the speakers and stage, is giving rise to in-phase reflection of the sound causing an increase of the MNL at my property not reducing it.

The Noise Council Guidelines, **which remain in force at this time**, are clear. A **65dB(A)** MNL at the facade of NSRs is recommended for the type of venue at the Anchor (i.e. Urban non-Stadia) albeit for 1-3 performances a year. The monitored **76dB(A)** is over **10dB** higher than Noise Council guidelines and is not acceptable.

Kind Regards,

Steve Chalkley.

On Friday 15 August 2025 at 14:16:38 BST, Ian Winter wrote:

Dear Mr Chalkley,

Please find attached the noise data from the recordings made within your property during Folk Week.

The first graph shows the entire period following by the 6 graphs showing the recordings made by you. In the table the details of the six recordings are shown together with one 15min LAeq measurement for each recording period.

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards

Ian

Ian Winter MSc, REnvH MCIEH, AMIOA

Environmental Health Officer

Environmental Protection Team

Environmental Health

East Devon District Council

Switchboard: 01404 515616

My usual working hours are Monday- Friday 9am-5pm although I may work flexible hours during this time.



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Lesley Barber

From: Steven Chalkley <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 01 September 2025 13:48
To: Lesley Barber
Subject: Fw: Licence Review Committee - Anchor Inn
Categories: Lesley

Dear Mrs Barber,

Please see below email sent to Mr Winter regarding setting of speaker noise levels to ensure a maximum level of 70dB(A) at the rear of noise sensitive properties. You will see that I am seeking the front of stage speaker levels to be set so as to ensure a level of 70dB(A) at the rear facade windows of [REDACTED] which is my neighbour's property that is 5 metres closer to the stage speakers. Mrs Watson is a complainant and has made a statement in this matter.

Would you ensure this is sighted by the committee members.

Do you know when the Review Committee intend to meet to resolve this matter?

Thanks & Regards,

Steve Chalkley.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Steven Chalkley
To: Ian Winter
Sent: Monday 1 September 2025 at 13:31:21 BST
Subject: Licence Review Committee - Anchor Inn

Dear Mr Winter,

Thank you for your email. The calculations have been checked and for a sterile laboratory scenario appear correct.

Have you included any calculation for the reflection of noise level waveform from the pub building itself onto my rear facade? You appear to be basing your conclusion on theoretical measurements from the front of stage speakers and avoid relying on measurements at my rear window. Previous EH Officers have taken readings outside of my rear windows. Can you explain this?

What settings at the front of stage speakers would be required to ensure 70dB(A) at the rear facade of [REDACTED]? This is the residence of Mrs Cynthia Watson, my immediate neighbour, who also made a statement submitted to the committee and is therefore a valid complainant. Her rear facade windows (downstairs and upstairs) are 5 meters closer to the front of stage speakers than mine. Could you let me have the calculations for this as her residence is the nearest noise sensitive property?

Regards,

Steve Chalkley.

Lesley Barber

From: Steven Chalkley [REDACTED] >
Sent: 12 September 2025 13:39
To: Ian Winter
Cc: Lesley Barber
Subject: Re: Licence Review Committee - Anchor Inn

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Mr Winter,

Thanks yours and for clarifying measurements taken were not theoretical and, of course, were based on real-time measurements taken on site. My description of a sterile laboratory scenario was, with afterthought, imprecise but, looking back over events you had not, until your previous email, indicated that any measurements were taken at my rear window to confirm the 70dB(A). Your email of 20th August showed only the calculation flow from measurements at the front of house speakers using the various formulae to arrive at 70dB(A) at the rear window. When you collected the recording equipment you only quoted measurements at the front of house speakers stating that they would 'equate' to 70dB(A) at my window. Thank you for attesting to the fact that you indeed confirmed the levels by measurement at my rear window.

Even with a packed audience, the area between the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] is not congested with audience members as that area is kept clear for access. There will be no absorption of reflected sound. Had you taken the opportunity to visit my property at the time you would have also noted the excessive noise levels at the front of my property caused by sound reflection of surrounding buildings within [REDACTED].

