

# RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

## Cumulative Impact Assessment - an initial study relating to licensed premises in Whalley

### REPORT



Ribble Valley  
Borough Council

[www.ribblevalley.gov.uk](http://www.ribblevalley.gov.uk)

## Methodology

The Cumulative Impact Assessment Survey was set up online and paper copies were made available at the library in Whalley. Electronic responses and paper copies were received.

The link to the survey was published on the Council's website and publicised through press releases, social media and by letters sent to the Parish Council, all licensed premises, ward councillors and Whalley Chamber of Trade on 20 September 2021 and the survey closed on 10 October 2021.

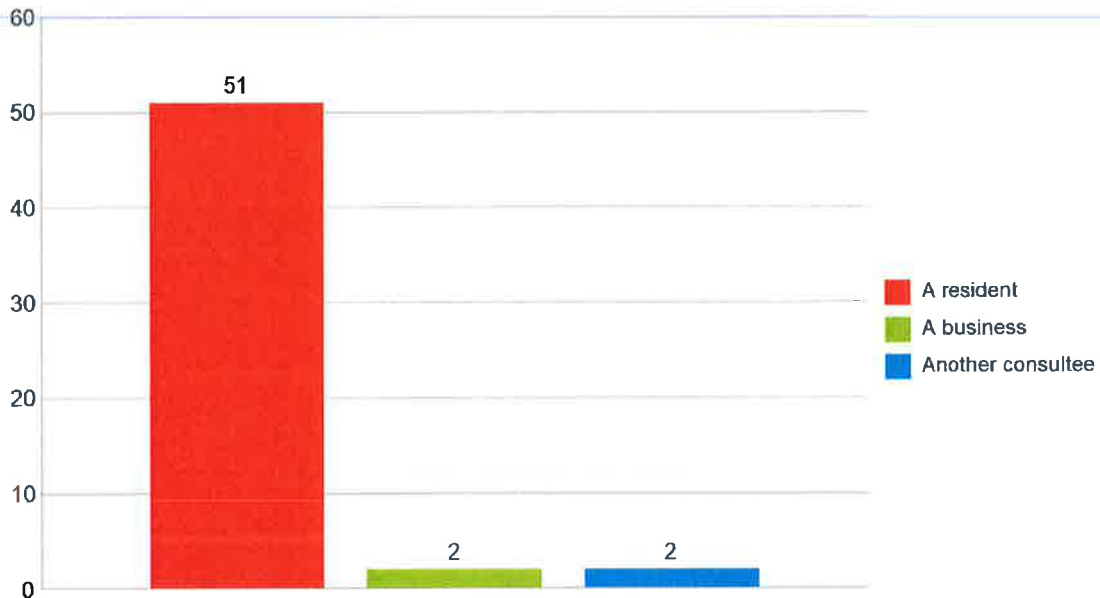
In total **65 responses** were received.

## The Results

### Q1 – Are you...?

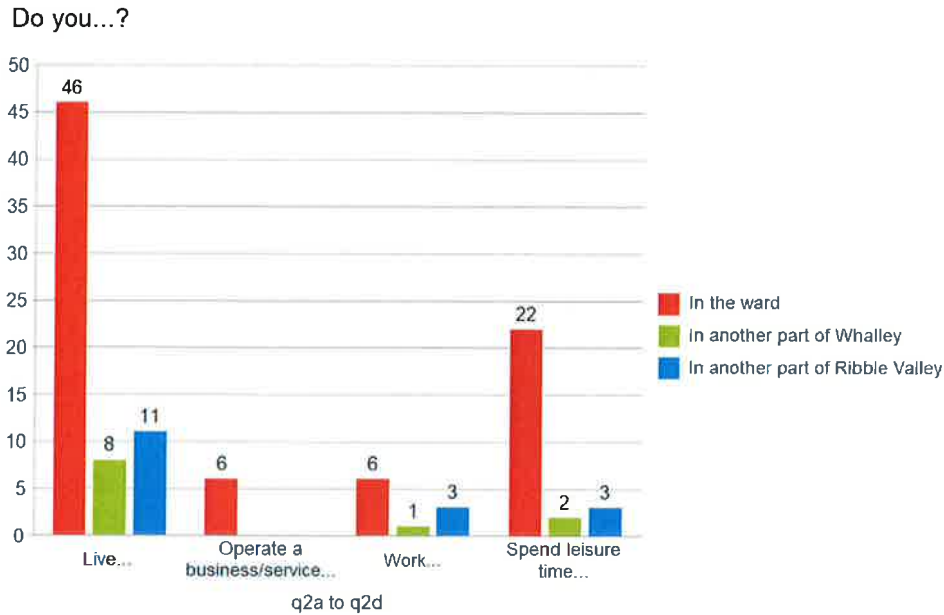
60 people responded to this question. 93% replied that they are a resident and 3.5% replied that they are a business and 3.5% another consultee.

