

City of Westminster Licensing Sub-Committee

Meeting: Licensing Sub-Committee

Date: 23rd March 2023

Classification: General Release

Premises: 22/12041/LISEVN

The Windmill Theatre, 17 - 19 Great Windmill Street,

London, W1D 7JZ (22/12041/LISEVN)

Wards Affected: West End, Core CAZ North

Financial Summary: None

Report of: Operational Director for Public Protection & Licensing

1. Executive Summary

1.1 The Council has received an application for a New of the Sexual Entertainment Venue licence ("SEV") under Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 ("The Act") (as amended by the Policing and Crime Act 2009) for the premises known as Windmill Theatre, 17 - 19 Great Windmill Street, London, W1D 7JZ ("The Premises"). The report sets out the application details, objections, policy and legal context along with other considerations that the Licensing Sub-Committee requires in order to determine this application.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That following consideration of this report, any information given orally at the hearing and/or in writing by the applicants and objectors the Licensing Sub-Committee may determine to:
 - 2.1.1 Grant the application in full or in part
 - 2.1.2 Grant of the application in full or in part may be subject to standard conditions (as amended) and conditions which formed part of the application, were proposed by parties to the hearing or any other conditions the Licensing Sub-Committee considers appropriate, or
 - 2.1.3 Refuse the application.

3. Application being considered

- 3.1 On the 20th December 2022 the applicant Molendinum Limited applied for a new SEV premises licence to provide relevant entertainment in the form of Full nudity striptease between the hours of 09:00 to 05:00 Monday to Saturday and 09:00 to 03:00 Sunday. A copy of the application and supporting documents can be seen at Appendix A.
- 3.3 The premises have the benefit of a premises licence (licence number 22/07837/LIPV) a copy of which appears at Appendix D.

4. Objections

- 4.1 The application has received 8 objections attached at Appendix C
- 4.2 On the 16th January 2023, the Metropolitan Police Service made an objection to the application on the basis that, if granted the application would undermine the licensing objectives. The full representation is attached at Appendix C1.
- 4.3 On the 16th January 2023, the Council's Environmental Health Service made an objection on the basis that the grant of the licence would be inappropriate having regard to the layout, character or condition of the premises. The full representation is attached at Appendix C2.
- 4.4 On the 13th January 2023, the Licensing Authority made an objection based on the nature of the premises and the character of the relevant locality and the use of premises in the vicinity. The full representation is attached at Appendix C3.
- 4.5 Objections from Interested Parties

There were 5 objections from interested parties submitted on the grounds of:

- Public nuisance
- Crime and disorder
- Residential amenity
- Inappropriate location
- 4.6 The objectors have not confirmed to the Licensing Service that they wish to waive their right to anonymity, and for this reason the objectors will remain anonymous.
- 4.7 The Licensing Sub Committee will need to determine whether the layout, character and condition of premises are appropriate for the grant of a SEV licence in accordance with Policy LO3. In this regard, when determining this application, the Licensing Sub Committee will need to take into consideration several factors, namely the locality of the venue and its surrounding premises such as schools and places of worships.

5. Relevant history

5.1 An SEV licence was granted in respect of the premises in June 2012. Annual renewal applications were submitted in 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016 which were granted under delegated authority.

5.2 In September 2017 a further renewal was submitted however on this occasion, as objections were received, the application was listed for hearing before the Licensing Sub Committee. The application was determined by the Licensing Sub Committee on 11th January 2018 and the application was refused. A copy of the Decision from the hearing on 11th January 2018 appears at Appendix E.

6. Policy Considerations

6.1 Suitability of applicant – SU1

The applicant has stated that no relevant offences have been committed. In addition, the Police and the Council's Licensing Inspectorate have carried out fit and proper persons checks and have not made any objections to the application.

6.2 SEV carried on for the benefit of another person – SU2

The Police and the Council's Licensing Inspectorate have undertaken appropriate checks and have made no comments.

6.3 Appropriate number of SEV in a locality – NO1

The appropriate number of sexual entertainment venues in the relevant localities is 25 in the Westminster core CAZ north. If granted, the number of venues will not exceed 25.

6.4 Character of the relevant locality – LO1

The premises is situated on Great Windmill Street, which is a thoroughfare crossed by Shaftesbury Avenue. Great Windmill Street is made up mainly of retail shops and restaurants. There is a resident count of 253 at a 100m radius.

6.5 Use of premises in the vicinity – LO2

The main use of the premises in the immediate vicinity are commercial. There is one other SEV premises and one school, with no places of worship within a 100m radius of the premises (see map at Appendix H)

6.6 Layout, character or condition of the venue – LO3

17 – 19 Great Windmill Street is currently a mixed-use performance venue with licensable activities taking place on basement, ground and first floors. The main entrance to the premises is on the ground floor leading to a reception area and access to the other floors.

7. Legal Implications

- 7.1 The Licensing Sub-Committee may determine to:
 - (a) Grant the application in full or in part.
 - (b) Grant with additional special conditions which the Licensing Sub-Committee deem appropriate; or
 - (c) Refuse the application.
- 7.2 Before refusing to renew an application, the Licensing Authority shall give the licence holder an opportunity to appear before and of being heard by the Licensing Sub-Committee (Para 10(19) Schedule 3 LG(MP)A1982).
- 7.3 In considering this application, the Licensing Sub-Committee shall have regard to any observations submitted to them by the Chief Officer of Police and any objections that have been received in writing within the 28 day consultation period (Para 10(18) Schedule 3 LG(MP)A1982).
- 7.4 The Licensing Sub-Committee may refuse to grant or renew a licence for the following reasons set out in (Para 12(3) Schedule 3 LG(MP)A1982):
 - (a) that the applicant is unsuitable to hold a licence by reason of having been convicted of an offence or for any other reason;
 - (b) that if the licence were to be granted the business to which it relates would be managed by or carried on for the benefit of a person, other than the applicant, who would be refused the grant of such a licence if he made the application himself;
 - (c) that the number of sex establishments, or of sex establishments of a particular kind, in the relevant locality at the time the application is determined is equal to or exceeds the number which the authority consider is appropriate for that locality;
 - (d) that the grant or renewal of the licence would be appropriate, having regard:
 - (i) to the character of the relevant locality; or
 - (ii) to the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put; or
 - (iii) to the layout, character or condition of the premises, vehicle, vessel or stall in respect of which the application is made.

An applicant whose application for the grant or renewal of a licence is refused on either ground specified in paragraph (c) or (d) above shall not have the right to appeal to the magistrates' court.

- 7.5 If the Licensing Sub-Committee determine to grant a Sexual Entertainment Venue licence, the licence will be subject to the Standard Conditions for Sexual Entertainment Venue licences, unless the Sub-Committee determines that certain Standard Conditions should be expressly excluded or varied (Para 13(4) Schedule 3 LG(MP)A1982).
- 7.6 Should the Licensing Sub-Committee determine to refuse the application for the grant, of a licence under Paragraph 12(3)(a) or (b) Schedule 3 LG(MP)A 1982, the applicant may appeal to the Magistrates' Court within 21 days beginning with the date on which the applicant is notified of the refusal of his application (Para 27(1) Schedule 3 LG(MP)A1982).

8. Human Rights and Equality Issues

- 8.1.1 In making a decision consideration will need to be given to the applicant's rights under the European Convention on Human Rights. The right to peaceful enjoyment of possessions (Article 1 of the First Protocol) and freedom of expression (Article 10) may be relevant.
- 8.1.2 The Council in its capacity as Licensing Authority has a duty to have regard to its public sector equality duty under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010. In summary section 149 provides that a Public Authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to-
 - (a) eliminate discrimination harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
 - (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it; and
 - (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristics and persons who do not share it.
- 8.1.3 149 (7) of the Equality Act 2010 defines the relevant protected characteristics as age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation.

An Equalities Impact Assessment has been conducted and the Council believes that the granting of this application for the sexual entertainment will not have an adverse impact or unlawfully discriminates against any protected characteristics.

Appendices

A1 to A5 – Application and supporting documents.

B – Applicant submissions

C1 to C4 – Objections

D - Premises Licence 22/07837/LIPV

E - LSC Decision 11 January 2018

F – Sex Establishment history

G – Conditions proposed by the Licensing Authority

H – Map of locality

If you have any queries about this report or wish to inspect any of the background papers, please contact Kevin Jackaman at kjackaman@westminster.gov.uk

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982
Policing and Crime Act 2009
Sexual Entertainment Venues Statement of Licensing Policy 2012
Sexual Entertainment Venues Guidance and Procedure effective 17 February 2012
Home Office Guidance March 2010

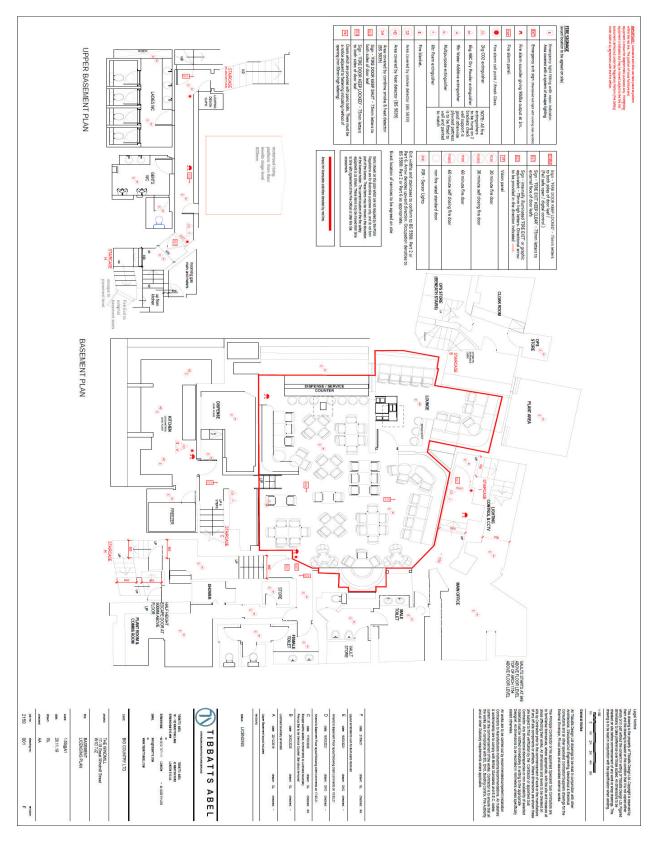
Application Appendix A1

Westminster City Council									
Application for a sexual entertainment venue licence									
Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982									
	and the necessary fee will be sent for a:								
New Licence	X								
Transfer of Licence									
Renewal of Licence	Licence number								
Variation of Licence									
Part 1 - Application Details									
Name of premises	The Windmill Theatre								
	Search for address								
Address of premises	17 - 19 Great Windmill Street London								
	Postcode W1D 7JZ								
The application is being made -	on behalf of an unincorporated or body corporate								
If application is made on beh	alf of an individual:								
Title									
Name	Occupation (during preceding six mont	hs)							
Surname									
Date of birth	Telephone number								
If application is made on beh	alf of a corporate or incorporated body:								
Name of applicant body:	Molendinum Limited								
Is this an unincorporated or body corporate?	Unincorporated X Body corporate								
Registered / principal office address:	e address: Elsley Court 20-22 Great Titchfield Street London England								
	Postcode W1W 8BE								
Company number	Company number 12832354								
	sons responsible for the management of the body, including the tary and similar officers and the manager of the establishment								

Please continue by answering the questions you are asked below -								
Part 2 - Licence Details								
What hours and what days are you applying for?	Monday to Saturday - 9am to 5am day following. Sunday - 9am to 3am day following.							
What <i>relevant</i> entertainment will be performed?	Striptease in all of its various forms and entertainment of a like kind, in keeping with the historic nature of the famous Windmill Theatre.							
For variation applications - what does the variation consist of?								
Is only part of the building to be licensed?	No X Yes	Please provide details						
Will any part of the premises be used for the exhibition of moving pictures?	No Ses X	Please provide details The stage area has a dynamic LED scenery system that will change depending on the performance.						
Does the applicant presently use the premises as a sex establishment?	No X Yes	If yes, when did the use commence?						
		If not, what is the present use?						
		Mixed use performance venue.						
Supporting Material Checklist	- tick to c	confirm						
 I understand that I am required to se showing the area to be licensed and applicants, the directors of the comp any other person who will be respon licensed premises. 	the statuto any applyir	ory declarations for the ng for the licence and						
I confirm that no changes have take	n place sind	ce the last renewal						
All supporting material should be sent / provided to the address shown on the declaration.								