Thank you for confirming that levels at the rear of [REDACTED] (residence of Mrs Cynthia Watson) would, using the data set during your attendance, have been 72dB(A). This is, of course, the closest noise sensitive residence.

I can confirm that the noise levels appeared acceptable on the first Friday and Saturday and some other neighbours were in agreement. I also advised you that from the Sunday onwards the noise levels increased and caused sufficient annoyance to cause me to commence recordings.

Regards,

Steve Chalkley.

On Friday 5 September 2025 at 12:22:16 BST, Ian Winter [REDACTED] > wrote:

Dear Mr Chalkley,

In response to your email, I can confirm that the calculations undertaken for this assessment were based on real-time outdoor sound measurements taken on-site during live amplified music performances. These were not derived from a theoretical or “sterile laboratory” scenario. The propagation model used reflects direct-path outdoor sound transmission from the front-of-stage loudspeakers and applies a free-field outdoor propagation model, consistent with standard acoustic assessment practice.

Regarding your query about reflected sound energy from the public house structure onto your rear façade, a small increase in sound levels is expected due to reflection however, it is important to note that the rear elevation of the public house does not face squarely towards your property. Furthermore, the form of the building includes multiple sloping and non-parallel surfaces, which will result in a greater proportion of diffuse reflections rather than concentrated, directional reflections.

An additional mitigating factor is the sound absorption capacity of the audience during the events. At the time of peak performances, the outdoor audience area was at or near full capacity. A densely packed audience typically presents a broadband sound absorption coefficient of approximately 0.7. This level of absorption significantly reduces reflected sound energy within the immediate direct sound field.

To clarify further, the sound level measurements used in the assessment were not theoretical.

Sound level readings were taken directly outside the rear façade of your property.

A reduction in distance attenuation of 5m would increase the decibel levels by 2 dB(A).

I am recommending the same levels that I have already detailed to you. This level would ensure the minimising of any Public Nuisance from live music events. Plus, as you have pointed out ‘for the Friday & Saturday night events, when you attended, the noise levels did not appear to cause a problem’ and that ‘other neighbours also commented the following day that those levels were acceptable’.

Please let me know if you require any further details or clarification on the methodology or findings.

Regards

Ian

Ian Winter MSc, REnvH MCIEH, AMIOA

Environmental Health Officer

Environmental Protection Team

Environmental Health

East Devon District Council



Switchboard: 01404 515616

My usual working hours are Monday- Friday 9am-5pm although I may work flexible hours during this time.



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Honiton. EX14 1EJ

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From: Steven Chalkley <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 04 September 2025 21:10
To: Ian Winter [REDACTED] >
Cc: Lesley Barber [REDACTED] >
Subject: Fw: Licence Review Committee - Anchor Inn

Dear Mr Winter,

Further to my email of 1st September, shown below, can you tell me if any measurements were taken at the rear facade of my property during the setting of front stage speaker levels on the Friday and Saturday night performances or do you simply rely on the predictions from your calculations?

Could you respond to my suggestion that MNLs should be set at the facade of the nearest NSR - ie [REDACTED] which is some 5 metres nearer the stage?

Regards,

Steve Chalkley.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Steven Chalkley [REDACTED]
To: Ian Winter [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday 1 September 2025 at 13:31:21 BST
Subject: Licence Review Committee - Anchor Inn

Dear Mr Winter,

Thank you for your email. The calculations have been checked and for a sterile laboratory scenario appear correct.

Have you included any calculation for the reflection of noise level waveform from the pub building itself onto my rear facade? You appear to be basing your conclusion on theoretical measurements from the front of stage speakers and avoid relying on measurements at my rear window. Previous EH Officers have taken readings outside of my rear windows. Can you explain this?

What settings at the front of stage speakers would be required to ensure 70dB(A) at the rear facade of [REDACTED] [REDACTED]? This is the residence of Mrs Cynthia Watson, my immediate neighbour, who also made a statement submitted to the committee and is therefore a valid complainant. Her rear facade windows (downstairs and upstairs) are 5 meters closer to the front of stage speakers than mine. Could you let me have the calculations for this as her residence is the nearest noise sensitive property?

Regards,

Steve Chalkley.

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