#### Are you...?



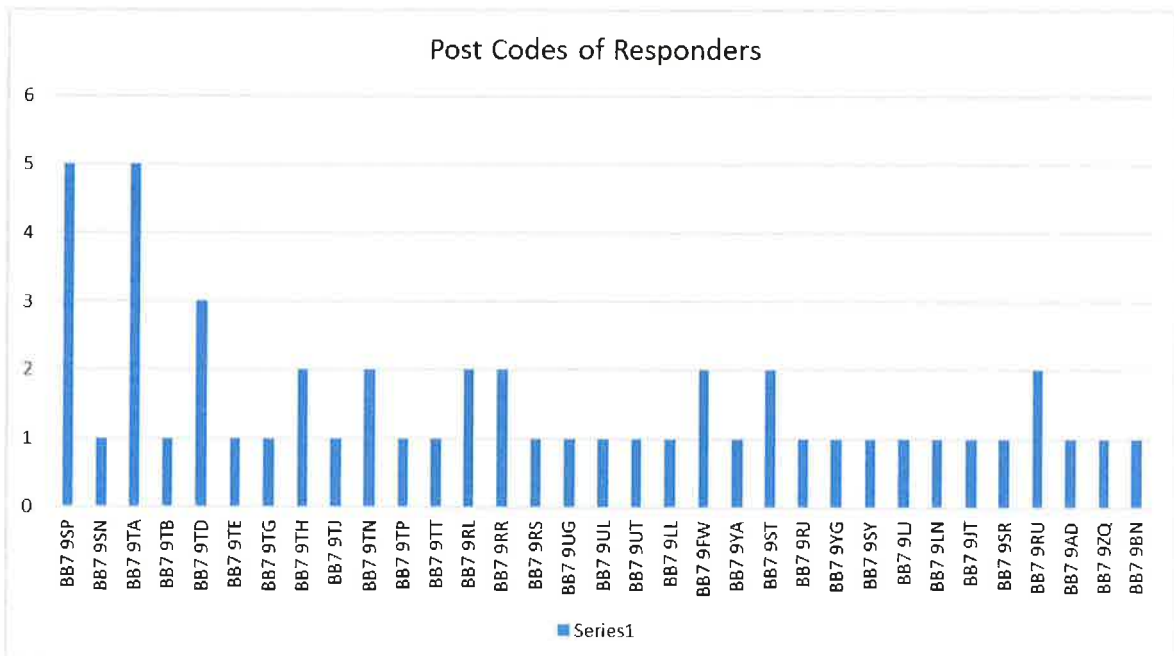
### Q2 – Do you...?

The majority of respondents (46) live in the ward. 22 respondents also spend leisure time in the ward.



### Q3 – If you live, work or operate a business in the ward please can you tell us your postcode?

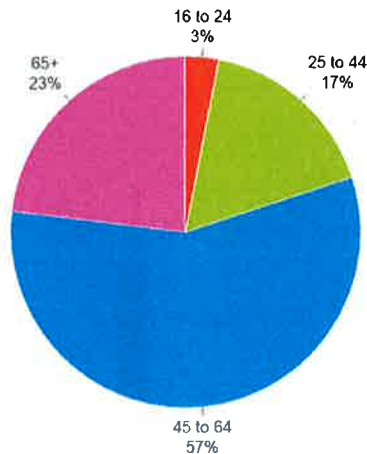
50 people responded to this question. Unsurprisingly there is a high response rate from the postcode areas covering the streets around Rendezvous and The Aviary and also from the streets including and branching off from King Street, the main street, where many of the licensed premises are located.