Declaration Page							
Important It is an offence, liable on conviction to a fine up to level 5 on the standard scale, under section 158 of the licensing act 2003 to make a false statement in or in connection with this application							
Fee							
he non-returnable fee for t	his application is	£1918.00 and mi	ust be submitted with this application.				
An additional fee of £2:	379.00 will be pay	able before any app	proval is issued				
Declaration							
hereby declare that the infe	ormation given on this	form is correct to the	ne best of my knowledge and belief.				
understand we are require	d to send / provide the	sum of £1918.0	, being the fee for this application.				
X Confirmation Da	ate 20/12/2022	Name Keyst	one Law				
		Capacity Solicit	tors for the Applicant				
Contact details for corres	pondence, leave blar	nk if due to be prov	vided premises address				
Title	Mr						
lame	Marcus						
Surname	Lavell		Tolophono number				
Postal address	Keystone Law		Telephone number 02033193700				
	48 Chancery Lane London		Email address				
			amdhub@keystonelaw.co.uk				
	Postcode	WC2A 1JF					
Supporting Material Release send all supporting renderes after a decision has	material to the address		cuments will be returned to the correspondence				

Plans Appendix A2



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tire rated standard door		60 minute self closing fire door	60 minute fire door	30 minute self closing fire door	30 minute fire door	Vision panel	Sign - internally illuminated FIRE EXIT or graphic equivalent - 75mm high letters. Directional arrow to be provided in the direction indicated ————————————————————————————————————	'FIRE EXIT KEEP CLEAR' - al face of door leafs	Sign - 'FIRE DOOR KEEP LOCKED' - to both sides of door leaf / (Fail safe open / digital control)	Doors which are provided with panic bolts. There r a notice adjacent to fastering indicating method of opening (min.50mm high lettering)	Sign - 'FIRE DOOR KEEP LOCKED' - to both sides of door leaf	5839) - 'FIRE DOOR KEEP SHUT' - n sides of door leaf - 'FIRE DOOR KEEP LOCKED on sides of door leaf	FIRE DOOR KEEP SHUT' -	FIRE DOOR KEEP ides of door leaf FIRE DOOR KEEP h sides of door leaf	FIRE DOOR KEEP SHUT - ides of door leaf FIRE DOOR KEEP LOCKED is sides of door leaf	FIRE DOOR KEEP SHUT - ides of door leaf FIRE DOOR KEEP LOCKED is ides of door leaf	FIRE DOOR KEEP SHUT - FIRE DOOR KEEP LOCKED	FIRE DOOR KEEP SHUT - ides of door leaf FIRE DOOR KEEP LOCKED	FIRE DOOR KEEP SHUT - ides of door leaf FIRE DOOR KEEP LOCKED is ides of door leaf	'FIRE DOOR KEEP SHUT' - ides of door leaf 'FIRE DOOR KEEP LOCKED		covered by combine smoke \$839)	0	0	a covered by heat detector (BS 5839)	a covered by smoke detector (BS	e blanket.	Foam extinguisher	Multipurpose extinguisher	Water Additive extinguisher	ABC Dry Powder extinguisher	CO2 extinguisher	alarm call point / Break Glass	alarm panel.	alarm sounder giving 90dba	Emergency exit sign (Haimained exit light	Emergency light fitting with neon indicate Area covered with a system of escape lighting
							E EXIT or graphic Directional arrow idicated ——	75mm letters to	- 75mm letters	its. There must be method of	75mm letters	75mm letters to	& heat detector	5839)	35 5839)		to mator	is to be fitted to wall and painted	wall support is good otherwise plywood pattress	to be hung on J brackets check	NOTE: All fire			output at 1m.	nt with running man symbol)	neon indicator. escape lighting											

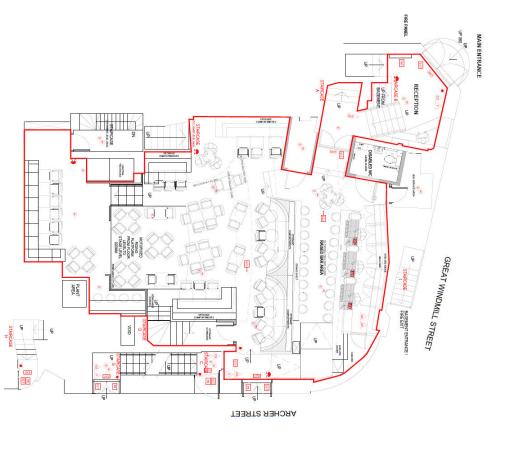
Exit widths and staircases to conform to BS 5588: Part 2 or Part 6. Arrow denotes upward direction. Occupation densities to BS 5388: Part 2 or Part 6 as appropriate.

ocation of services to be agreed on site

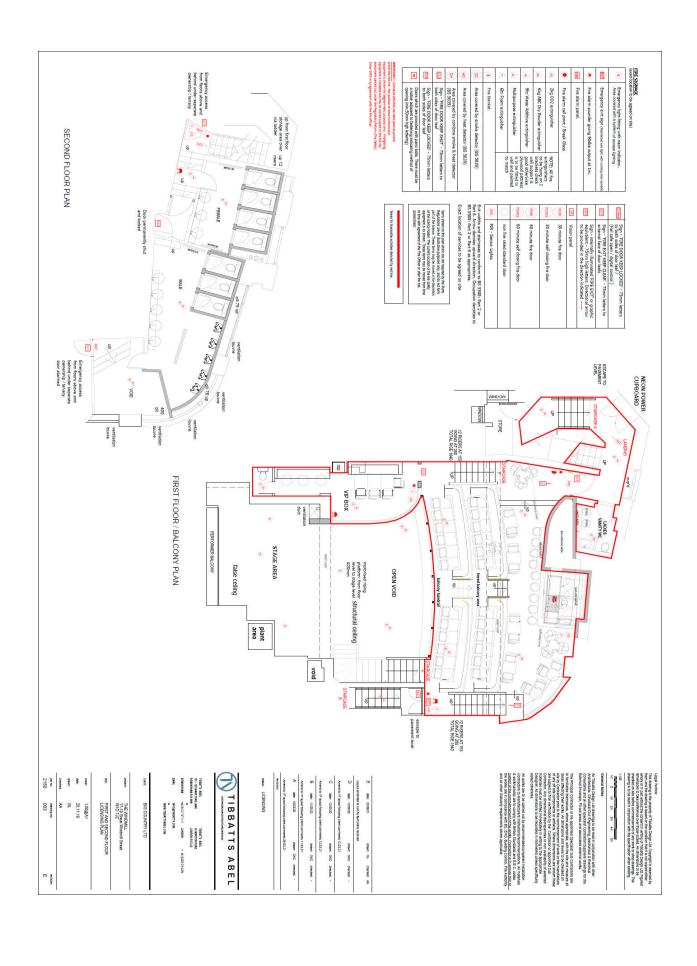
TIBBATTS ABEL

GROUND FLOOR LICENSING PLAN

F Wison

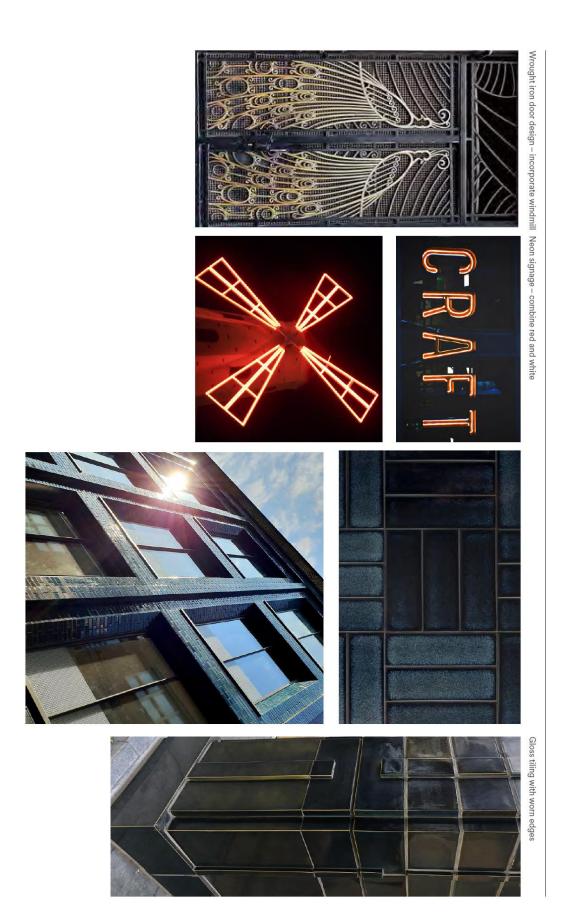


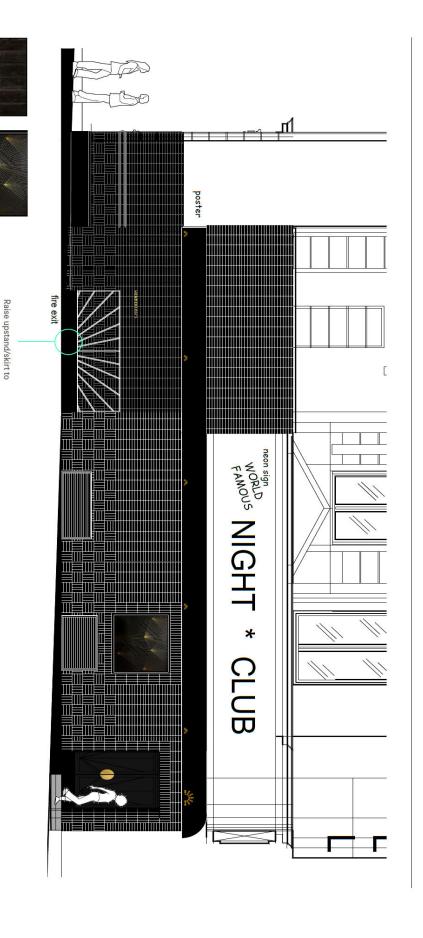
The control of the co	This drawing is the properly of Thotalis Design Ltd. Copyright is reserved by them and the drawing is sound on the condition that it indo copied either who yet in put inventour the consent in writing of thotalist being Ltd. Taylor who yet in put inventour the consent in writing of thotalists being Ltd. Taylor disheled on less belief commonwhering of any work or thing trainings, in the driving of the commonwhering of any work or thing processing or driving or the commonwhering of any long or thing processing or driving or the commonwhering of any long or thing processing or driving or the control of the commonwhering of any long or the driving or driving or the control of the commonwhering of any long or the commonwhering or driving or the commonwhering or the commonwhering or the common of the commonwhering or driving or the commonwhering or the commonwhering or the common of the common o
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Tile 23: Solus Ceramics

reverse of glass to allow partial view inside Printed vinyl applied to Match Wallcovering 01

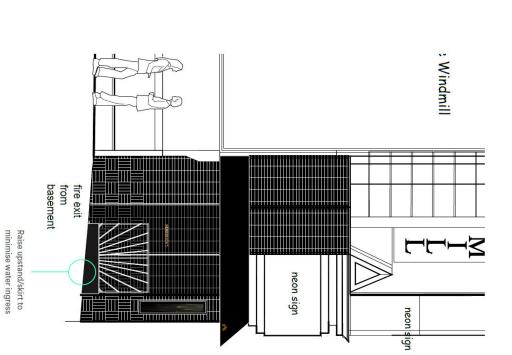
minimise water ingress

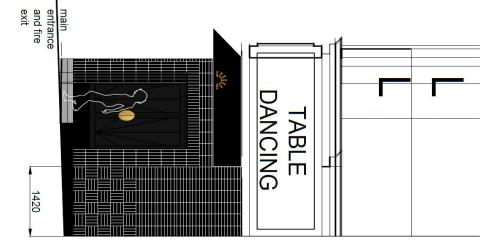
Marazzi : Lume : Glazed Black 60×240mm



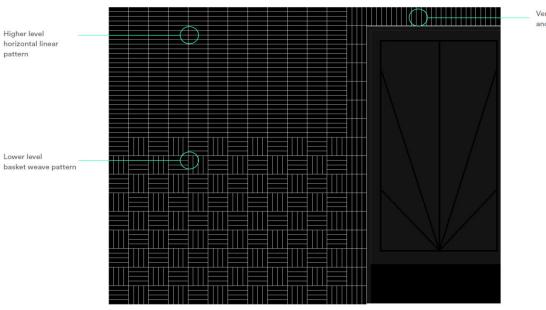


Tile 23: Solus Ceramics Marazzi : Lume : Glazed Black 60×240mm





Tile pattern



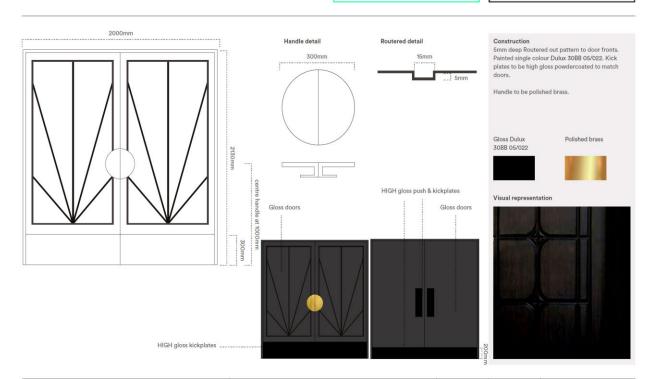
Vertical around door and window frames

© 2019 BusbyWebb Ltd

Main doors

CONTRACTOR TO ADVISE

ALL DIMENSIONS IN MILLIMETERS AND Page TO BE CONFIRMED PRIOR TO PRODUCTION



D L. AAZ-L.L.	The Windmill	Drawing number	Issue date	Revisio	n		
BusbyWebb	Main doors	BW91_01	07.10.19				





Construction
Fret cut 3D 2mm thick polished brass letters.
Bonded directly to wall surface at the top of the stairs at street level.

Lighting
Externally spot lit / wall wash

Polished brass

Visual representation

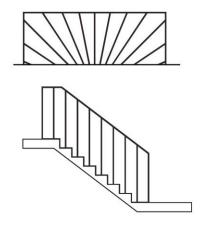
BusbyWebb

The Windmill	Drawing number	Issue date	Revision
Henderson's sign	BW91_02	30.08.19	

Hendersons balustrade

Canopies

Page 9





T. (William 15 ACT OF THE TOTAL TO A VEST OF THE TOTAL TO THE TOTAL TO THE TOTAL TO THE TOT

Vistorian style awning





Entrance awning style



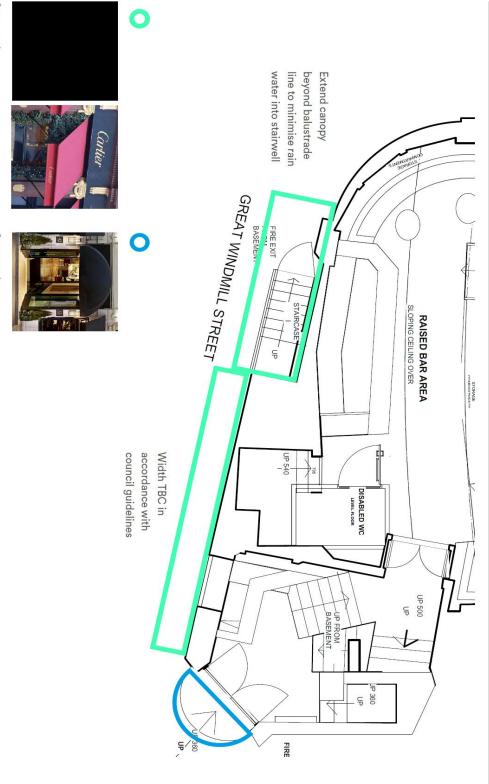
Gold logo detail on valance



Canvas awnings: Noir Breezefree.com



Screen printed gold logo detail





PARTICULARS OF A LIMITED COMPANY APPLYING FOR SEX ESTABLISHMENT LICENCE

Name of Company: Molendinum Limited

Date and Country of Incorporation: 24 August 2020

Company registration number: 12832354

What type of company is the applicant: Private Limited Company (e.g. public or private limited by share of guarantee etc.)

