

Residents have been written to and provided with information on the way the Council investigates nuisance and advised of our Out of Hours (OOH) Noise service (Fri and Sat nights 21:00 to 03:00).

The resident at St Josephs Road was also issued with a written warning.

On Saturday night 29 January the OOH noise team received complaints of a loud party at St Josephs Road. A statutory noise nuisance was witnessed by the investigating officer and the person residing at the property in St Josephs Road was issued with a noise abatement notice. The notice required the person to reduce the level of noise so not to cause nuisance to local residents and also contains a clause to prevent a reoccurrence. We do not have the powers to totally restrict parties but they must not cause a nuisance if they do hold a party. If the resident has another loud party we will need to visit and witness to investigate a breach of the notice. We would ask that residents call the OOH team to investigate. If a breach is witnessed we will consider taking the offender to court. This decision will be based on the time, frequency and duration of the party. If we get a number of breaches in a short period, we may apply to the courts to seize the noise making equipment from the resident and prosecute for the offence. Since this action was taken no further complaints have been made.

For a Public Health Officer to establish statutory nuisance and serve a noise abatement notice they have to witness the level of noise from a neighbour's property. They must be able to demonstrate to the courts in the event of an appeal that they are satisfied that the disturbance was affecting the person living locally.

The officers will not identify the person informing them and all information is confidential. In the case where the party is so loud and not practicable to visit without identifying the person making the complaint, the officers will make an informed judgement on how to proceed.

I hope that this explains how the Council proposes to tackle this problem.