#### Q4 – What is your age?

65 people provided an answer to this question. There was a good response across all age groups with 57% of respondents aged 45 to 64.

Age of respondent



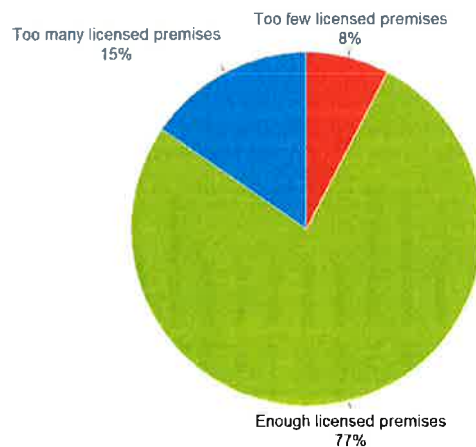
#### Q5 – How do you feel about the number of licensed premises in the Whalley and Painter Wood ward area at the moment?

This question was broken down to:

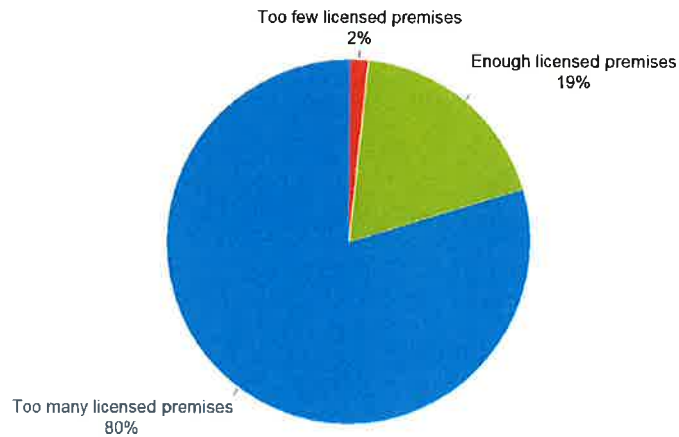
- Those that operate during the day (e.g tea rooms) - 65 people answered this question - and
- Those that operate at night – 64 people answered this question.

76.9% of respondents feel that there are enough licensed premises that operate during the day and 79.7% of respondents feel that there are too many licensed premises that operate at night.

Those that operate during the day (e.g tea rooms) ...



Those that operate at night...



**Q6 – Do you think the Council’s Licensing Committee should in future consider restricting...**

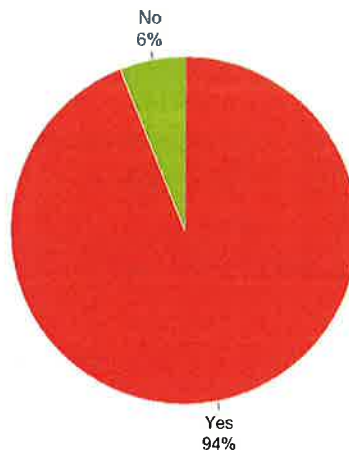
The question was broken down to:

- The number of new premises given a license to operate in the Whalley and Painter Wood ward area – 65 people responded to this question
- The hours that a new premise is licensed to operate – 65 people responded to this question.

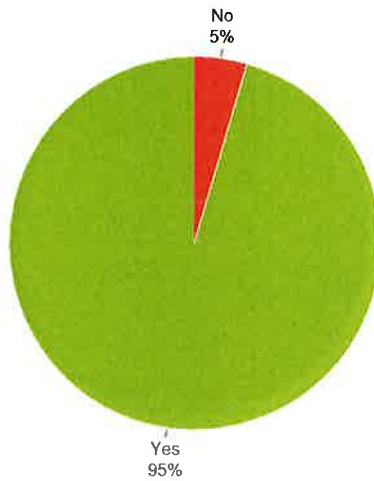
93.8% of respondents feel that the Council’s Licensing Committee should in future consider restricting the number of new premises given a license to operate in the Whalley and Painter Wood ward area.

95.4% of respondents feel that the Council’s Licensing Committee should in future consider restricting the hours that a new premise is licensed to operate.