Full name of each director Full private address



Date	16/12/2022	Signature	K5Z
Date	10/12/2022	Cignatare	

NOTE: If the applicant company is a subsidiary of another company please complete a separate form in respect of the parent company and an ultimate holding company. If required by the Council please supply a copy of the Memorandum and Articles of Association of these companies.

Licensing Service 4th Floor City of Westminster City Hall 64 Victoria Street London SW1E 6QP

IMPORTANT NOTE: THIS FORM IS OPEN TO INSPECTION BY THE PUBLIC.

Applicant Submissions

Appendix B

None

From: Stewart, Tom: WCC

To: Licensing: WCC; Donovan, Jessica: WCC

Cc: Marcus Lavell; Abbott, Karvn: WCC; Miah, Tony: WCC

Subject: Police representation - 22/12041/LISEVN - The Windmill Theatre, 17 - 19 Great Windmill Street, London,

W1D 7JZ

Date: 16 January 2023 11:33:18

Attachments: image001.jpg

Dear Westminster Licensing Service,

I write to you on behalf of the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police ("the Police") in regard to an application for a new Sexual Entertainment Venue for <u>The Windmill</u> <u>Theatre, 17 - 19 Great Windmill Street, London W1D 7JZ</u>.

The Police consider it appropriate to make an objection in relation to this application on the grounds that if granted, it will not promote the licensing objectives named within the Westminster's Sexual Entertainment Venues Statement of Licensing Policy, namely the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, the prevention of public nuisance and the improvement in the character and function of the city, or areas of it.

The Police are in the process of discussing the intended operation with the applicant and their solicitor as well as discussing appropriate conditions to ensure that the above mentioned licensing objective are promoted.

I will keep you posted of any relevant updates to this representation.

Kind Regards

Pc Tom Stewart | Licensing Officer | Westminster Licensing Team Westminster City Council

15th Flr 64 Victoria Street

SW1E 6QP

Mobile - 07917395768

Email - tstewart1@westminster.gov.uk

MPS Email - tom.stewart@met.police.uk

35A78598



Environmental Health objection

Appendix C2

CITY OF WESTMINSTER

MEMORANDUM

TO Licensing Officer

REFERENCE 22/12041/LISEVN

FROM EH Consultation Team

REFERENCE

BEING DEALT WITH BY

TELEPHONE

DATE 16th January 2023

<u>Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982</u> Policing and Crime Act 2009

The Windmill Theatre, 17 - 19 Great Windmill Street, W1

I refer to the application for a Sexual Entertainment Venue Licence.

The premises are located within the Westminster Core Commercial Activity Zone.

Ian Watson (iwatson@westminster.gov.uk)

The applicant has submitted floor plans of the basement, ground and mezzanine floors.

This representation is based on the plans and operating schedule submitted.

The applicant is seeking the following

1. The application is to provide striptease performance within the theatre on all floors as identified on the plans submitted during the hours of 09.00 – 05.00 Monday to Saturday and 09.00 – 03.00 Sunday.

I wish to make the following representation

1. The grant of the licence would be inappropriate having regard to the layout, character or condition of the premises.

A visit will need to be made to the premises to ensure compliance with Westminster SEV licensing policy and additional conditions may be proposed.

Should you wish to discuss the matter further please do not hesitate to contact me.

lan Watson

Senior Practitioner Environmental Health (Licensing)

From: Abbott, Karyn: WCC
To: Marcus Lavell

Cc: Donovan, Jessica: WCC; Licensing: WCC

Subject: 22/12041/LISEVN - The Windmill Theatre, 17 - 19 Great Windmill Street, London, W1D 7JZ

Date: 13 January 2023 14:47:00

Attachments: image001.png
Windmill Conditions.pdf

Dear Marcus

Application for a new Sexual Entertainment Venue – Sex Establishment licence under Schedule 3 paragraph 10 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 for The Windmill Theatre, 17 - 19 Great Windmill Street, London W1D 7JZ.

Further to paragraph 10(15) of that schedule, the Licensing Authority consider it appropriate to make an objection in relation to this application on the grounds that if granted it will not promote the licensing objectives of the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, the prevention of public nuisance and the improvement in the character and function of the city, or areas of it under the Sexual Entertainment Venues Statement of Licensing Policy.

The Licensing Authority objects to this application as it contravenes Westminster's Sexual Entertainment Venue's Statement of Licensing Policy 2012 and as such various policy points must be considered, namely HR1, LO1 and LO2.

The Licensing Authority has concerns over the type of Relevant Entertainment that has been proposed on the application form stated below and would encourage the applicant to specify what the 'various forms and entertainment of like kind' would be at the premises.

Striptease in all of its various forms and entertainment of a like kind, in keeping with the historic nature of the famous Windmill Theatre.

As there isn't enough information in the application form with regards to the Relevant Entertainment the Licensing Authority has provided a list of conditions and encourage the applicant to confirm if they will be in agreement.

The Licensing Authority would like to carry out a site visit to discuss this application further and confirmation whether the applicant is agreeable to the attached proposed conditions.

Upon receipt of further submission the Licensing Authority will assess the application further.

Please accept this as a formal objection to the application.

Many Thanks

Karyn Abbott Senior Licensing Officer Licensing Team Public Protection & Licensing Department

Westminster City Council 15th Floor

The conditions proposed by the Licensing Authority appear at Appendix G below

Objector 1
 Received: 16 Jan 2023
 REPRESENTATION

16/01/2023 4:02 PM Dear Ms Donovan

I am writing on behalf of

In relation to the Windmill's previous application we have had productive neighbourly discussions to ensure our respective operations run smoothly in close proximity. Our primary responsibility remains to protect its patrons and business operation. As such we would want the Windmill, as they have previously, to engage in and maintain an open dialogue with us regarding any operational changes that may be brought should the licence be granted and how any impact on would be mitigated. While we do not anticipate that the proposed variation will necessarily have a negative impact we must reserve our position on this application until those discussions take place.

Kind Regards

Objector 2
 Received: 7 Jan 2023
 OBJECTION

07/01/2023 11:40 AM I am often disturbed in the early hours of the morning (usually at weekends) by the departing clientele of the Windmill. Loud shouting, swearing and screeching is not uncommon. Drivers sounding their horns add to the air of pandemonium.

In December, I was considering contacting the licensing team at Westminster to express my concern at the running of the Windmill. This was specifically because on two or three occasions I could actually hear the bass thumping from the club throughout the night. One morning I left for work at 5.15 am, and again, music was audible from the street.

Thinking that the Windmills licensing hours would be until 2am, I was actually shocked to discover they have a 5am licence. We have never received any notification of licence applications, and if we had, would have strongly objected to this. I am only aware of the current application because of an article in the West End Extra (which did not name the club). The Windmill is on the periphery of one of the most densely populated parts of Soho, and being a 'historic venue' does not seem to be a good enough reason not to have a 2am limit.

I believe that allowing music to be heard outside the venue, and beyond its licensing hours, as well as the failure to monitor the behaviour of its clientele upon leaving ,is a demonstration of

inadequate management, and that these factors should be taken into account when considering the renewal of the Windmills licence.

Objector 3 Received: 16 Jan 2023 OBJECTION

16/01/2023 2:23 PM and seriously have been suffering the noise from them. Even though we wear ear bud to sleep, we still be waked up a couple of times, most of times is until 3:30am by their customers' shouting, screaming.....We even can hear their music when the door opens.

I appreciate if our condition can be considered of your decision.

Objector 4

Received: 16 Jan 2023

OBJECTION

We write to make a relevant representation to the above application on behalf of

The Application

New sexual entertainment licence; striptease in all its various forms and entertainment of a like kind, in keeping with the historic nature of the famous Windmill Theatre. Currently it is a mixed use performance venue.

Monday to Saturday: 09.00 - 05.00

Sunday: 12.00 - 03:00

Current Premises Licence 22/06964/LIPDPS

Sale of alcohol : Monday to Saturday : 10.00 - 05:00. Sunday : 12.00 - 22.30

Late night refreshment: Monday to Saturday: 23.00 - 05:00.

Plays: Monday to Saturday: 09.00 - 05:00. Sunday: 14.00 - 03:00

Film: Monday to Saturday: 09.00 - 05:00. Sunday: 09.00 - 00:00

Live Music: Monday to Saturday: 09.00 - 05:00

Performance of Dance: Monday to Saturday: 09.00 - 05:00

Anything similar: Monday - Saturday: 09:00 - 05:00

Opening Hours: Monday to Saturday: 09.00 - 05:30. Sunday: 09.00 - 03.00

Capacity: From 9am - 3.30am : 350. From 3.30am - 5.30am : 150

Representation

This is an application for a new sexual entertainment venue licence (SEV) Monday - Saturday 9am to 5am, Sunday 9am - 3am, 'providing striptease in all of its various forms and entertainment

of a like kind.' objects to this application under the following policies of the Sexual Entertainment Venues Statement of Licensing Policy 2012, namely, Hours Policy HR1, LO1: character of the relevant locality, LO2: use of premises in the vicinity, LO3: layout, character or condition of the venue, plus the licensing objectives under the 2003 Act, CD1: prevention of crime and disorder, PN1: prevention of public nuisance.

We find it impossible to fully assess the nature and impact of this application due to the lack of detailed information as to the full operational nature of the proposed SEV licence, including its capacity and relationship with the current operation/premises licence, and confirm that there is no link to previous management (the Council refused to renew the previous SEV licence). We ask the applicant to provide us with this information.

Soho

This new application is set against the backdrop of Soho having the highest concentration of licensed premises in Westminster 470 with a large proportion (25%) being late night licences. There are over 200 restaurants, 39 bars, 46 pubs, 31 clubs (including members clubs) and 6 sexual entertainment premises. In Gt. Windmill Street and the street that surround it, Archer Street, Rupert Street and the junction of Brewer Street and Wardour Street there are over 24 licensed premises accommodating well over 3,000 people. The area is densely populated at night and has the highest level of cumulative impact and crime and disorder in Westminster.

Current Premises

The venue itself is very well known and has had a late licence for many years. However, the capacity was significantly lower than now. An application to renew its SEV licence was refused in 2018, ref: 17/10780/LISEVR. A new premises licence to different operators was granted in 2020. The application stated that it was for a 'theatre with bar, restaurant and associated facilities.' The application in effect sought to increase the capacity from 150 to 350 prior to 3.30am.

The Windmill is currently described as a restaurant, cabaret, cocktail bar and night club, the website states,

'A world of theatrical dining in Soho, where there is no edge to the stage. The Windmill Soho brings a new definition to immersive theatre. This is 'dinner and a show' for the here-and now. From Wednesday to Saturday you can indulge in a theatrical dinning experience, showcasing mesmerising never-seen-before performances alongside an immersive dinning menu designed by Executive Head Chef Toby Burrows, and a creative cocktail list created by celebrated mixologist Andy Mil.'

At the Licensing Sub Committee hearing for the new premises licence (20/10170/LIPN) the applicants representative stated:

'...the application provided the opportunity to restore one of Soho's historic cultural buildings and replace its use as a sexual entertainment venue with an entertainment use appealing to a wide demographic.' He stated that if the application was granted, 'it would mean that the venue could operate as a theatre without being half empty and having to resort to use as a sexual entertainment venue.'

This is an extremely important point as we are convinced this would have provided the LSC with a level of reassurance of the operation to agree to a significant increase in capacity, the premises is licensed until 3.30am with a capacity of 350, this being over double the previous SEV licensed capacity of 150. We are very concerned the current proposal will include the capacity of 350, until 5am.

It was also stated that the applicant 'was not applying for an Sexual Entertainment Venue Licence, there would be no sexual entertainment permitted under the applied for Premises Licence. The Applicant wished to put on cabaret performances which would appeal to a domestic and intentional audience of all ages and genders. Consequently, the previous use of the Windmill Theatre was the opposite of the Applicant's intentions.'

Sexual Entertainment Venues

A sexual entertainment venue licence was operated from this site from 2012 until 2017 when an application to renew the licence was refused by the Licensing Sub-Committee. Of course, the premises previously provided what is now termed 'relevant entertainment' prior to 2012. The applicant was very clear when the premises licence was granted that 'the previous use of the Windmill Theatre was the opposite of the Applicants intentions.'

The committee will be aware of the circumstances of the SEV refusal and we appreciate this is a new application for a venue that has previously been granted an SEV licence, however, in relation to this, Policy LO1, 2.4.15 clearly states the granting of such an application is not a given.

The previous existence of a licence permitting sexual entertainment at a premises should not in itself give rise to any expectation that a sexual entertainment venue licence will be granted. In considering the appropriateness of a sexual entertainment venue the council is entitled to change its view about the character of the locality in which the sexual entertainment venue clearly is situated, whether or not there has been a change in the character of the locality.'

Policies LO1and LO2 raise concerns regarding the location of sexual entertainment venues and the crime and anti social behaviour associated with them, citing touting, prostitution and clipping. Patrons leaving the premises late at night intoxicated and vulnerable are easy prey to such criminal activity. We know these types of late night premises attract people with criminal intent who hang around outside waiting to pounce. A recent licensed premises review of an SEV premises highlighted three cases where men allegedly having been approached outside the premises and were taken to flats and a brothel (in one case in a pedicab) where they have no memory of events and resulted in the theft of £158K. These types of premises attract these types of people; touts, drug dealers and pedicab riders are a constant feature outside SEV premises in Soho. We had hoped this type of criminal behaviour was a thing of the past but sadly it is not, walking around Soho late at night the touts are easy to spot alongside drug dealers and pedicabs riders as they approach men who become victims of crime.

The Cumulative Impact Assessment 2020 presents overwhelming evidence of the year on year increase in cumulative impact in the West End Zone 1, it highlights the rate of crime as 10 - 13 times higher between 6pm - 6am compared to the borough average. The level of crime, disorder and anti social behaviour continues to be a huge problem in Soho, the crime figures are high and increasing. Evidence from recent crime reports provided by the Westminster Police Licensing Team to the Licensing Sub Committee highlights the increase in crime, it is now back to pre-COVID levels and in some cases, for example, assaults, sexual assaults and robberies are even higher than pre COIVD levels. Robberies are a particular concern, in Soho the majority take place late at night as people are targeted as they leave premises. The addition of a new SEV in Soho will increase the level of crime and disorder and cumulative impact in the West End Cumulative Impact Zone.

