



**METROPOLITAN
POLICE**

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TERRITORIAL POLICING

Brent Police Licensing Unit

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Your ref: 223674121

Our ref: 01QK/515/16/157

Brent Borough Licensing Department

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Date: 5/10/2016

Police representation to the Premises Licence application for Olympic Square, Bridge Road, Wembley, HA9.

I certify that I have considered the application shown above and **I wish to make representations** that the likely effect of the grant of the application is detrimental to the Council's Licensing Objectives for the reasons indicated below.

I am of the opinion that the risk to the Council's objectives can be mitigated by removing the requested variations or attaching conditions to the Licence as shown below.

Officer: **Nicola McDonald**
Licensing Constable PC 157QK

An officer of the Metropolitan Police, in whose area the premises are situated, who is authorised for the purposes of exercising its statutory function as a 'Responsible Authority' under the Licensing Act 2003.

The application has been made for a premises licence under section 17 of the act.

The Police representations are primarily concerned with crime and disorder and prevention of public safety.

Police have reservations about this application and use of this area by (an up to 6 piece) live band on some event days at Wembley Stadium.

The operating schedule within the application gives no indication that health and safety advisors at Wembley Park railway station have been consulted in order for a concise risk assessment to be compiled. The location of Olympic Square is directly below the vast staircase leading from Wembley Park railway station concourse on to Olympic Way, the main pedestrian access to the stadium. On an event day 80% of footfall passes through Wembley Park station and this is due to increase in the coming years with the expanse of building work in the area and less availability for parking of coaches and vehicles, I have no doubt this is why this area has been chosen to have maximum effect for

the public. I understand this could add to the atmosphere for some events however Police have concerns of this taking place on event days and believe there must be safer locations for this performance.

Prior to Stadium events, crowds surge down the steps on to Olympic Way. The presence of entertainment will cause congestion as persons stop to observe the activities below, the best view will be from above on the steps. Undoubtedly people will stop on the steps, record the entertainment and take photographs on mobile devices, incorporating the backdrop of the Stadium Arch in the background. In addition there is an increased risk of slips, trips and falls on the steps as people pay more attention to the entertainment and move to the influence of the music. Adding together the influence of alcohol consumption this has the potential for danger.

After Stadium events the egress of attendees has to also be heavily supervised, emergency services are required to place cordons to maintain the safe flow on to the railway station. The inclusion of entertainment will merely add to the congestion. It is imperative that people leave the area in a quick and orderly manner to alleviate tension and frustration.

Police are objecting to this premises licence. There is no accountability for safety of this event, the applicant is Brent Council but who would be the point of contact manage the events on the day itself. Who would 'ensure there are no obstructions' as detailed in the operating schedule and how would this be managed? The operating schedule also states 'any negative behaviour would be reported to Police', this passing of responsibility can not occur on days when Police resources are already stretched. In my opinion it will become the duty of Police and railway employees to deal with adversity from activities authorised by this premises licence if permitted.

Yours Sincerely,

Nicola McDonald PC 157QK
Licensing Constable Brent Police