The number of new premises given a licence to operate in the Whalley and Painter Wood ward area



The hours that a new premise is licensed to operate



**Q7 – Would you support increased controls on the way new premises in the Whalley and Painter Wood ward area operate?**

64 people responded to this question. 90.6% of respondents would support increased controls on the way new premises in the Whalley and Painter Wood ward area operate.

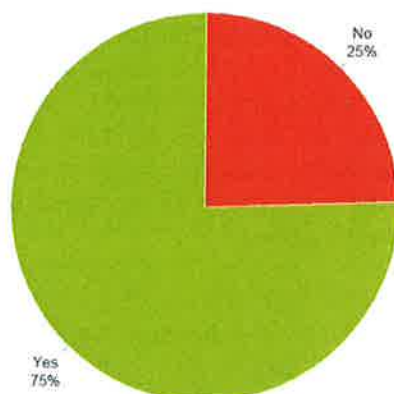
Would you support increased controls on the way new premises in the Whalley and Painter Wood ward area operate



**Q8 – Have you been affected by the cumulative impact of the number of licensed premises in the Whalley and Painter Wood ward area?**

57 people responded to this question. 75.4% of respondents answered that they had been affected by the cumulative impact of the number of licensed premises in the ward area.

Have you been affected by the cumulative impact of the number of licensed premises in the Whalley and Painter Wood ward area



Those that answered yes were asked to provide further information of how they had been affected (this could include details of public nuisance, damage or harm to themselves or their property.) 49 comments were received.

Below are the comments received -

1. "Music very loud which is disturbing my family from sleeping at night time. My son has ADHD and it's becoming a big problem with him as he is crying at nighttime because of the loud noise coming from Avairy and Rio's. We have also been targeted on our property with drunken people after midnight. I feel that the police need to be more on scene, to evaluate what is going on."
2. "Increased noise and anti social activity particularly at weekends we suffer on Cornmill Mews from activities at the Salvage Yard, particularly discos etc in an entirely inappropriate building with no sound attenuation in place at all . This site is surrounded by residential property, we are perhaps 30 metres away. During events all windows and doors are open and people spill onto the adjacent yard and access road without any parking etc How on earth was this entirely unacceptable use given consents in the first place ? Afterwards and at weekends we then have people worse for wear up and down the adjacent footpath and across the Mews , which is both disturbing and intimidating .We avoid King Street and the area at the junction at these times as it often mayhem attracting people from the wider area , why should Whalley residents suffer . We must have ten or twelve licenced premises , the village is saturated , no more please . We are sure the police will verify all of the above , we have a virtually permanent police presence at weekends . This used to be a quiet and pleasnat village which is being destroyed by noise , disturbanca and anti social behaviour , no more ."
3. "There are too many licensed premises in the village. There are some very responsible licensed premises namely The Swan, Whalley wine bar, The Dog. Bennys is a concern - there are minimum controls re numbers attending, age checks, not selling to persons who are clearly drunk. Rendezvous has always been an issue in how the licensee deals with egress. The Salvage Works is a real concern. They have live bands operating after midnight and they don't have the doors closed. The volume of the music coupled with the fact that people are drinking outside contributes to excessive noise that is disturbing. There are also customers from The Salvage Works and the Forum who then urinate and vomit on business and

residential premises. There has been a huge rise in alcohol related anti social behaviour, nuisance, damage and violence around the abbey grounds, neighbouring roads and there appears to be little done to manage this. There are further noise issues associated with the motorcycle businesses who operate from early morning up to 10pm at night with excessive engine testing, revving and excessive noise. The amount of litter on weekend mornings resulting from empty alcohol vessels, smashed glasses and takeaway wrappers is also a concern. There is also a concern re the number of people drinking outside pubs etc with no action taken by the premise owners. There also appears to be an increase in overt drug taking inside licensed premises and in the abbey."

