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TERRITORIAL POLICING

Brent Police Licensing Unit

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Your ref:

Our ref: 01QK/ 684/16/157

Brent Borough Licensing Department

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Date: 21st December 2016

Police representation to the Premises Licence Review Application for 'Sahrah Lounge' 5-7 Wembley Hill Road, Wembley, HA9 8AF.

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 review of the premises licence under section 51 of the act.

I certify that I have considered the application shown above and I wish to make further representations to this application.

The Police representations are concerned with criminal activities at Sahrah Lounge 5-7 Wembley Hill Road, Wembley or involving customers from that venue.

During the early hours of the morning on 26th November 2016 customers from Sahrah Lounge were involved in disorder in the vicinity of the premises that resulted in one person being stabbed. The victim of the stabbing was a male from Somali origin, the suspects for the stabbing were from Somali origin
Cris 1930138/16 refers.

Brent Council CCTV footage was viewed by me and a section from 0200 - 0300hrs has been burned on to a disc. I exhibit this footage as NM/1.

During the early hours of 26th November 2016 an excessive amount of young men and women were entering and leaving Sahrah Lounge.

This breaches condition 14 of the premises licence 'No entry or re-entry allowed after 0000 hours'

There was a high number of patrons in the surrounding roads, milling around walking in between traffic. Patrons clearly seen walking in to Ecclestone Place. From the CCTV, I could see a high volume of parked vehicles along Harrow Road and Wembley Hill Road.

This behavior breaches conditions' 28 and 29 of the premises licence 'when patrons leave the premises, door supervisors or stewards shall insure that patrons behave in an acceptable manner and do not cause disturbance to local residents' AND 'Patrons shall be discouraged from congregating in large numbers outside the premises for extended periods and should be ushered back inside the premises or asked to move on in order to prevent congestion, noise and anti social behavior'.

At no point could I identify a steward or door supervisor either at the entrance to the premises or patrolling outside the premises.

Condition 5 of the premises licence states 'door supervisors shall wear clothing that can be clearly and easily identified on CCTV'.

All the metal shutters at the front of the premises were closed (pulled down).

This breaches condition 11 'a clear and unobstructed view in to the premises shall be maintained at all times'.

Police have made a formal request to Ms Moalin for CCTV footage from within the premises during the early hours of 26th November 2016 in an attempt to identify the suspect of this crime (attached).

On Thursday 15th December 2016 at around 2205hrs PS Tim Vollrath, PC Robert Davies and other Police officers from the neighborhood tasking team attended Sahrah Lounge as part of a multi agency operation with Brent council and trading standards.

This was part of a smoke free compliance visit under the Health Act 2006.

Upon arriving at the front doors of the premises officers were initially denied entry.

The front door leading onto the street was open but the interim door inside was closed shut with the keys in the lock the other side. It became immediately apparent that officers had been spotted by staff members inside through the tinted glass windows and officers could see that staff members were now running around inside collecting shisha pipes and swapping them with electronic shisha 'heads'.

Officers successfully managed to gain entry through the rear of the property and unlock the front door to allow council officers to come through the front doors.

Inside the premises in the 'preparation area' to the left of the front doors were several hot shisha heads discarded in a bin, tobacco products and hot coals hidden away in a store room. It is clear that they had been smoking traditional shisha and quickly cleared these items away upon spotting police.

Council enforcement officers seized tobacco products from the venue.

There were approximately 10 people in the venue at the time of entry.

A cricket bat was found behind the customer seating area at the back of the premises and a sharp kitchen knife on the floor by the DJ booth at the back of the premises.

This knife had no purpose to be there.

No alcohol was being consumed in the venue at the time.

These two incidents again highlight the lack of responsibility shown by the licence holder and her inability to uphold the licensing objectives

Yours Sincerely,

Nicola McDonald PC 157QK

Licensing Constable Brent Police