In relation to the character of its location, LO1 states localities characterised by particular uses should not include SEVs, it highlights residents and tourists all of which are relevant in this case, residents live along Gt. Windmill Street and in all the streets which surround it, the area also attracts vast numbers of tourists making the location of a SEV unsuitable. The fact that the one remaining primary school in Soho is situated on Gt. Windmill Street also makes this location inappropriate (LO2).

Noise nuisance and disturbance is a huge problem for Soho residents, at night noise is amplified and reverberates around the streets. Residents are affected from the noise of people as they leave premises, intoxicated and talking in loud voices as they wait for their transport home.

Furthermore, pedicabs are particularly attracted to SEV premises, they wait outside before closing time talking to each other creating even more noise disturbance. In our view this street is unsuitable for an SEV due to its proximity of noise sensitive premises (LO3).

The problems of sleep disturbance experienced by residents in Soho has been highlighted by a recent sleep survey conducted by residents, it confirms that residents are disturbed by noise at night and this is having a negative impact on their lives. The full survey results can be found in Appendix 1.

Summary

At least as currently presented, the application will result in the following:

The aims and objectives of the City Council's SEV Statement of Licensing Policy 2012 will be harmed, particularly 'prevention of public nuisance' and 'promoting improvement in the character and function of the city, or areas of it.'

The grant would be inappropriate, having regard to the character of the relevant locality.

The grant would be inappropriate, having regard to the use of premises in the area.

We are of course happy to be contacted by the applicant to clarify their intentions with the SEV licence and the proposed capacity.

Appendix 1: Sleep Survey Results

Appendix 1 : Sleep Survey Results

■ Sleep Survey Results - 31 October 2022

87 people have responded of which 78 are Soho residents with ages spread fairly evenly from 22 to 80.

59% have lived in Soho more than 10 years
26% between 3 and 10 years
6% between 1 and 3 years and
9% have lived here less than a year
42% own their homes
20% are Soho Housing Association and the rest tenants with other landlords
10 respondents have children living at home with them
58% have double glazing
37% single glazing
5% have triple glazing

24% of respondents have their sleep disturbed 7 nights a week 16% of respondents have their sleep disturbed 5 or 6 nights a week 19% of respondents have their sleep disturbed 3 or 4 nights a week 19% of respondents have their sleep disturbed once or twice a week 20% do not have a problem with environmental noise pollution

Topping the list in September was people drinking in the street with 54 mentions, then pedicabs with 51, waste collections at 48, construction noise 36 and car horns 33 and deliveries at 25. Other noise sources identified were air conditioning, motorbikes revving, building alarms and music from licensed venues. The most common identified problem at 42% of respondents was people drinking and shouting in the street.

64% of respondents agreed that noise nuisance from increased commercial activity at night is the most serious problem impacting Soho residents quality of life

46% of respondents agreed that noise nuisance is so bad that they have considered moving away from Soho

60% of respondents agreed that noise nuisance and sleep deprivation is adversely impacting my health and the health of the people they live with.

67% of respondents agreed that the council should base its noise policy on the World Health Organisation guidelines

64% of respondents agreed that our ward councillors should make this their priority during the next four years

69% of respondents agreed that during the time I have lived in Soho noise pollution has got significantly worse

73% of respondents agreed that if noise limits are being exceeded the council should consider reviewing existing alcohol licences

72% of respondents agreed that the council should install electronic noise monitoring in Soho

56% of respondents agreed that the council should not grant additional premises licence for the sale of alcohol in Soho.

62% of respondents agreed that the council should not grant any extensions of hours for premises in Soho

68% of respondents agreed that the council should renew its noise strategy as a matter of urgency

Many respondents made additional comments:-

I left Soho 4 years ago. After 20 years, the noise & air pollution finally broke me. Like the frog in the pan of water with the heat gradually turned up, it took me a while to realise that it wasn't me going soft, it was the significant degradation of the environment around me. Since I moved out of my flat, several other tenants have moved in & swiftly out again citing sleep disruption & excessive night noise as their reason for leaving. The flat is now used as an office rather than as residential.

I am disappointed that another restaurant unit is going to be let on Hopkins Street by Shaftesbury when the residents already have an enormous amount of noise from the existing restaurants. No doubt they will also want an alcohol license, which will increase the noise and disturb residents even more.

As a disabled person working from home, I find it extremely exhausting not able to have rest at night, Screams and noise of drunk people every night, The Landlord WCC does not want to change the windows to a double glazing nor allow tenants to pay privately for windows to be upgraded. Noise at home, lack of sleep, and concentration in the day time. I have a hand held noise monitor, I recorded noise levels of 97db outside the pub at the corner of Broadwick and Berwick Streets.

More consideration needs to be given to residents from councillors, people visiting the area and local businesses in particular those who serve alcohol and have late night licences. Decisions such as granting planning and licence applications should not be made by people who do not live in the area and are therefore not impacted by the decision making.

Very difficult to get the local authority to understand and take complaints seriously. Officers often helpful but then the case goes to committee and they always seem to rule in favour of the commercial premises rather than residents.

There is supposed to be a presumption to refuse new licences but in practice the council still lets new things through until after Midnight, which is far too late and has made a nonsense of the policy.

There should be a quiet window of 11pm to 8am every day. 7am deliveries are far too early for a lot of people if they are noisy or use cages or refrigeration.

Regularly now (most nights) there are traffic jams in the street at 3am in the morning with cars picking up people leaving clubs. The cars frequently are using their horns. Last night they had their door open with music blaring. we have 2 motorbike stands close together.

I here is always at least one bike revving up at either 3am or really early like 530amThis noise has changed and increased over the past 3-4 years. I am woken up most nights at about 3am. And i have double glazing and am on [a high] floor

Businesses take no responsibility for their customers drinking/eating and mainly shouting outside, including when they are queuing, and particularly when they are leaving. Post al fresco, there is a new attitude that anything goes on the streets and that includes contempt for the community who live here. The Council need to rethink this and put some major resource into enforcement.

I've lived in Soho for 60 years... Born and bred.. It's never been this noisy!

Early hours waste collections (including bottle smashing) also includes the food & beverage businesses putting their waste in the street and bottle bins at anti-social hours ahead of collection times. Our local restaurants are not supposed to put bottles out between the hours of 23:00 and 07:00 but they frequently do. Frequently delivery trucks, some with noisy refrigeration units are also delivering early hours.

Also deliveries & pedicabs. Unfortunately my lack of sleep due to noise has caused serious health issues and I now cannot work and suffer anxiety and depression. I'm woken up on average 5 times per night and have considered suicide. Why I'm being denied sleep between the hours of 11pm and 7am astonishes me. The freeholders Shaftesbury Carnaby show a total disrespect to the effects that noise has on the residents of Soho.

Objector 5 Received: 16 Jan 2023 OBJECTION

I write in respect of the abovementioned application by The Windmill for an SEV license. The application is made for a new SEV license Monday - Saturday 9am to 5am, Sunday 9am - 3am, 'providing striptease in all of its various forms and entertainment of a like kind.'

I write in support of representations/objections to this license (which I endorse). It is my understanding from those representations that at the Licensing Sub Committee hearing for the new premises licence (20/10170/LIPN) the applicant's representative stated that if the application was granted, 'it would mean that the venue could operate as a theatre without being half empty and having to resort to use as a sexual entertainment venue.'

When considering that application, the Licensing Sub-Committee was provided with the necessary degree of confidence to agree to a significant increase in capacity until 3.30am with a capacity of 350 (double the previous SEV licensed capacity of 150). The present proposal appears to assume a capacity of 350, until 5am. It was also on the understanding that there was no intention to use these premises on an SEV basis.

Policy LO1, 2.4.15 states as follows:

The previous existence of a licence permitting sexual entertainment at a premises should not in itself give rise to any expectation that a sexual entertainment venue licence will be granted. In considering the appropriateness of a sexual entertainment venue the council is entitled to change its view about the character of the locality in which the sexual entertainment venue clearly is situated, whether or not there has been a change in the character of the locality.'

The mere fact that an SEV was granted in respect of these premises in the recent past is not reason enough to grant another.

Most importantly, the licensing sub-committee should pay particular regard to the fact that these premises sit within the cumulative impact zone. Pursuant to the Westminster CC cumulative impact policy it is for the applicant to prove that the license would not adversely impact upon the intentions behind the policy or add to cumulative stress. That is a tall order in circumstances where the West End - particular in this part of Soho - has reached a saturation point when it comes to SEV-licensed venues which are also serving alcohol. SEVs have a tendency to attract crime (of a very serious nature in some circumstances) and ASB. It is very difficult for the applicant to provide evidence sufficient to prove that this additional SEV license will not add to cumulative stress/impact.

In the light of all of the above (and the submissions made by Licensing Sub-Committee to refuse this SEV License.



Schedule 12 Part A

WARD: West End UPRN: 200002817344

Premises licence

Regulation 33, 34

Premises licence number: 22/07837/LIPV

Original Reference: 20/10170/LIPN

Part 1 - Premises details

Postal address of premises:

The Windmill 17 - 19 Great Windmill Street London W1D 7JZ

Telephone Number: Not Supplied

Where the licence is time limited, the dates:

Not applicable

Licensable activities authorised by the licence:

Performance of Dance Exhibition of a Film Performance of Live Music Playing of Recorded Music

Anything of a similar description to Live Music, Recorded Music or Performance of Dance

Performance of a Play Late Night Refreshment Sale by Retail of Alcohol

The times the licence authorises the carrying out of licensable activities:

Performance of Dance

Monday to Saturday: 09:00 to 05:00

Exhibition of a Film

Monday to Saturday: 09:00 to 05:00 Sunday: 09:00 to 00:00

Performance of Live Music

Monday to Saturday: 09:00 to 05:00

Playing of Recorded Music Unrestricted

Anything of a similar description to Live Music, Recorded Music or Performance of Dance

Monday to Saturday: 09:00 to 05:00

Performance of a Play

Monday to Saturday: 09:00 to 05:00 Sunday: 14:00 to 03:00

Late Night Refreshment

Monday to Saturday: 23:00 to 05:00

Sale by Retail of Alcohol

Monday to Saturday: 10:00 to 05:00 Sunday: 12:00 to 22:30

Seasonal Details: An additional hour to the standard and non-standard times on the day when British Summertime commences.

Seasonal Variations: From the end of permitted hours on New Year's Eve to the start of permitted hours on New Year's Day.

The opening hours of the premises:

Monday to Saturday: 09:00 to 05:30 Sunday: 09:00 to 03:00

Where the licence authorises supplies of alcohol, whether these are on and/or off supplies:

Alcohol is supplied for consumption both on and off the Premises.

Part 2

Name, (registered) address, telephone number and email (where relevant) of holder of premises licence:

Immerse London Ltd 4TH Floor Elsley Court 20-22 Great Titchfield Street London W1W 8BE

Registered number of holder, for example company number, charity number (where applicable)

12654840

Name, address and telephone number of designated premises supervisor where the premises licence authorises the supply of alcohol:

Name: Bence Pillinger

Please note: It is the policy of the Licensing Authority not to display the address details of a designated premises supervisor.

Personal licence number and issuing authority of personal licence held by designated premises supervisor where the premises licence authorises for the supply of alcohol:

Licence Number: 14/00385/LAPER

Licensing Authority: London Borough of Bromley

Date: 10 March 2023

This licence has been authorised by Jessica Donovan on behalf of the Director - Public Protection and Licensing.

Annex 1 - Mandatory conditions

- No supply of alcohol may be made at a time when there is no designated premises supervisor in respect of this licence.
- 2. No supply of alcohol may be made at a time when the designated premises supervisor does not hold a personal licence or the personal licence is suspended.
- 3. Every supply of alcohol under this licence must be made or authorised by a person who holds a personal licence.
- 4. (1) The responsible person must ensure that staff on relevant premises do not carry out, arrange or participate in any irresponsible promotions in relation to the premises.
 - (2) In this paragraph, an irresponsible promotion means any one or more of the following activities, or substantially similar activities, carried on for the purpose of encouraging the sale or supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises—
 - (a) games or other activities which require or encourage, or are designed to require or encourage, individuals to;
 - (i) drink a quantity of alcohol within a time limit (other than to drink alcohol sold or supplied on the premises before the cessation of the period in which the responsible person is authorised to sell or supply alcohol), or
 - (ii) drink as much alcohol as possible (whether within a time limit or otherwise);
 - (b) provision of unlimited or unspecified quantities of alcohol free or for a fixed or discounted fee to the public or to a group defined by a particular characteristic in a manner which carries a significant risk of undermining a licensing objective;
 - (c) provision of free or discounted alcohol or any other thing as a prize to encourage or reward the purchase and consumption of alcohol over a period of 24 hours or less in a manner which carries a significant risk of undermining a licensing objective;
 - (d) selling or supplying alcohol in association with promotional posters or flyers on, or in the vicinity of, the premises which can reasonably be considered to condone, encourage or glamorise anti-social behaviour or to refer to the effects of drunkenness in any favourable manner;
 - (e) dispensing alcohol directly by one person into the mouth of another (other than where that other person is unable to drink without assistance by reason of a disability).
- 5. The responsible person must ensure that free potable water is provided on request to customers where it is reasonably available.
- 6. (1) The premises licence holder or club premises certificate holder must ensure that an age verification policy is adopted in respect of the premises in relation to the sale or supply of alcohol.
 - (2) The designated premises supervisor in relation to the premises licence must ensure that the supply of alcohol at the premises is carried on in accordance with the age verification policy.
 - (3) The policy must require individuals who appear to the responsible person to be under 18 years of age (or such older age as may be specified in the policy) to produce on request, before being served alcohol, identification

bearing their photograph, date of birth and either-

- (a) a holographic mark, or
- (b) an ultraviolet feature.
- 7. The responsible person must ensure that—
 - (a) where any of the following alcoholic drinks is sold or supplied for consumption on the premises (other than alcoholic drinks sold or supplied having been made up in advance ready for sale or supply in a securely closed container) it is available to customers in the following measures—
 - (i) beer or cider: ½ pint;
 - (ii) gin, rum, vodka or whisky: 25 ml or 35 ml; and
 - (iii) still wine in a glass: 125 ml;
 - (b) these measures are displayed in a menu, price list or other printed material which is available to customers on the premises; and
 - (c) where a customer does not in relation to a sale of alcohol specify the quantity of alcohol to be sold, the customer is made aware that these measures are available.