4. "I am upset and distressed by the amount of anti social behaviour and music disturbance I am subjected to every weekend without fail. I am also upset about how this affects my child, regularly woken by mainly the shouting. I am not able to live safely in my home, I am always anxious about weekend and what has and could happen. I can't even use my front door at the weekend because of what I may stumble across and am usually too frightened to even look out of my window due to the people outside my house. I have a right to live free from fear and this is not happening at the moment"
5. "I am affected by the cumulative impact of the number of licensed premises on a weekly basis, specifically the weekends, Friday and Saturday nights. It is impossible to sleep with revellers shrieking, shouting, fighting, taxis pipping, car doors slamming, taxi driver chatting and revellers arguing about their fare. However, on top of all of this, and by far the worst disturbance for me is the thudding music noise that emanates from specific licensed premises near me which have not been designed nor adequately soundproofed for loud and/or live music through the day, night or early hours. This is such an unacceptable intrusion on my well-being and after years of complaining about this issue, to no avail, I have had to resort to the extreme measure of sometimes leaving my house at weekends and staying elsewhere just to get a night's sleep. This is despite doing everything I can think of to sound-proof my home, including recently removing my original internal doors and having new ones fitted to try and minimise the noise. I sleep with a fan on thorough the night to try and distract me from the utter torture of the thumping bass/ music noise. This cannot be considered an acceptable situation. I have had many, many frequent and weekly instances of intruders on and damage to my property. Revellers come into my garden to urinate, take drugs and sometimes just congregate. I have recent footage from one of my CCTVs which captured two drunk men on top of my garage roof. This has left me very, very anxious at night and adds to my inability to settle and sleep and feel safe in my home. I have had my garden fences and trellis broken (both back and front garden) on a regular basis for the past seven years and it is common to see drugs packets scattered about at the front and back of my house in the weekend mornings. There is vomit, broken glass, cigarette butts and discarded pizzas boxes all over the streets of Central Whalley and it is such a disgrace that as custodians of our beautiful village the powers that be cannot seem to protect it better than at present. Central Whalley has always been a vibrant place to be, but unfortunately the saturation of it by late night drinking establishments has made it attractive to all manner of out-of-towners who see it as a destination to drink as much as you can throughout the early hours. As such, it has become an intimidating, out-of-control and unpleasant place for residents to live. There seems to be very little thought, respect or care for those of us that live here. Indeed, I have been told on numerous occasions that I shouldn't have 'chosen to live next to wine bars', which



is very frustrating and much uniformed as I didn't 'choose' to live next to wine bars! I have lived here prior to ALL the wine bars and objected to each and every license that RVBC has passed, for the reasons that have now transpired. Any intelligent person understands that businesses are needed and that hospitality have had a particularly awful time recently with Covid. However, this nightlife blight has been going on long, long before Covid and I find it very insulting to use Covid as an excuse to facilitate the continual ruining of our lives."

6. "Late night noise from people arriving at and dispersing from The Aviary Cocktail Bar and Rios Nightclub. Noise from music systems. Shouting and screaming, aggressive behaviour, drunken behaviour. Urination on the street and in gardens. Broken glass on street. Late night noise from taxis arriving and dispersing on Accrington Road and Queen Street, which are both residential streets This noise can continue until 4am leading to inability to sleep or to have windows open - recommended in Covid times. The streets don't necessarily feel safe. I just want to have peace and quiet on the street where I live - a right enjoyed by others who do not live in the middle of Whalley."
7. "Yes. We live on the same residential area that 'The Aviary' and 'Rendezvous' are located, and clearly both of these premises (more referring to the Aviary), clearly dont understand the concept of noise control. I dread each weekend as I know it'll be another weekend of zero sleep."
8. "Increased littering and noise (nuisance) at night"
9. "The noise pollution in whalley is simply awful, I visit my parents regularly and it's got to the point where we cannot relax in the garden or house for that matter, due to heavy music and crowds of people leaving these somehow licensed premises. I simply can't understand why RVBC would allow bars to be located in the middle of a residential area with minimal restrictions of noise pollution/opening hours. Is it someone's job to be regulating this? I feel like it should be."
10. "Public nuisance, in the evening it is extremely unpleasant walking around the centre and sometimes the outskirts of Whalley. I have been subject to harrasment and abuse from people that do not live within the area and who have had too much to drink and become agressive and unpleasant. It also makes parking very difficult particularly on Church Lane where people visiting the pubs and wine bar park. I am concerned that people leave their cars overnight and it would become impossible for emergency vehicles to get down Church Lane and onto the Sands."
11. "I feel worried about the future of Whalley and the possibility of night time drinking behaviour creeping into the day. Following the extension of the wine bar the outside atmosphere seems to have changed in the DAY. I had an unpleasant experience trying to navigate the pavement outside the wine bar. The seating area was packed (Friday afternoon) and there were large groups of people congregated on the pavement section communicating with the customers in the seating area. I had to fight my way through and felt very unsafe and humiliated. As a female in my early sixties, I now take a detour and avoid this section of pavement if on my own. It does seem that people are congregating on the pavement outside in a manner that did not occur before the extension. I appreciate that the pandemic staycation situation may have an impact. However, this is a public pavement which is used by children going to and from to the primary school and people visiting the GP surgery and the Pharmacy. Wit h the recent increase in anti social behaviour what type of message

