## Antisocial behaviour (stag and hen parties) - Westminster Hall debate

**Organisation:**House of Commons

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**On Tuesday, Robert Syms (Con, Poole) secured a Westminster Hall debate about anti-social behaviour in relation to stag and hen parties in his constituency.**

He explained that in the recent years there had been residential properties used "inappropriately" as party houses for stag and hen parties and that he had heard of stories of elderly people barricading themselves into their homes because of the noise.

He believed the issue was causing great distress and that it represented a real problem for his constituency.

Crime prevention minister Norman Baker acknowledged that this could affect people and communities in "quite profound ways."

Baker said that tackling noise nuisance could be challenging and time-consuming and that some powers were available to local authorities.

Speaking about the current closure powers, the minister said these could be effective in some cases, but "they have never made it possible to close non-licensed premises quickly out of court, acting preventively on the likelihood of antisocial behaviour."

He went on to say there was a new closure power that was likely to bring victims "swift respite" and to be most effective.

Baker explained that the community protection notice could also be used against the home owner who was allowing the people attending a stag or hen party to act antisocially.

The minister concluded that the new powers that were to be introduced later on this year would allow councils and the police to deal with these situations.

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