A responsible person in relation to a licensed premises means the holder of the premise licence in respect of the premises, the designated premises supervisor (if any) or any individual aged 18 or over who is authorised by either the licence holder or designated premises supervisor. For premises with a club premises certificate, any member or officer of the club present on the premises in a capacity that which enables him to prevent the supply of alcohol.

- 8(i) A relevant person shall ensure that no alcohol is sold or supplied for consumption on or off the premises for a price which is less than the permitted price.
- 8(ii) For the purposes of the condition set out in paragraph 8(i) above -
 - (a) "duty" is to be construed in accordance with the Alcoholic Liquor Duties Act 1979;
 - (b) "permitted price" is the price found by applying the formula -

P = D + (DxV)

Where -

- (i) P is the permitted price,
- (ii) D is the amount of duty chargeable in relation to the alcohol as if the duty were charged on the date of the sale or supply of the alcohol, and
- (iii) V is the rate of value added tax chargeable in relation to the alcohol as if the value added tax were charged on the date of the sale or supply of the alcohol;
- (c) "relevant person" means, in relation to premises in respect of which there is in force a premises licence -
 - (i) the holder of the premises licence,
 - (ii) the designated premises supervisor (if any) in respect of such a licence, or
 - (iii) the personal licence holder who makes or authorises a supply of alcohol under such a licence;
- (d) "relevant person" means, in relation to premises in respect of which there is in force a club premises certificate, any member or officer of the club present

on the premises in a capacity which enables the member or officer to prevent the supply in question; and

- (e) "value added tax" means value added tax charged in accordance with the Value Added Tax Act 1994.
- 8(iii). Where the permitted price given by Paragraph 8(ii)(b) above would (apart from this paragraph) not be a whole number of pennies, the price given by that sub-paragraph shall be taken to be the price actually given by that sub-paragraph rounded up to the nearest penny.
- 8(iv). (1) Sub-paragraph 8(iv)(2) below applies where the permitted price given by Paragraph 8(ii)(b) above on a day ("the first day") would be different from the permitted price on the next day ("the second day") as a result of a change to the rate of duty or value added tax.
 - (2) The permitted price which would apply on the first day applies to sales or supplies of alcohol which take place before the expiry of the period of 14 days beginning on the second day.
- Admission of children to the premises must be restricted in accordance with the film classification recommended by the British Board of Film Classification or recommended by this licensing authority as appropriate.
- All persons guarding premises against unauthorised access or occupation or against outbreaks of disorder or against damage (door supervisors) must be licensed by the Security Industry Authority.

Annex 2 - Conditions consistent with the operating Schedule

None

Annex 3 - Conditions attached after a hearing by the licensing authority

- 11. Admission to the Premises shall be limited to the following:
 - Persons having booked tickets to a performance, prior to attending the Premises.
 - No more than 15 guests of the proprietor, whose names have been recorded in a
 guest list, maintained at the Premises and available for inspection by any Police
 or Authorised Officer. The guest list is to contain the name, address and contact
 details of all guests.
 - Persons attending a private function which has been booked at least 24 hours in advance in writing (a list of whom shall be kept at reception for inspection by the relevant authority).
- 12. The capacity of the premises to be:
 - i) Ground Floor and Mezzanine 250 persons (excluding staff).
 - ii) Basement 100 persons (excluding Staff)

The above figures are subject to the following restrictions on the whole Premises

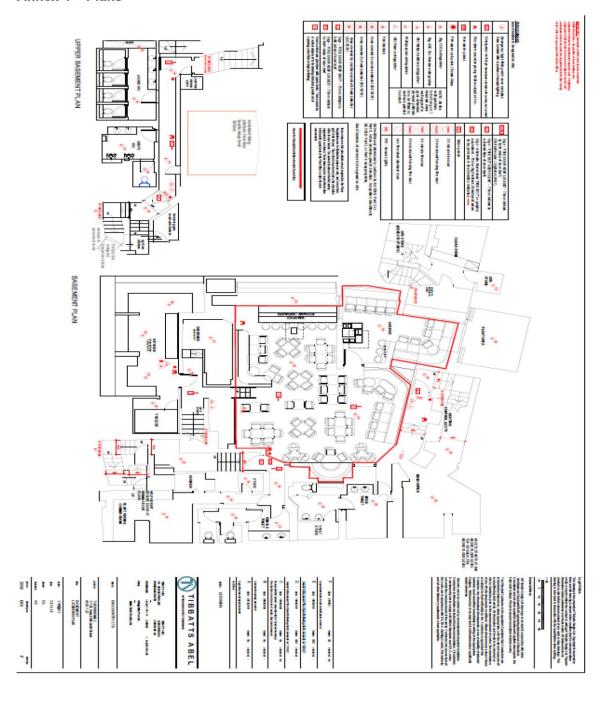
- iii) From 09:00am to 3.30am 350 persons (excluding Staff)
- iv) From 3.30am to 5.30am 150 persons (excluding Staff)
- 13. The Premises shall develop and operate a Dispersal, Transport and Noise Strategy, a copy whereof shall be provided to the Licensing Authority.
- 14. A minimum of 4 SIA licensed Door Supervisors will be stationed on Great Windmill Street from midnight until 30 minutes after the Premises are closed and empty of patrons.
- 15. Designated Street Marshals and Noise Control Officers will be deployed on Great Windmill Street and neighbouring streets as identified from time to time, from midnight until 30 minutes after the Premises are closed and empty of patrons.
- 16. A chauffeur service shall be available to patrons. Patrons will be able to make a booking at the time of booking their tickets or at any time from their table/seat in the premises.
- 17. An attendant shall be on duty in the cloakroom the whole time it is in use.
- 18. A noise limiter must be fitted to the musical amplification system set at a level determined by and to the satisfaction of an authorised officer of the Environmental Health Service, so as to ensure that no noise nuisance is caused to local residents or businesses. The operational panel of the noise limiter shall then be secured by key or password to the satisfaction of officers from the Environmental Health Service and access shall only be by persons authorised by the Premises Licence holder. The limiter shall not be altered without prior agreement with the Environmental Health Service. No alteration or modification to any existing sound system(s) should be effected without prior knowledge of an authorised Officer of the Environmental Health Service. No additional sound generating equipment shall be used on the premises without being routed through the sound limiter device.
- 19. No noise generated on the premises, or by its associated plant or equipment, shall emanate from the premises nor vibration be transmitted through the structure of the premises which gives rise to a nuisance.
- 20. Loudspeakers shall not be located in the entrance lobby or outside the premises building.
- 21. All windows and external doors shall be kept closed after (21:00) hours, or at any time when regulated entertainment takes place, except for the immediate access and egress of persons.

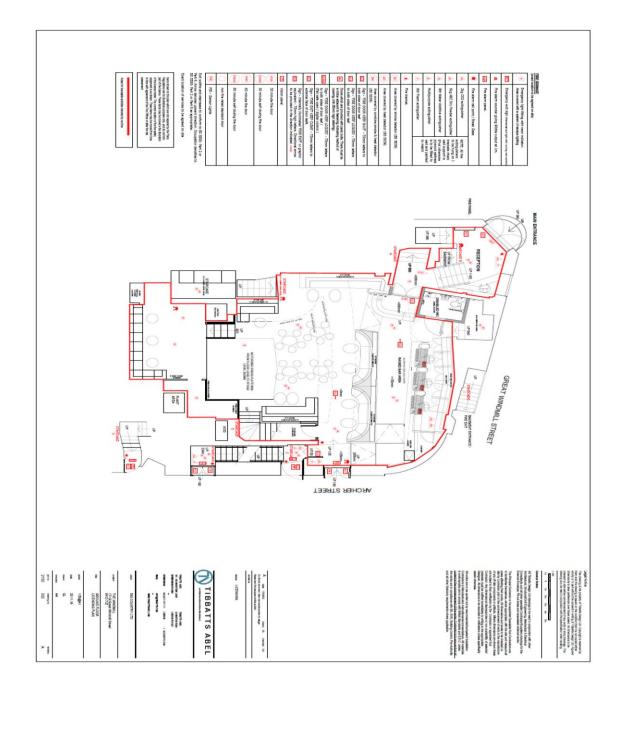
- 22. The premises shall install and maintain a comprehensive CCTV system as per the minimum requirements of the Westminster Police Licensing Team. All entry and exit points will be covered enabling frontal identification of every person entering in any light condition. The CCTV system shall continually record whilst the premises are open for licensable activities and during all times when customers remain on the premises. All recordings shall be stored for a minimum period of 31 days with date and time stamping. Viewing of recordings shall be made available immediately upon the request of the Police or authorised officer throughout the entire 31 day period.
- 23. A staff member from the premises who is conversant with the operation of the CCTV system shall be on the premises at all times when the premises are open. This staff member must be able to provide the Police or authorised council officer copies of recent CCTV images or data with the absolute minimum of delay when requested.
- 24. There shall be a personal licence holder on duty on the premises at all times when the premises are authorised to sell alcohol.
- 25. A minimum of 14 days' notice shall be given to the Environmental Health Consultation Team and District Surveyor of any intention to use scenery on any stage area.
- 26. A member of security shall be at the side of the stage during the times of the performance.
- 27. WCs for the sole use of members of staff and performers shall be provided and the appropriate signage shall be applied.
- 28. Any scenery to be kept or used on the premises shall be constructed only from such materials as the council accepts for use on open stages and such scenery shall be restricted as necessary for the current performance and shall be used on stage only.
- 29. Intoxicating liquor shall not be sold or supplied on the premises otherwise than to persons detailed in condition 9 above.
- 30. Substantial food and suitable beverages other than intoxicating liquor (including drinking water) shall be available during the whole of the permitted hours in all parts of the premises where intoxicating liquor is sold or supplied.
- 31. There shall be no payment made by or on behalf of the licensees to any person bringing customers to the premises.
- 32. The licensable activities authorised by the Licence and provided at the premises shall be ancillary to the main function of the premises as a performance venue. For the purpose of this condition performance venue is for a live performance in front of an audience which may include concert halls, comedy clubs or similar performances venues.
- 33. The permitted hours on New Year's Eve will extend to the start of permitted hours on the following day 00.00 on 31st December.
- 34. After 2300 hours all customers entering the premises shall have their ID scanned on entry, save for when a biometric scanning system is in place. The details recorded shall include a live facial image capture of the customer and capture the photographic identification produced. The details recorded by the ID scanner system shall be made available to the Police and the local authority upon request.

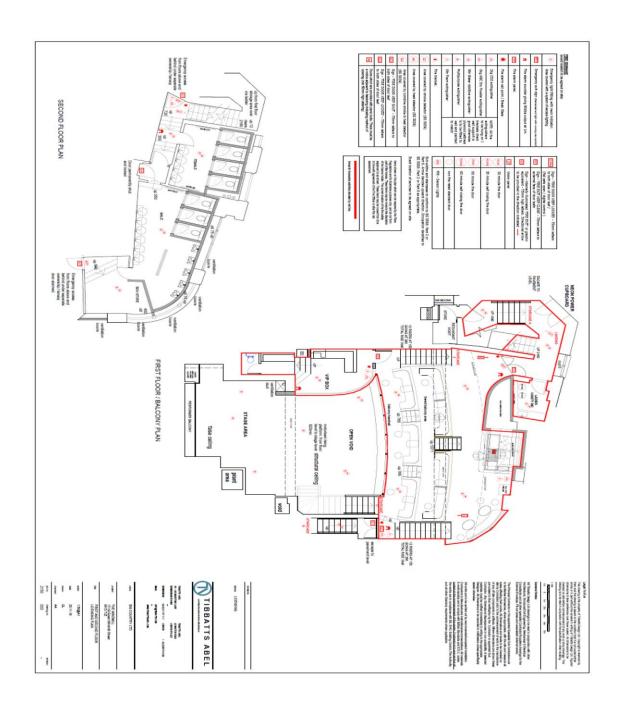
- 35. The above requirement is subject to the following exceptions, namely that a maximum number of 15 guests per night may be admitted at the Managers discretion without necessarily photo ID being scanned and recorded. The admission of such guests however shall be in accordance with the following procedure:
 - (i) The DPS shall approve in writing the names of a maximum of three managers other than him/herself who are authorised to sign in such quests.
 - (ii) A legible record (the signing in sheet) of those guest's name shall be retained on the premises for inspection by the licensing authority and Police for a period of 31 days. The name of the DPS approved manager authorising the admission will also be recorded by that manager,
 - (iii) Guests shall be required to produce some form of ID such as a bank card (or emailed electronic photo ID) and ID scan entry with a live photo shall be created.
 - (iv) Where there are appropriate reasons for a guest not to be able to produce ID and be subject to ID scan, the Approved Manager may still permit entry. In such circumstance he shall also record the reasons for this in the signing in sheet.
- 36. Notwithstanding condition 36 above, patrons who are attending a pre-booked private event at the premises do not need to have their ID Scanned on entry and instead a written guest list shall be held at reception for the event, and will be retained for 31 days after the event for inspection by the Police and responsible authorities upon request.
- 37. All door supervisors will correctly display their SIA licence when on duty at the premises.
- After 21:00 hours all SIA Door supervisors engaged outside the entrance to the premises, or supervising or controlling queues, shall wear high visibility jackets or vests.
- 39. All SIA door staff on duty at premises shall be equipped with Body Worn Video, capable of recording audio and video in any light condition as per the minimum requirements of the Westminster Police Licensing Team. All recordings shall be stored for a minimum period of 31 days with date and time stamping. Viewing of recordings shall be made available immediately upon the request of the Police or authorised officer throughout the preceding 31 day period. BWV must be activated at an early stage during any incident involving conflict.
- 40. Patrons shall be greeted by a member of the staff at the reception areas on both the ground and basement floors before being directed to the relevant area of the premises.
- 41. After 23:00 all patrons attempting to gain entry or re-entry will be subject to a search, upon entry all bags are to be opened and searched. A general search policy shall be implemented as agreed with the Westminster Police Licensing Team and documented. In accordance with the general search policy, searching will be supplemented by the use of two functional metal detecting wands operated by a male and female door supervisor dedicated to that duty either until the end of permitted hours or until there are no further admission.
- 42. Patrons permitted to temporarily leave and then re-enter the premises to smoke shall be restricted to a designated smoking area defined in the Dispersal, Transport and Noise Management Strategy.
- 43. No entry / Re-entry (excluding persons exiting to smoke) to the premises after 03:50 hours.

