

**Appendix R**  
**Response from Philip Watson, Styles Bar, Ormskirk on 7 June 2013**

Philip Watson

42 High Street

Skelmersdale

Wn8 8ap

Licencee – Styles Bar

I am writing to express my objection to the proposed Process towards and EMRO for Ormskirk town centre. I have worked as bar manager at Styles in Ormskirk for 4 years and can see no reason for there to even consider an EMRO! We as a bar see very little trouble and Ormskirk as a whole is quite incident free as a whole, certainly no worse than any other similar sized town with such a huge student population.

As a member of pub watch i am also privy to the information shared during regular meetings with the police who report that the amount of Alcohol fuelled criminal behaviour is low as is Criminal Damage. In my opinion the campaign being waged by a local councillor, is at best poorly informed and at worst a selfless self promotional activity. The main argument being, noise from student accommodation. Too the best of my knowledge licensee's and the licencing committee are not responsible for the licensing of houses for student use esp multi occupancy. This is the local residents being let down by the council who are now looking for a scapegoat i.e. us the licenced trade.

I pride myself on the venue that i run and am complimented regularly on the warm friendly atmosphere. I know most other licensees take the same pride in their establishments.

Should An EMRO come into force it would be catastrophic to Ormskirk, not only the night time economy such as pubs, bars, restraints and taxis but also have a knock on effect to the daytime of the town especially market days. If i lost my job i would no longer be able to shop in the town, neither would my staff

It would also in my opinion bring a breakdown in working relationships between licenced premissis and the council, police etc.

We have struggled in a very hard recession adhering to the most regulated industry there is to try to sustain businesses and keep jobs not only for ourselves but also our staff we currently have 19 staff.

We even agreed to a minimum price to help – which is price fixing as far as I am aware frowned upon in the eyes of the law but we agreed to it after suggestions from the police, which again has cost us business as not every venue adheres to it, and retail shops such as B&M sell for as little as 30p each!!!!!!

I feel there are countless other avenues that can and should be explored before any consultation on an EMRO should even be talked about let alone be considered.

Should you wish to consult me on any of the views I have expressed above please feel free to contact me either at work or at my home address listed above

01695 580580 – Styles Bar

07786411559 – Mobile

Yours sincerely

Phil Watson

Bar Manager

Styles Bar