do we give to young people? I am not against the wine bar as it brings visitors to Whalley but I hope that when you grant licences in future you take into account the impact on pedestrians and consider their safety."

12. "Very noisy at times with people returning in the early hours"
13. "The amount of vandalism, litter, vomit and other unsavoury events are occurring more and frequently. I live in billington and we are affected by inebriated persons travelling through the village, as well as speeding cars and taxis, particularly by the billington metal railway bridge."
14. "Kept awake at night with street noise/loud voices/taxis until 4a.m. Detritus on pavement and street outside front door(fag ends, vomit, takeaway cartons) Unable to have windows open in Summer because of noise resulting in disturbed sleep patterns Anxiety/not feeling safe at weekends to go outside"
15. "Some of the licenced premises on King St & Queen St are attracting a number of ""unsavoury characters"" to the village. I personally have witnessed increasing instances of drugs use / drugs dealing in the car parks & public houses. Whilst my wife has been verbally abused on two recent occasions. When we moved to Whalley 9-years ago there were just 4-pubs & 2-licenced restaurants on King St + Rendevous on Accrington road. Whereas now there are 12-drinking establishments on King St alone! Also, there used to be a regular evening community police patrol around the village centre at weekends. Whilst a police car was regularly in attendance on the bus terminus on most evenings. Unfortunately I very rarely see a police presence in & around Whalley theses days. Which I'm sure is also contributing to the proliferation of unsociable behavior in a village once considered to be one of the top ten places to live in England!!"
16. "We live just far enough away from the areas which operate as a night time economy and where fellow Whalley residents have their lives blighted by the fall-out in the early hours of the morning. We should limit the opening hours - 4.30 am is way too late in a residential area."
17. "There has been an increase of anit-social behaviour. Don't feel safe shopping in Whalley as a result of people drinking there and it being a small town. I feel sorry for the residents who live there"
18. "disturbances in the street, Drunk and disorderly on the streets. noise in the street. Parking issues"
19. "I am disgusted at the state of the pavements in Whalley, especially along King Street and Accrington Road. They are so stained with spilt beer/alcohol, urine and vomit (I know this is what it is because the smell is unmistakable) that I feel sick myself walking along them. It is putting me off visiting Whalley to spend my money. I blame this on the council's continued support of Whalley's night time economy above the needs of the residents and day time visitors. Whalley was once a nice village. Now it is jam packed with houses, traffic and nightclub/ wine bar filth."
20. "The council should be paying more attention to the amount of houses being built without any plans to increase medical and educational facilities"