- 44. An incident log shall be kept at the premises and made available on request to an authorised officer of the City Council or the Police. It must be completed within 24 hours of the incident and will record the following:
 - · all crimes reported to the venue
 - all ejections of patrons
 - · any complaints received concerning crime and disorder
 - any incidents of disorder
 - all seizures of drugs or offensive weapons
 - · any faults in the CCTV system, searching equipment or scanning equipment
 - any refusal of the sale of alcohol
 - any visit by a relevant authority or emergency service.
- 45. In the event that an assault is committed on the premises (or appears to have been committed) the management, on notification of such assault or apparent assault, will immediately ensure that:
 - The Police (and, where appropriate, the London Ambulance Service) are called without delay.
 - All reasonably practicable efforts are taken to detain any suspect(s) pending the arrival of the Police.
 - All reasonable practicable efforts are taken to preserve the crime scene so as to enable a full forensic investigation to be carried out by the Police, unless otherwise notified by then.
 - Such other measures are taken (as appropriate) to fully protect the safety of all persons present on the premises.
- 46. Patrons permitted to temporarily leave and then re-enter the premises, e.g. to smoke, shall not be permitted to take drinks or glass containers with them.
- 47. There shall be no sales of hot food or hot drink for consumption off the premises after 23.00.
- 48. The supply of alcohol shall be by waiter or waitress service only.
- 49. On the Ground Floor and Mezzanine, the sale of alcohol shall cease at least 1 hour before the Ground Floor and Mezzanine closes.
- 50. No more than 15 persons shall be permitted in the smoking area at any one time until 03:30 hours, and no more than 5 persons thereafter.

Annex 4 - Plans









Schedule 12 Part B

WARD: West End UPRN: 200002817344

Premises licence summary

Regulation 33, 34

Premises licence number:	22/07837/LIPV

Part 1 - Premises details

Postal address of premises:

The Windmill 17 - 19 Great Windmill Street London W1D 7JZ

Telephone Number: Not Supplied

Where the licence is time limited, the dates:

Not applicable

Licensable activities authorised by the licence:

Performance of Dance Exhibition of a Film Performance of Live Music Playing of Recorded Music Anything of a similar descrip

Anything of a similar description to Live Music, Recorded Music or Performance of Dance

Performance of a Play Late Night Refreshment Sale by Retail of Alcohol

The times the licence authorises the carrying out of licensable activities:

Performance of Dance

Monday to Saturday: 09:00 to 05:00

Exhibition of a Film

Monday to Saturday: 09:00 to 05:00 Sunday: 09:00 to 00:00

Performance of Live Music

Monday to Saturday: 09:00 to 05:00

Playing of Recorded Music Unrestricted

Anything of a similar description to Live Music, Recorded Music or Performance of Dance

Monday to Saturday: 09:00 to 05:00

Performance of a Play

Monday to Saturday: 09:00 to 05:00 Sunday: 14:00 to 03:00

Late Night Refreshment

Monday to Saturday: 23:00 to 05:00

Sale by Retail of Alcohol

Monday to Saturday: 10:00 to 05:00 Sunday: 12:00 to 22:30

Seasonal Details: An additional hour to the standard and non-standard times on the day when British Summertime commences.

Seasonal Variations: From the end of permitted hours on New Year's Eve to the start of permitted hours on New Year's Day.

The opening hours of the premises:

Monday to Saturday: 09:00 to 05:30 Sunday: 09:00 to 03:00

Where the licence authorises supplies of alcohol, whether these are on and/or off supplies:

Alcohol is supplied for consumption both on and off the Premises.

Name and (registered) address of holder of premises licence:

Immerse London Ltd 4TH Floor Elsley Court 20-22 Great Titchfield Street London United Kingdom W1W 8BE

Registered number of holder, for example company number, charity number (where applicable)

12654840

Name of designated premises supervisor where the premises licence authorises for the supply of alcohol:

Name: Bence Pillinger

State whether access to the premises by children is restricted or prohibited:

Restricted

Date: 10 March 2023

This licence has been authorised by Jessica Donovan on behalf of the Director - Public Protection and Licensing.

LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE No. 6

Thursday 11th January 2018

Membership: Councillor Melvyn Caplan (Chairman), Councillor Heather

Acton and Councillor Rita Begum

Legal Adviser: Barry Panto
Policy Adviser: Chris Wroe
Committee Officer: Jonathan Deacon

Presenting Officer: Daisy Gadd. Heidi Lawrence in attendance.

Relevant Representations: Objector (wished to remain anonymous), City

Inspectors and Licensing Authority

Present: Mr Stuart Jessop (Counsel, representing the anonymous

objector), Mr Glyn Franks (City Inspectors) and Mr Nick Nelson

(Licensing Authority), Mr Michael Bromley-Martin QC

(Representing Applicant), Mr Thomas O'Maoileoin and Mr Jack Spiegler (solicitors, on behalf of the Applicant), Mr Daniel Owide (Director, Applicant Company), Ms Annette Leahy (Designated Premises Supervisor), Retired Chief Inspector Adrian Studd and Retired Inspector Graeme Ironside (Consultants to Applicant).

The Windmill, 17-19 Great Windmill Street, W1 16/09992/LISEVR

An application for the renewal of a Sexual Entertainment Venue Premises Licence to provide full nudity striptease, pole dancing and table dancing between the hours of 09:00 to 05:30 on each of the days Monday to Saturday and 14:00 to 03:00 on Sunday. The Applicant did not request to change the relevant entertainment or to remove any standard conditions to the licence in the event the application was granted. Objections to the renewal application had been submitted alleging serious breaches of the conditions on the licence.

Amendments to application advised at hearing:

None.

Decision (including reasons if different from those set out in report):

Ms Gadd, introducing the application advised at the hearing that the original Objector had not waived the right to anonymity.

Mr Bromley-Martin, representing the Applicant, wished to make a preliminary point. He requested that the Sub-Committee permit the submission of two witness statements on behalf of the Applicant, from Mr Owide and Ms Leahy, which had been sent to the Licensing Service the day prior to the hearing. Mr Bromley-Martin

clarified that the reason the witness statements had been sent at that time, which was after the deadline set out in the Council's Rules of Procedure ('all documentary or other information produced by a party in support of their application must be received by the Authority by noon on the third working day before the day of the hearing at which it is to be relied upon'), was in order to respond to further submissions sent on behalf of the Objector on Monday 8 January. He added that Mr Jessop, Mr Franks and Mr Nelson had no objection to the witness statements being submitted. The Sub-Committee permitted the submission of the two witness statements, adjourning briefly to read the documents.

The Sub-Committee decided to hear from the objectors first as that was considered to be the most appropriate way of dealing with an opposed application for renewal under the Sexual Entertainment Venue legislation.

Mr Jessop spoke first on behalf of the original objector, stating that the evidence on behalf of the objector was that there had been serious and significant breaches of the conditions on the premises licence. It was crucial that customers, performers and those involved in the industry were protected. Breaches of the conditions could have the effect of creating an atmosphere where the performers are encouraged or feel pressured to act in a certain way. In order to compete the performers may have felt it necessary to lower the standards.

Mr Jessop made the point that the breaches were serious and significant on the grounds that there were a number of performers who had not complied with the conditions and the breaches had occurred on a number of different days. It was not, he believed a small blip where one or two performers were taking a decision not to comply with conditions. It was a systemic failure of the Licensee's running of the premises, including the mismanagement of the performers and the security guards not preventing the issues from occurring. He also rejected what he believed to be the likely argument on behalf of the Applicant that the breaches were a 'one off' or occurred because of a period of difficulty. Mr Jessop commented that the issues had either deliberately been allowed to take place or gross negligence had been allowed to occur. He referred to key members of staff, including Mr Daniel Owide, being present at the premises whilst repeated incidents were taking place.

Mr Jessop referred to evidence of the breaches shown in CCTV footage of 1 and 5 October 2017. He also said that the business had been put on notice as early as 13 October 2017 of the ex-police officers' visits on behalf of the Objector in September. However, despite this there had been further visits by the ex-police officers on specific dates after this time in October and the first half of November, the Applicant had still not put its 'house in order'. There had therefore been persistent or flagrant breaches. He added that this either showed an inability to improve the situation or an unwillingness to do so and queried whether the Applicant was a fit and proper person to run the premises.

Mr Jessop stated that despite Mr Franks on behalf of the City Inspectors having observed CCTV footage on 8 December which he described as a 'marked improvement in the activity of SIA staff patrolling, responding to instructions and talking to customers, as well as performers', the Licensing Authority had found evidence of 19 breaches of Condition 22 in this same footage. Mr Jessop made the

point that these breaches may not have been as serious or severe as those in September or October but he expressed the view that there had still been a large number of breaches. He asked the rhetorical question that if the most recent position was that there were still breaches when the Applicant was aware that the application was coming before the Sub-Committee, what would be the situation when the spotlight was not on the Applicant? Mr Jessop requested that the Applicant was not given a trial period to demonstrate that the situation had improved on the basis that the Applicant had had this opportunity already since September 2017 and had not improved sufficiently.

Mr Jessop referred to the Applicant potentially making the case that the issues were due to a period of difficulty arising from the ill health and death of Mr Oscar Owide. He said that he had sympathy for the Applicant on this point but that it had been recorded in the decision sheet at the Council's Sub-Committee meeting in 2012 that there had been a similar set of breaches of the conditions on the premises licence. Mr Jessop queried how Mr Daniel Owide, the son of Oscar Owide and current Director of the Company, had set out in his current witness statement that he was not aware of the breaches of the conditions in 2012. This was particularly as Ms Leahy had been the Designated Premises Supervisor ('DPS') at the time of the 2012 meeting, had been present at that meeting and would have been able to inform Mr Daniel Owide of the situation.

Mr Jessop also said that whilst it had been suggested that no criminal offences had taken place, there had been clear evidence of intimate touching and overt sex acts performed by performers. There were potential instances of prostitution and bribery of security guards to ignore incidents. Even if there were no criminal offences, there were clearly serious breaches of conditions.

The Sub-Committee heard from Mr Franks on behalf of the City Inspectors. He stated that he was made aware of the Objector's submission in respect of the premises on 13 October 2017. On 14 October he had sought to obtain CCTV footage of the premises. He was maintaining his objection on the basis of breaches of conditions of the premises licence which could be seen in footage obtained from 1 and 5 October 2017. Mr Franks had witnessed conduct that reflected breaches of conditions 17, 21 and 22 of the premises licence and in excess of 50% of the dances viewed would reflect breaches, or cause for concern. Mr Franks also advised that he had observed on the CCTV footage clear and prolonged contact between the customer and the performer, inappropriate contact between the performer and the customer and that the performers were not adequately managed. There was clear evidence of SIA staff being present and allowing the conduct to continue.

Mr Franks in response to a question from the Sub-Committee advised that there were clear full face images of the SIA staff in question and it was believed management had acted on information. Mr Bromley-Martin provided the information that the management did know the names of the SIA staff who had transgressed and that disciplinary action had been taken.

Mr Franks stated that following the evidence in the footage of the beginning of October, he had arranged a meeting with the licence holder for 14 November and had continued to monitor management and the conduct of the performers. He had

subsequently obtained images of 7 November and 8 December. Mr Franks expressed the view that there were no clear breaches of the conditions on these dates which were sufficient for a review of the licence or a prosecution. There had been instances of contact between the performer and the customer but Mr Franks did not perceive these instances to be indecent.

Mr Franks confirmed to the Sub-Committee that he had not viewed any CCTV footage at the premises since 8 December. He was awaiting the outcome of the current Sub-Committee hearing before taking a decision on whether to continue the enforcement process.

The Sub-Committee asked Mr Franks a number of questions. These included why he had selected specific dates for viewing CCTV footage. He replied that 1 October and 5 October footage had been requested because a meeting had taken place with the premises on 31 October and he wanted to assess whether the licence holder was complying with the need to retain it for 31 days. He had also selected days of the week which were similar to those when the ex-police officers had visited the premises. He had then randomly sought CCTV footage of 7 November and 8 December.

Mr Franks was asked whether he or City Inspector colleagues had visited the premises recently prior to the Objector's submissions. He replied that he had carried out inspections of the premises, including on 26 July 2017. Visits of SEV premises were conducted by City Inspectors at least three times a year. Mr Franks added that he had never during his visits witnessed any behaviour which he suspected of being a breach of the conditions. The nature of the visits was that he would introduce himself at the front door, then he would walk through the premises with a manager, they would go back to the office and often view CCTV. Most inspections would last approximately 15-20 minutes. All of these visits were unannounced. Mr Franks acknowledged that it was likely that the SIA door staff would make other staff aware of his visit as soon as he was at the front door.

Mr Franks advised that it was with consent that he viewed CCTV as the conditions did not require the operator to show it to him. It was his decision as to whether to request to view footage or not. He was not certain that he had viewed recent CCTV footage during his July 2017 visit. He had definitely looked at CCTV footage of the premises a couple of times during 2017. He generally requested footage of one or two of the private dancing areas as they were the greatest risk areas in terms of breaches of conditions.

The Sub-Committee heard from Mr Nelson on behalf of the Licensing Authority. He stated that the Licensing Authority had responded to allegations from the Objector. There had been discussions with the operator and the Licensing Authority had carried out its own investigations, largely by viewing CCTV clips of the premises during 2017 (from 1 October, 5 October, 7 November and 8 December). Mr Nelson concurred with Mr Jessop that the CCTV footage showed a high number of serious and significant breaches of the conditions on the premises licence. The Licensing Authority's view differed from Mr Franks', particularly in relation to footage of 7 November and 8 December, in that evidence of touching of customers still amounted to evidence of breaches. Mr Nelson perceived that he was taking a literal view of the

conditions whereas Mr Franks was viewing the footage from an enforcement perspective. Mr Nelson wished to clarify that he was in agreement with Mr Franks insofar that had he only seen footage of 7 November and 8 December and not 1 October or 5 October, it would be doubtful that the Licensing Authority would have made a representation.

