Noise Nuisance Protocol

The University receives complaints from local residents that a minority of students engage in anti-social behaviour. Occasionally, the University also receives reports of witnessed disturbances from the Police and the City Council. These incidents are usually due to a lack of awareness rather than inconsiderate behaviour. When a disturbance has occurred, the University will apply the following Noise Nuisance Protocol, which is in accordance with the Student Disciplinary Procedure (See Section D - Level 2 Central Procedure: https://www.ncl.ac.uk/students/progress/Regulations/Procedures/disciplinary/).

Students will receive more severe sanctions where there is evidence of repeated anti-social behaviour or for exhibiting abusive, aggressive, threatening or intimidating conduct. Students who have caused repeated or significant disturbances can expect to be referred to a Student Disciplinary Committee who will consider the full range of University sanctions, including expulsion. Further information about fines and sanctions is provided on the following webpages:

Fines and charges: https://www.ncl.ac.uk/students/progress/Regulations/Procedures/disciplinary/fines.htm
Sanctions: https://www.ncl.ac.uk/students/progress/Regulations/Procedures/disciplinary/sanctions.htm

Usual Sanctions following reported noise disturbances and/or anti-social behaviour:
Student Progress Service will consider the details of every matter reported of witnessed/unwitnessed noise and/or anti-social behaviour. Student Progress Service will determine whether the student household (Newcastle University students only) should be issued with disciplinary sanctions in accordance with the University’s Student Disciplinary Procedures.

For reports of noise disturbances/anti-social behaviour in the community where external services (Newcastle City Council/Police) have not been involved, and depending on the level of the disturbance, students would usually be issued with a Caution. A caution is not a sanction but constitutes advice on future conduct, together with a record that the advice has been given. A caution will not be disclosed in references but may be taken into account should any misconduct be found in the future. Student Progress Service reserves the right to impose a Written or Final Written Warning and/or an individual Disciplinary Fine for such incidents depending on the nature and volume of complaints received.

Noise Witnessed by Newcastle City Council Officers / Police:
It should be noted that Newcastle City Council does not necessarily issue the following warnings incrementally. Second Warning letters, invitations to sign Acceptable Behaviour Agreements (ABA) and S.80 Abatement Notices/Community Protection Notices (CPN) can be issued following a first witnessed disturbance.
**First Warning Letter issued by Newcastle City Council:**

If the University receives a report which states that a disturbance has been witnessed by Newcastle City Council Officers or the Police, the whole student household (Newcastle University students only) will usually be issued with a **Written Warning** and an individual **Disciplinary Fine** of £30 each. The students will be advised that they can submit evidence that they were not involved in the disturbance or request a meeting with the Student Progress Service to discuss the matter. This request and/or any evidence should be submitted to casework@ncl.ac.uk within 7 days of the outcome. After consideration of submitted evidence or a meeting the Student Progress Service may quash, confirm or vary the outcome. Students can lodge a formal appeal within 21 days of the outcome.

**Second Warning Letter issued by Newcastle City Council:**

If the University receives a report which states that a Second Warning is to be issued, the student household will usually be called to a disciplinary meeting with the Student Progress Service to investigate the matter further. The external services are likely to issue a Second Warning where a disturbance is witnessed for a second occasion or where a significant disturbance has been caused to the local community.

The sanctions will vary depending on the details of the case but it is likely that a **Final Written Warning** and large **Disciplinary Fine** - up to £300 per person would usually be imposed. If the case is deemed very serious, it is likely that the matter will be referred to a Student Disciplinary Committee who have the full range of **sanctions** available to them.

**Acceptable Behaviour Agreement (ABA) /Section 80 Abatement Notice / Community Protection Notice (CPN):**

In cases of serious or repeated disturbances the external services will consider whether to issue the student household with a Section 80 Abatement Notice or a Community Protection Notice. Alternatively, the student household may be invited to attend a Police Station to discuss signing an Acceptable Behaviour Agreement. If the University receives a report that the external services have taken one of the above serious measures, the student household will usually be called to a disciplinary meeting with the Student Progress Service to investigate the matter further.

The sanctions will vary depending on the details of the case but it is likely that a **Final Written Warning** and a large **Disciplinary Fine** - up to £300 per person would usually be imposed. If the case is deemed very serious, it is likely that the matter will be referred to a Student Disciplinary Committee who have the full range of **sanctions** available to them.

**Action by the Council and Police (Collectively):**

The Council and Police have their own procedures for addressing noise nuisance and anti-social behaviour by students. Further information on this is available on the following pages:

Misconduct and how it is dealt with:  
[https://www.ncl.ac.uk/students/progress/Regulations/Procedures/disciplinary/misconduct.htm](https://www.ncl.ac.uk/students/progress/Regulations/Procedures/disciplinary/misconduct.htm)

Sanctions:  
[https://www.ncl.ac.uk/students/progress/Regulations/Procedures/disciplinary/sanctions](https://www.ncl.ac.uk/students/progress/Regulations/Procedures/disciplinary/sanctions)