21. "The source of the disturbance is Benny's Bar & Cafe at 3 Accrington Road. After the pubs close, drinkers congregate at Benny's in order to continue socialising until the early hours of the morning. This in itself is not an issue, but the fact that the door staff at Benny's allow adolescent drinkers to gather in loud groups outside their premises is the cause of much of the disturbance. A certain amount of noise is to be expected at weekends, but recently, it has also been occurring during the week which is intolerable. Sadly, central Whalley is fast becoming a no-go area after dark, and my family and I are now considering moving out of the village. The management at Benny's should be reminded that they are operating in a mixed residential & commercial area of Whalley and therefore have an obligation to behave accordingly. If not, their licence to serve alcohol should be revoked."
22. "See the after effects when visiting"
23. "My elderly mother lives in the centre of Whalley. I am worried about her going out in the evening, particularly at weekends when people travel to Whalley and there is rowdy behaviour."
24. "Bus loads of single sex parties being dropped off in village centre already rowdy at school pick up time. Driving through crowds of intoxicated revellers staggering off pavements and into traffic, proliferation of taxis parking & obstructing roundabout at king st & Accrington road. Inability to walk down pavement due to smokers outside the Forum, Whalley wine shop, the DeLacy Arms & Jacks. Vomiting & urination in front facing gardens. Verbal harassment of young girls by intoxicated men"
25. "After living in the area for just 3 years I've been shocked at the negative impact the number of evening licensed premises has on the area. I have personally witnessed several scenes of violence spilling out onto the street, drug paraphernalia left on the bus stations, drug taking and dealing (reported to the police), vandalism and a constant stream of broken glass and rubbish left on the streets without fail particularly on a Sunday morning. To the point where several residents have simply stopped going into Whalley on these times. Even something as simple as walking our dog in the village on a Sunday morning is problematic due to the broken glass often left outside the pubs and clubs. It is in my opinion imperative that the existing publicans and businesses do more to safeguard Whalley and forge better ties to the community by tackling some of the issues already present before inviting more."
26. "Nuisance and antisocial behaviour. Unacceptable in a village where homes lie side by side with licensed establishments"
27. "Continual noise , flower beds destroyed, we live on waters edge so only have access down Queen street where after 10pm the street is rowdy , doormen not allowing us down to our home . Abusive language and no thought for residents, traffic is horrendous at weekends when there's pop up bars, special events always include alcohol so eventually leads to fighting we often walk around on a Sunday morning and look at the aftermath of a bank holiday or busy weekend and look at the uprooted plants, bottles and glasses left anywhere. Absolutely no more licensed premises please. Enough is enough. We enjoy a night out but when its busy with taxis bringing people in that's the problem. Whalley is classed as a great night out with drinkers from Accrington, Gt Harwood etc not for residents now."
28. "I find it dangerous to drive through the centre of Whalley at night -(if you unfortunately have to) especially Accrington Road area. Rowdy drunken behaviour in

the streets. Same as comments I made on the last review- rowdy behaviour, RVC should clean the streets during day at weekend due to vomit and litter of all kind !!!!! If RVC want to promote the town of Whalley as tourist centre you need to look after it."

29. "It is pushing up rents, and stopping real shops opening. What the village needs is fresh fruit and vegetables, plastic free recycling shops, a charity shop or second hand renewable, a repair cafe. It is very intimidating walking through the village at all times of the day and the pavements and shops all being full of people drinking copious amounts of alcohol, so much so that we now avoid the centre as much as possible where once it was was a place to meet other locals and stop and chat. But then again, I'm not a tory."
30. "Noisy and rowdy behaviour in and around the railway station as people go to and from Whalley centre."
31. "No longer venture out late evening. Too many drunken people. Also the disarray in the village the morning after is evident for all to see"
32. "Lots of noise due to drunken people, litter thrown all over due to them getting take aways"
33. "We have only been in our house for 18 months. In this short time: -numerous noise disturbance on a regular, weekly basis from venues themselves (music) - numerous noise disturbances on a regular, weekly basis from passers by- singing, shouting etc. - 4 separate incidents in which floral window boxes were pulled off the window sill and smashed up. - wires going into the wall to the Sky box pulled out of the wall -wing mirror damage to our parked car outside our property -vomit over our parked car outside the property -most recently, physical fight outside the front door which we had to go outside and split up"
34. "I live just up the road from Rios & The Aviary plus a very short distance from the centre itself. The weekends are so noisy, especially late at night & into the early hours with people leaving & taxis. I do not feel safe walking down to coop for a pint of milk after 9pm, the village is full of drunks & drug takers. The following morning the village is a mess with glasses, bottles, left behind clothing, piles of sick & takeaway rubbish. The publicans/licensees need to take more responsibility for cleaning up the village. And late licences should be reduced to help people move on earlier & let residents sleep/feel safe in their homes!"
35. "Noisy and rowdy behaviour in and around the railway station as people go to and from Whalley centre."
36. "Increased antisocial behaviour by drunken visitors to Whalley. I feel the quality of establishments and the hours are BOTH important. Some of the lower quality premises are drawing less desirable types into the village centre, (eg H2o and Aviary), where's for example Whalley Wine Bar attracts the right type of custom for a village like Whalley."
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38. "I haven't been personally effected though I am aware many people have. I have one big question- how on earth has Bennys bar been able to maintain their business within that particular unit for so long when so many others have failed???? Mmmmm I wonder???"
39. "lack of normal shop for a village, anti social behaviour, noise, traffic and parking, crime increased."
40. "Although I live just off the main road it can still be extremely noisy late at night and often into the early hours with people leaving the licensed premises. I have had many disturbed nights. When you walk through the village, even during the day, there are folk outside neary every pub drinking and blocking the pavement. It does not show our village in a very good light to visitors. It never used to be this bad!"
41. "Public nuisance in the form of noise, people returning from venues, shouting and swearing in the street. Car doors banging, engines running whilst people get money from cash points. Resulting in lack of sleep. Difficulty accessing property due to delivery vans making daytime deliveries"
42. "Yes as I believe more licensed premises in the area will invite more people to come into the town from other areas and towns which might then causes conflicts with the locals and potential vandalism noise pollution and general distressed of neighbourhood"
43. "I have been impacted greatly by these so called bars particularly the ones open until morning hours. I am affected by taxis, particularly loud music, which I have been informed is ""within Ribble Valley limits"", I can hear this in my home which is causing great distress to my health and wellbeing, to the point where I am struggling to function and run my business on the Monday and Tuesday after the weekend openings, then it starts all over again on Thursday. The people milling about these new places are causing disruption with shouting and fighting. Saturday and Sunday whilst walking to the shops I am greeted with used condoms, drug packets and vomit. This is a residential area, some of these places cannot be soundproofed adequately because of the large amount of windows in them and should not have been given a licence for music in an area so close to housing with families, some with small children. My business is supplying an important service to the pub/bar and hotel sector , I have spoken to a large number of these operators who cannot understand how these bars in Whalley have been given continuous permission to operate in these ways without repercussions"
44. "Late night disturbance and minor vandalism perpetrated by inebriated pedestrians proceeding towards Barrow."
45. "Noise nuisance Swearing , shouting, screeching from drunken people Taxi horns hooting until 5 a.m. Loud vehicle engine noise and misuse of one way street until 5 a.m. Vehicle damage Litter: glasses, bottles, underwear, drug paraphernalia, pizza boxes, faeces, vomit, urine. Being kept awake until 5 a.m. on Saturday and Sunday mornings. Mental health issues for people who are carers and get no sleep at the