Mr Nelson advised that there were clips of CCTV footage of the premises should the Sub-Committee wish to view them. The Sub-Committee asked Mr Nelson what information would be obtained from the clips that was not known by Members having read all the papers. Mr Bromley-Martin, in order to assist the Sub-Committee, indicated at this point that the Applicant had no dispute with the content of the witness statements submitted on behalf of the Objector or the assertion there were substantial breaches shown in the CCTV footage of 1 and 5 October. The Applicant also did not object to the assessment of the 7 November and 8 December footage given by Mr Franks or Mr Nelson.

Mr Nelson referred to the Licensing Authority having viewed 37 hours of CCTV footage at the premises. Breaches of conditions 17, 20, 22 and 23 of the premises licence had been observed as set out in his written representation. Mr Nelson described the breaches of 1 and 5 October as 'extreme' as there had been a very significant level of contact and over-familiarity between performer and customer and performer and performer. Mr Nelson advised that it could be seen from the footage of 8 December that there had been a period of re-education of the performers that the previous levels of contact were not acceptable. There were later examples of security staff interrupting performances and pointing to plaques on the wall which it was believed prohibited contact. There were also later examples of performers performing further away and pushing customers back into their seats. Mr Nelson said there were still some examples of performers dancing very close to the customers and there being some contact such as touching a shoulder, knee or thigh. The examples of contact could be seen as 'soft breaches'.

Mr Nelson advised that it was clear that there had been a marked improvement but it was clear that from a literal interpretation of the conditions, breaches were still occurring on the most recent footage viewed. More active monitoring, management and security of the premises appeared to be taking place. It was up to the licence holder to design an operation that is able to comply with conditions. The Licensing Authority needed confidence in the licence holder's ability to do so. Mr Nelson had read the submissions of the ex-Police officers on behalf of the Objector and he was of the view that they were consistent with what he had observed in the CCTV footage. He was concerned that performers and customers had been able to locate blind spots which were not covered by the CCTV cameras but this appeared to be resolved. Mr Nelson advised that he had seen Ms Leahy in later footage monitoring the performances. He believed that the training measures set out in the Applicant's submissions were positive.

Mr Nelson perceived that customers had developed an expectation of receiving more than just a dance from the performers. This had led to frustration, including arguing, on their part. Management would need to demonstrate that they were able to manage the customers so that there was no expectation of more than just a dance.

Mr Nelson said that the option was open to the Sub-Committee to grant a probationary licence of less than a year. This would give management the opportunity to improve whilst monitoring takes place. The Sub-Committee needed to have confidence that the premises would be operated so that conditions were complied with.

The Sub-Committee asked Mr Nelson whether he believed the Applicant was able to comply with conditions on the premises licence. Mr Nelson replied that the situation had been dire. He believed the operators had the ability to manage the premises and comply with the conditions. He was concerned that there could be a situation where the Licensing Service intervenes and the licence holder improves its procedures only for a gradual decline to occur over time. Mr Nelson referred to the recorded issues in 2012 but wished to balance this with the point that no enforcement action had been taken against the premises in the last five years.

The Sub-Committee was addressed by Mr Bromley-Martin. He began by asking questions to officers. Mr Nelson confirmed that he had received full co-operation from the licence holder in the Licensing Authority's investigation. Mr Nelson also confirmed it was his understanding that there had been a full review of CCTV and an improvement of the coverage. Mr Franks was asked whether there had been an improvement in the CCTV and he replied that there had been with the blind spots having been removed. There were now additional screens for management to view. He believed it probably had been the case that from the CCTV footage on 7 November the performers were aware where the blind spots were. Mr Nelson and Mr Franks also confirmed they were aware that disciplinary and compliance documentation had been produced on the part of the Applicant.

The Sub-Committee asked representatives on behalf of the Applicant to explain about the CCTV. Ms Leahy and Mr Bromley-Martin stated that there was comprehensive coverage now, including in the private booths on the first floor. It had been identified that there were blind spots that were being exploited. Performers had been able to see this from the monitors. Performers had then needed to ensure that security staff either did not see what was taking place or did not report them. Ms Leahy informed the Sub-Committee that there were monitors at the reception desk. Mr Owide informed the Sub-Committee that he was able to monitor the venue from his office in the basement and that the performers and security staff could no longer observe the monitors in reception. Only Ms Leahy could see them or another trusted member of staff if Ms Leahy was busy.

Mr Bromley-Martin stated that The Windmill had been an institution for many years. It had been owned by Mr Oscar Owide until his death in December 2017. Mr Bromley-Martin accepted that by October 2017 there was a systemic failure to comply with the conditions on the premises licence, including in relation to the contact between the customers and the performers. He explained that the way in which the venue was run was always in accordance with Mr Oscar Owide's wishes. He described Mr Oscar Owide as a man of positive character who was autocratic to a degree. He had not allowed his son Daniel, the manager of the premises, to be in the office unless he was there.

Mr Bromley-Martin wished to refute what he perceived to be the suggestion in the

Objector's written representation that the management was involved in the breach of the conditions as part of the exploitation of the performers. He said it was not a case of profiteering at the expense of performers. The performers and security staff who had transgressed had disregarded rules because they were able to make more money.

Mr Bromley-Martin said that there was a duty on the part of the Applicant/licence holder to prevent breaches of the conditions occurring and this was accepted by management. It was necessary to take appropriate disciplinary action against staff who had transgressed.

Mr Bromley-Martin stated that the issue was not whether The Windmill should be punished for the earlier systemic failure to comply with conditions but whether the Sub-Committee could be confident such a situation would not arise again. It was his intention to persuade the Sub-Committee that the management of the premises had the determination and willingness to comply with the conditions. He referred to the Applicant providing CCTV footage to Council officers as requested after it had become apparent that there were issues. CCTV coverage had been improved after it had become apparent that there were some blind spots. Monitoring of the CCTV by management had also been improved so that Ms Leahy and Mr Owide could be seen on 8 December CCTV footage arriving on the scene and action having been taken.

Mr Bromley-Martin made the point that the ex-Police officers' detailed witness statements on behalf of the Objector had enabled the management of the premises to take the necessary disciplinary action. As a result, seven performers had been dismissed and a number disciplined and warned. Also, four security staff had been dismissed.

Mr Bromley-Martin explained that Retired Inspector Graeme Ironside had been employed to review the compliance documentation and provide training to staff on compliance and discipline. His reports had been included in additional papers submitted to the Sub-Committee by the Applicant. The training to staff had taken place on 30 November 2017. Mr Bromley-Martin informed the Sub-Committee that there had been a need for disciplinary action since that date with there being at least one dismissal.

The report from Retired Chief Inspector Adrian Studd was also included in additional papers submitted by the Applicant. Mr Bromley-Martin explained that Mr Studd had been employed to assess the premises and then report his findings to the licence holder. Mr Studd had made recommendations and then returned to make covert investigations of the premises including the behaviour of the performers and security staff in December 2017 to see whether the conditions on the premises licence were being complied with.

Mr Bromley-Martin expressed the view that it was important that the Sub-Committee accepted the analysis of the situation provided by Mr Nelson and Mr Franks rather than Mr Jessop.

Mr Bromley-Martin wished to highlight the conclusions of Mr Studd's report. This was that whilst there had been issues at the premises in the past, he was satisfied that

'the premises is now in compliance with the standard conditions for SEV premises and will continue to do so should the licence be renewed'.

The Sub-Committee wished to understand from Ms Leahy how, when she had been the DPS for many years, she was not aware that the breaches of the conditions were taking place. There were concerns about how the premises was being run. Ms Leahy had stated for instance that she was not at the premises on the evening of 25-26 October 2017 when the ex-Police officers had visited the premises and uncovered breaches of the conditions. Ms Leahy responded that the business was run in a different way by Mr Oscar Owide than his son Daniel and the latter wanted to take the business in a different direction. A mistake had been made in trusting security staff who had worked at the venue for some time. It had been a shock to management that they had not been respecting the conditions. Ms Leahy had been aware that there had been some breaches of the conditions. She said disciplinary action had been taken in relation to the breaches she had been aware of. It was Ms Leahy's submission that there was a culture where door staff would use their radios when the management was approaching to warn security upstairs they were coming. By the time the management were upstairs all staff were behaving. As far as she was aware there were no concerns.

The Sub-Committee also wished to understand from Mr Daniel Owide why the flagrant breaches would not happen in the future. Mr Owide responded that his father was very controlling and gave no input to the management, particularly in the final months of his life. Mr Owide explained that his intention going forward was to advertise for new performers and do in-house training. Staff on site would all be part of the compliance team. He added that security staff had been employed by his father. It had not been a complete surprise to him regarding the breaches although the degree of the issues had been. Now security staff would be rotated in order to prevent them being over-familiar with their positions.

The Sub-Committee asked Mr Owide how the venue was managed when Ms Leahy was not on duty. Mr Owide replied there was always a member of the management at the premises. There was another lady who was able to cover. The general manager had received his SIA security training. Performers and staff would be retrained after Christmas.

Mr Jessop was given the opportunity to ask questions of the Applicant. He asked Ms Leahy why she had not informed Mr Daniel Owide of the concerns raised about breaches of conditions at the Licensing Sub-Committee meeting in 2012. She replied that her view was that matters that were raised in 2012 had been dealt with. New staff had been brought in, including to monitor the CCTV. The Council had asked to view CCTV footage and no issues had been raised by officers. It was not until the last six months that the issues had been brought to her attention. Security staff had become too comfortable and over-familiar. Ms Leahy informed the Sub-Committee and Mr Jessop that the previous individual who had monitored the CCTV had left the role and one of the existing security guards had taken over who was believed to have been part of the problem. She had become aware of the extent of a culture having developed regarding performers and security staff at the premises in November.

Ms Leahy also said that in addition to being made aware of the Objector's submissions in October 2017, Mr Daniel Owide had been affected at the time by his father's illness and had not been at the premises as much. It may have been that his attention was diverted.

Mr Jessop asked Mr Owide whether he was at the premises on the evening of 25-26 October 2017 when Ms Leahy had set out in her witness statement that she had not been present. This was an evening when the ex-Police officers had visited the premises and uncovered breaches of the conditions. Mr Owide confirmed that he had been at The Windmill that evening but explained that he was unaware of what had taken place.

Mr Owide wished to bring to the Sub-Committee's attention that during the period when breaches had taken place, he had been occupied with touts standing outside the front door (conversations had taken place with Mr Franks on this issue). Many regular customers had stopped coming to the venue and had been taken to another nightclub. Mr Owide had therefore stayed outside observing what was occurring.

Mr Studd was asked by Mr Bromley-Martin to comment on confidence in the present management to comply with conditions and ensure that the breaches never happened again. Mr Studd replied that he believed that he, Mr Nelson and Mr Franks had all been struck by the shock of Ms Leahy and Mr Owide when they had become aware of the extent of the issues at the premises. He believed significant improvements had been made at the premises, including in relation to the CCTV and training and replacement of staff. Mr Studd was of the view that Ms Leahy and Mr Owide had accepted responsibility to address the issues that had arisen. He believed it had been tempting to rely on people who had been employed at the premises for a long time.

The plans of the premises were discussed. Mr Bromley-Martin offered on behalf of the Applicant to provide up to date plans which included the locations of the CCTV cameras and monitors.

The Sub-Committee asked Ms Leahy how often staff meetings had taken place and whether any issues had been raised there. She replied that staff meetings took place once a month and no issues had been raised there.

The Sub-Committee heard the final submissions from Mr Jessop and Mr Bromley-Martin. Mr Jessop referred to a paragraph in the decision sheet for The Windmill at the Licensing Sub-Committee hearing in May 2012. The Applicant in that instance had stated that 'the necessary disciplinary action had been taken in respect of the performers and the security. The CCTV would in future be monitored more closely and the company was in the process of employing someone to view the CCTV continuously. Currently there was a receptionist employed full time and Ms Leahy, the DPS was also viewing CCTV for 15 to 20 minutes each hour in reception'. Mr Jessop commented that not only had there been significant contact between performers and customers then but similar solutions had been offered. Ms Leahy had also been in the same role. He re-iterated that there was a question to answer as to why Ms Leahy did not advise Mr Daniel Owide of the previous issues which had existed in 2012. Mr Jessop made the point that whilst his father may have been an

autocrat, Mr Daniel Owide was in a position of influence.

Mr Jessop picked up on the comment Ms Leahy had made that she had been aware that there had been some breaches of the conditions prior to October. He questioned whether Ms Leahy would have been totally unaware of the culture of breaches as documented in the Objector's submissions. Mr Jessop quoted Mr Nelson's representation that 'it is clear from the footage that an expectation has been created amongst customers of the premises that contact can be expected from performers. This is very clear in later CCTV footage when frustration is clearly visible amongst some customers when contact is not forthcoming. The premises is likely going through a transition phase where customers still expect to receive contact and will likely face difficulties in changing this behaviour and managing this expectation out'. Mr Jessop concluded it was common sense that cultures do not arise overnight or in the space of a few weeks. If customers were struggling with the new culture, it was because they had got used to the old one which was likely to have been over a long period of time. This was a period of time when Ms Leahy was DPS and Mr Daniel Owide should have been made aware of the problems, as documented in 2012

Mr Jessop said that he accepted Mr Bromley-Martin's point that the Sub-Committee's decision should not be about punishment but whether the operator was suitable to run the premises. He asked the Sub-Committee to give careful consideration to whether the operator was fit and proper, given that either Ms Leahy or Mr Daniel Owide were at the premises whilst the breaches were taking place.

Mr Jessop made the point that the evidence of the serious breaches was not merely confined to what had been seen on the CCTV footage. The ex-Police officers had witnessed them on dates when CCTV footage had not been observed by Council officers. The evidence of the ex-Police officers was accepted by the Applicant. The CCTV footage had been viewed on 7 November and the officers had deemed there to have been an improvement, which had been described as 'soft breaches'. However, the ex-Police officers had visited the premises on 9 November and found a number of serious breaches of the conditions, including physical contact between the performer and the customer.

