

Appendix B

Case Study: Closure Order to Address Anti-Social Behaviour

Background

A residential neighbourhood in Earl Shilton had been facing persistent anti-social behaviour from a property occupied by an anti-social tenant. The tenant had allowed several individuals to stay at the property. The activities at the property included noise nuisance and drug misuse. This significantly impacted the quality of life for nearby residents. Complaints had been escalating over the past 6 months.

Identifying the Problem

Local residents reported feeling unsafe. Reports to both the police and the council revealed that the anti-social behaviour was frequent and severe, causing significant distress and fear among neighbours. The property was also in a state of disrepair, contributing to neighbourhood decline.

Legal Action: Closure Order Application

After gathering substantial evidence from resident reports, police records, and on-site observations, the Endeavour team looked to pursue a closure order under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. This legal tool allows authorities to temporarily close premises if they are associated with significant and persistent anti-social behaviour that is affecting the local community.

Outcome of the Closure Order

The magistrates reviewed the case, considering both the evidence and witness statements from affected residents. Given the severity and persistence of the issues, the court granted the closure order for an initial three-month period, with an option for extension if necessary.

The Closure Order:

- Prohibited all occupants and visitors from entering the property for the duration of the order.
- Allowed only authorised individuals (such as the council or its agents) to access the premises.
- The Order permitted the tenant to remain in the property only.

Community Impact

The implementation of the closure order had an immediate positive effect on the neighbourhood:

- **Reduction in Noise and Nuisance:** Neighbours reported a significant improvement in noise levels, allowing them to sleep without disruption for the first time in months.
- **Increased Safety and Community Confidence:** Residents expressed relief at seeing proactive action taken to address the issue, and many felt safer in their homes and neighbourhood.