weekends. The anti social behaviour makes me feel anxious, frightened and frustrated. Many people in this area are women living on their own."

46. "Noise in the evening Litter: bottles, drug bags, vomit, trespassers, taxi drivers making noise until 5 a.m. Lack of sleep leading to tiredness, irritability and mental health problems. Having to listen to offensive language. Unpleasant experiences when I am walking to church on Sunday morning. Unwillingness to walk through the village after 8 p.m. due to large groups of drunks"
47. "It has become ridiculous at weekends 4 or 5 bars operating into the small hours in a residential area means noise, fighting, vandalism and huge amounts of drug dealing. We have had people waking our kids up fighting and screaming outside our windows at 3 or 4am. No dedicated policing at closing times and this is made worse because every bar is operating different hours so the noise nuisance is continuous from 11 am. At the very least there should be dedicated officers in Whalley all night over the weekends. I don't think the council truly understand the impacts Whalley now has coaches pulling up in the bus station delivering parties from Yorkshire and the amount of drugs then attracts teenagers who have caused havoc in the Abbey."
48. "Customers who have already been drinking in village centre migrate to the late night bars in my area. I'm woken by music noise, ASB on streets and in alleys. Am considering moving due to the impact on my mental health. Too nervous to go out into the village on weekend evenings. The night-time economy is ruining Whalley and many neighbours want to leave the area."
49. "Late night driving is often noisy. Late night drinkers arrive in Whalley, often already drunk - drink more. Drugs are also evident (empty packets on co-op car park or on pavement). They then consume more and fights breakout, they trespass in people's gardens, wreck shop windows. They seem to lose all sense of what is right or wrong. Vomit and broken glass regularly found on Saturday am and Sunday am. Late night drinkers are the main problem - publicity about the 'lively music scene' in Whalley seems to be attracting undesirable visitors. I go out at nights for choir, book group and the pub/cinema in Clitheroe. I no longer feel safe returning home on my own now that drunks - male and female - and potentially drunk visitors are around on my return.."