

PARTY HOUSE NUISANCE LOG

Party house name, address, postcode.....

Recorded by.....[name to be redacted].....Residents' Association

Date/time	Nuisance type (indicate any that apply)									Group Type	Effect of nuisance /other comment
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		

- Key:
- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| 1. Noise from inside | 6. Offensive material displayed |
| 2. Noise outside front | 7. Offensive behaviour inside, visible from outside |
| 3. Noise from rear/garden | 8. Rubbish left out other than collection day |
| 4. Aggressive behaviour | 9. Other eg trespass, damage to neighbours' property (please specify in 'comments') |
| 5. Balloons, banners outside | |

Group type: A. All female B. All male C. Mixed D. Family

Advice to FoBRA members – Party Houses

We have made some good progress on party houses with B&NES, who have confirmed that they are able and willing to take enforcement action on the grounds of a breach of the Use Class for residential property (Use Class C3). However, in order to take action, they have to establish as a matter of fact that the house is being used for purposes other than C3, which covers normal residential use. For this purpose they need reports of nuisance caused.

We have agreed a form of report with B&NES Enforcement, and this is attached, together with a guidance note (below). Individual Member associations are best placed to act as the focal points for reporting nuisance to B&NES, because they have the local knowledge and contact with their members. We also urge Associations to contact residents who are not members but who are affected by party houses, and invite them to pass reports through them.

Guidance on completing nuisance log

1. B&NES Council are willing to take enforcement action against party houses on grounds of change of use, but they have to establish as a matter of fact that the house is being used for purposes other than C3; normal residential use. Enforcement is difficult where a property has 6 or fewer beds, as this is generally considered to be normal C3 use. For properties with 7 or more beds, the Council needs evidence of *persistent* and *consistent* nuisance.

2. Residents can be reluctant to complain and generate a 'neighbour dispute'. However, B&NES has agreed to accept nuisance records passed through residents' associations, in which individual complainants are not identified. A party house nuisance log is attached for this purpose. There are two versions:

- A PDF, for hard copy reports
- A Word document, for reporting by email. This has boxes to be completed, with drop-down boxes for dates. There is space for 3 incidents to be logged. If you run out of space in the 'Comments' box, just continue in the box below.

3. The 'Comment' box is very important. Use it to elaborate on the nuisance if necessary, but it is vital to describe the effect of the nuisance on you – eg offence caused, disturbance, inability to sleep.

4. If you are affected by nuisance from a party house, you should keep a log and pass it to your local residents' association (or direct to B&NES if you are content to do so). Forms should be sent in soon after the event has occurred, because B&NES Enforcement say that the passage of time makes it harder for them to follow up. Photographic evidence can be appended.

5. Residents' Associations which receive a nuisance form from a resident should note who has sent it, delete their names from the form, and pass it without delay to:

planning_enforcement@bathnes.gov.uk (by email)

Planning Enforcement, Lewis House, Manvers Street, Bath, BA1 1JG (by post)

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