Mr Jessop queried why management had not been aware there were blind spots in the CCTV coverage which had been picked up by the performers who had transgressed. He believed that the performers and the security staff were scapegoats for these failings and there was a lack of responsibility taken by management.

Mr Jessop commented that conditions had been placed on the premises licence for a reason. It was only a short journey from the 'soft breaches' to the more serious breaches. The conditions were placed on the premises licence in the context of sexually charged activities. Mr Jessop expressed the view that the breaches involving touching could therefore not be deemed to be soft. The conditions were there to safeguard staff and customers.

Mr Jessop did not dispute that there had been recent progress. However, the issue was whether the Applicant was fit or proper to run the premises. If breaches were

still carrying on, and he did not accept the definition of 'soft breaches', then he believed the Applicant fell at that hurdle. He was of the view that the breaches were still carrying on as they were still taking place in December 2017 when the most recent CCTV footage had been viewed. Despite being put on notice in October 2017, there were still conditions that were not being complied with.

Mr Bromley-Martin, in his final submission, stated that the breach of the touching rule plagues table dancing venues. He wished to emphasise that Mr Daniel Owide had not been involved in managing the premises in 2012 when the issues with contact between performers and customers were raised at the Council's Sub-Committee meeting. The premises were firmly run by his father. He expressed the view that there was little significance in what had taken place in 2012.

Mr Bromley-Martin believed it was wrong for Mr Jessop to suggest that the breaches had been taking place for a long time. He said there was no evidence to suggest anything untoward was happening before 1 October 2017. The Licence Holder was grateful for the evidence provided by the Objector which was to the advantage of all.

Mr Bromley-Martin requested that the Sub-Committee accept the submissions of Mr Nelson and Mr Franks. He believed the evidence was that there had been a serious problem in October, an intermediary period in November and by December the problem is solved. There were no actionable breaches by December. Mr Bromley-Martin believed it was of note that there was no evidence since 8 December of actionable breaches. He described the steps taken by management as strong actions. At least eleven staff had lost their livelihoods. He was of the view that reassurance should be given by the report of Retired Chief Inspector Adrian Studd that the breaches had been resolved and the premises are now being managed properly.

Mr Bromley-Martin recommended that a probationary period was not imposed by the Sub-Committee as this had already existed between December 2017 and the current hearing.

The Sub-Committee considered, in reaching a decision, that a large part of the case was not in dispute as all parties to the hearing had accepted, including the Applicant, that there were serious and severe breaches of the conditions on the premises licence. It was for the Sub-Committee to judge the suitability of the Applicant holding the premises licence. Mr Jessop had made the point that the issues had either deliberately been allowed to take place or gross negligence had been allowed to occur. The Sub-Committee considered that there were situations where one off breaches take place. However, in this case, as accepted by all parties, there had been a systemic failure to comply with the conditions on the premises licence.

The Sub-Committee had noted that the initial evidence of breaches had been provided by the original Objector who had no direct connection with the premises. The suggestion was that customers also had an expectation that the performers would engage in more than just a dance for them. The only people who had appeared to be unaware of what was taking place in The Windmill were those in charge of the Applicant company. It was the duty of the management to make sure that they are aware of what is taking place in the premises. There was a failure and

a lack of responsibility taken on the Applicant's part.

The Sub-Committee was required, as asserted by Mr Bromley-Martin, to decide whether there was confidence that breaches of the conditions would not happen again. The Sub-Committee had been asked to take into account the improvements in place and that training had been carried out and whether that was sufficient that issues would not arise in the future. Members had found it hard to believe that the nature of the breaches had only been taking place since October 2017. They accepted the point that the CCTV footage had demonstrated that an expectation had been created amongst customers of the premises that contact can be expected from performers and that the culture was not likely to have arisen over a short period of time. The Sub-Committee had to weigh up that the management going forward would be the same as the management in the past. The Sub-Committee gave its condolences to Mr Owide for the loss of his father and appreciated that his ill health and death would have been a stressful period for Mr Owide. However, if the management stayed the same, the Sub-Committee had to be convinced that the culture would change.

The Sub-Committee had been asked to accept the evidence from the Applicant that Mr Oscar Owide was such a dominant character that it was not possible to prevent a culture where the conditions were not complied with. The Sub-Committee did not consider it an option as to whether licence holders complied with conditions on the premises licence. It was absolutely necessary for licence holders to comply with conditions at all times. The Sub-Committee also did not accept the concept of 'soft breaches'. Any breaches were not acceptable. The Applicant had been advised in October 2017 of the breaches and the Council had been told that they would never happen again. However, severe breaches had occurred again as set out in the ex-Police's officers witness statements on behalf of the Objector relating to visits to the premises on 26th October and 10th November 2017.

The Sub-Committee had given consideration to whether a trial probationary period was appropriate. It had been suggested by Mr Jessop and Mr Bromley-Martin that this had been in existence already. The Sub-Committee had decided that this was not appropriate. The licence was due for renewal in September 2018.

Having read all the evidence and listened to the submissions at the hearing, the Sub-Committee was not convinced that similar issues to those documented over recent months would not happen again. The same management, notably the DPS, were in place. The Sub-Committee was not convinced that the conditions on the licence would be adhered to. The Sub-Committee recognised that training had been given to staff and that had led to some improvements. However, the test was whether the Applicant was suitable and whether such incidents would happen again. The Sub-Committee did not consider that the Applicant was suitable to hold the Sexual Entertainment Venue Premises Licence and the decision was therefore that the renewal of the licence was refused.

Sex Establishment Licence history – The Box			
Application reference	Application details	Decision	Date of licence expiration
12/02708/LISEVN	Application for a New Sexual Entertainment Venue Licence.	Granted by Licensing Sub- Committee 12.06.2012	30 September 2013
13/07331/LISEVR	Application to renew the Sexual Entertainment Venue Licence.	Granted under Delegated Authority 09.01.2014	30 September 2014
14/08247/LISEVR	Application to renew the Sexual Entertainment Venue Licence.	Granted under Delegated Authority 06.01.2015	30 September 2015
15/08078/LISEVR	Application to renew the Sexual Entertainment Venue Licence.	Granted under Delegated Authority 17.11.2015	30 September 2016
16/09992/LISEVR	Application to renew the Sexual Entertainment Venue Licence	Granted under Delegated Authority 28.03.2017	30 September 2017
17/10780/LISEVR	Application to renew the Sexual Entertainment Venue Licence	Refused by Licensing Sub Committee 11.01.2018	N/A

- Relevant entertainment shall only be provided as part of the bone fide theatrical or staged performances which shall include burlesque, cabaret or plays (subject to agreement of relevant entertainment). For the avoidance of doubt there shall be no provision of relevant entertainment comprising either lap dancing or similar entertainment that shall take place.
- 2. Admission to the Premises shall be limited to the following:
 - Persons having booked tickets to a performance, prior to attending the Premises.
 - No more than 15 guests of the proprietor, whose names have been recorded in a guest list, maintained at the Premises and available for inspection by any Police or Authorised Officer. The guest list is to contain the name, address and contact details of all guests.
 - Persons attending a private function which has been booked at least 24 hours in advance in writing (a list of whom shall be kept at reception for inspection by the relevant authority).
- 3. The performance of relevant entertainment shall be restricted to the stage area of the premises only.

The applicant has proposed the following alternative condition:

Any performance of relevant entertainment must commence on the stage area of the premises.

- 4. Whilst Relevant Entertainment is taking place no person under the age of 18 shall be on the licensed premises and a clear notice to that effect shall be displayed at the entrance in a prominent position so that it can be easily read by persons entering the premises.
- 5. Whenever persons under the age of 18 are admitted to the premises there will be no promotional or other material on display within the premises which depicts nudity or partial nudity.
- 6. The licence or a clear copy shall be prominently displayed at all times so as to be readily and easily seen by all persons using the premises.
- 7. No provision of relevant entertainment, or material depicting nudity or relevant entertainment, shall be visible from outside the premises.
- 8. Except with the consent of the Licensing Authority, no advertisements of any kind (including placard, poster, sticker, flyer, picture, letter, sign or other mark) shall be inscribed or affixed at the premises, on the surface of the highway or on any building, structure, works, street furniture, tree or any other property or be distributed in the street to the public that advertises or promotes the relevant entertainment at the premises.
- 9. The licence holder or other person concerned in the conduct or management of the premises shall not seek to obtain custom by means of personal solicitation or touting, nor enter into any agreement with a third party to do so.

- 10. Adequate toilets, washing and changing facilities for use by the Performers shall be provided.
- 11. Either the licence holder or a named responsible person shall be present throughout the time the Relevant Entertainment takes place.
- 12. The premises will install and maintain a comprehensive CCTV system as per the minimum requirements of a Metropolitan Police Crime Prevention Officer that ensures all areas of the licensed premises are monitored including all entry and exit points will be covered enabling frontal identification of every person entering any light condition. All cameras shall continually record whilst the premises is open for licensable activities and during all times when customers remain on the premises. All recordings shall be stored for a minimum period of 31 days with date and time stamping. Recordings shall be made available immediately upon the request of Police or authorised officer throughout the preceding 31 day period together with facilities for viewing.
- 13. A staff member from the premises who is conversant with the operation of the CCTV system shall be on the premises at all times when the premises is open to the public and this staff member should be able to show Police recent data and footage with the absolute minimum of delay of the request.
- 14. An incident log shall be kept at the premises, and made available on request to the Licensing Authority or the Police, which will record the following:
 - (a) all crimes reported to the venue;
 - (b) all ejections of patrons;
 - (c) any complaints received;
 - (d) any incidents of disorder;
 - (e) seizures of drugs or offensive weapons;
 - (f) any faults in the CCTV system or searching equipment or scanning equipment;
 - (g) any refusal of the sale of alcohol;
 - (h) any visit by a relevant authority or emergency service;
 - (i) any breach of licence conditions reported by a Performer.
- 15. The licence holder shall produce a Code of Conduct setting out rules and obligations between the licence holder and performers whilst performing. All Performers shall sign the Code of Conduct in their proper name acknowledging that they have read, understood and are prepared to abide by the said Code of Conduct, and a copy so signed shall be retained by the licence holder and shall be readily available for inspection by the Police and/or authorised persons upon reasonable request.
- 16. Individual records shall be kept at the premises of the real names, stage names and addresses of all Performers working at the premises. The record will include either a copy of their birth certificate, current passport, EU driving licence or national identity card and shall be made immediately available for inspection by the Police and/or the Licensing Authority upon request.

- 17. Details of all work permits and/or immigration status relating to persons working at the premises shall be retained by the licence holder and be readily available for inspection by the Licensing Authority, a Police Officer or Immigration Officer.
- 18. Relevant entertainment shall be given only by performers and the audience shall not be permitted to participate in the relevant entertainment.
- 19. There shall be no physical contact between Performers whilst performing.

The applicant has proposed the following alternative condition.

Save for performances by the Windmill Girls, there shall be no physical contact between Performers whilst performing Relevant Entertainment.

- 20. Performers will not request or give out any telephone number, address or any other contact information from or to any customer. Any such information given by a customer shall be surrendered to the premises manager as soon as is practicable.
- 21. Customers must remain fully clothed at all times. The Performer must not remove any of the customer's clothing at any time.
- 22. Whenever Relevant Entertainment is being provided there shall be no physical contact between Performers and customers or between customers and Performers.

Conditions proposed by Environmental Health and agreed by the applicant

- 23. The maximum capacity of the premises shall not exceed:
 - i) Ground Floor and Mezzanine 250 persons (excluding staff).
 - ii) Basement 100 persons (excluding Staff)

The above figures are subject to the following restrictions on the whole Premises.

- iii) From 09:00am to 3.30am 350 persons (excluding Staff)
- iv) From 3.30am to 5.00am 150 persons (excluding Staff)
- 24. A minimum of one door supervisor shall be positioned by the stage to ensure that the audience does not go on to the stage. A minimum of one door supervisor shall be positioned so as to observe performers providing relevant entertainment to patrons within the auditorium plus an additional door supervisor positioned so as to observe performers providing relevant entertainment to patrons on the balcony.
- 25. All emergency exit doors shall be available at all material times without the use of a key, code, card or similar means.
- 26. All emergency doors shall be maintained effectively self-closing and not held open other than by an approved device.
- 27. The edges of the treads of steps and stairways shall be maintained so as to be conspicuous.

- 28. Curtains and hangings shall be arranged so as not to obstruct emergency safety signs or emergency equipment.
- 29. All fabrics, curtains, drapes and similar features including materials used in finishing and furnishing shall be either non-combustible or be durably or inherently flame-retarded fabric. Any fabrics used in escape routes (other than foyers), entertainment areas or function rooms, shall be non-combustible.
- 30. The approved arrangements at the premises, including means of escape provisions, emergency warning equipment, the electrical installation and mechanical equipment, shall at all material times be maintained in good condition and full working order.
- 31. The means of escape provided for the premises shall be maintained unobstructed, free of trip hazards, be immediately available and clearly identified in accordance with the plans provided.
- 32. Any special effects or mechanical installations shall be arranged and stored so as to minimise any risk to the safety of those using the premises. The following special effects will only be used on 10 days prior notice being given to the Licensing Authority where consent has not previously been given.
 - i. pyrotechnics including fire works
 - ii. firearms
 - iii. lasers
 - iv. explosives and highly flammable substances.
 - v. real flame.
 - vi. strobe lighting.
 - 33. No noise generated on the premises, or by its associated plant or equipment, shall emanate from the premises nor vibration be transmitted through the structure of the premises which gives rise to a nuisance.

Informative

Definitions

Relevant Entertainment is defined as:

- (a) any live performance or
- (b) any live display of nudity

which is of a nature that, ignoring financial gain, it must reasonably be assumed to be provided solely or principally for the purpose of sexually stimulating any member of the audience (whether by verbal or other means).

Performer is defined as any person operating at a sexual entertainment venue who carries out any activity falling within the definition of Relevant Entertainment.

Map of locality Appendix H

17-19 Great Windmill Street



Resident count: 253 Sex Establishments: 1

Schools: 1 Faith Groups: 0