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# Alcohol and Entertainment Licensing Sub-Committee

# **Tuesday 17 December 2024 at 10.00 am** Boardrooms 1 & 2 - Brent Civic Centre, Engineers Way, Wembley HA9 0FJ

Please note that this meeting will be held in person with members of the Sub-Committee required to attend in person.

The press and public are also welcome to attend this meeting in person. Please note the meeting is not scheduled for live webcast

# **Membership:**

Members	Substitute Members	
Councillors:	Councillors:	
Ahmed (Chair) Long Hylton	Bajwa, Chohan, Ethapemi, Hack, Lorber, Mahmood, Rajan-Seelan	

For further information contact: Devbai Bhanji, Governance Assistant Tel: 020 8937 6841; Email: devbai.bhanji@brent.gov.uk

For electronic copies of minutes and agendas please visit: <u>Council meetings and decision making | Brent Council</u>



# Notes for Members - Declarations of Interest:

If a Member is aware they have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest\* in an item of business, they must declare its existence and nature at the start of the meeting or when it becomes apparent and must leave the room without participating in discussion of the item.

If a Member is aware they have a Personal Interest\*\* in an item of business, they must declare its existence and nature at the start of the meeting or when it becomes apparent.

If the Personal Interest is also significant enough to affect your judgement of a public interest and either it affects a financial position or relates to a regulatory matter then after disclosing the interest to the meeting the Member must leave the room without participating in discussion of the item, except that they may first make representations, answer questions or give evidence relating to the matter, provided that the public are allowed to attend the meeting for those purposes.

## \*Disclosable Pecuniary Interests:

- (a) **Employment, etc. -** Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit gain.
- (b) **Sponsorship -** Any payment or other financial benefit in respect of expenses in carrying out duties as a member, or of election; including from a trade union.
- (c) **Contracts -** Any current contract for goods, services or works, between the Councillors or their partner (or a body in which one has a beneficial interest) and the council.
- (d) **Land -** Any beneficial interest in land which is within the council's area.
- (e) Licences- Any licence to occupy land in the council's area for a month or longer.
- (f) **Corporate tenancies -** Any tenancy between the council and a body in which the Councillor or their partner have a beneficial interest.
- (g) **Securities -** Any beneficial interest in securities of a body which has a place of business or land in the council's area, if the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body or of any one class of its issued share capital.

## \*\*Personal Interests:

The business relates to or affects:

(a) Anybody of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management, and:

- To which you are appointed by the council;
- which exercises functions of a public nature;
- which is directed is to charitable purposes;
- whose principal purposes include the influence of public opinion or policy (including a political party of trade union).
- (b) The interests a of a person from whom you have received gifts or hospitality of at least £50 as a member in the municipal year;

or

A decision in relation to that business might reasonably be regarded as affecting the well-being or financial position of:

- You yourself;
- a member of your family or your friend or any person with whom you have a close association or any person or body who is the subject of a registrable personal interest.

# Agenda

Introductions, if appropriate.

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Page

# **1** Apologies for absence and clarification of alternate members

## 2 Declarations of Interests

Members are invited to declare at this stage of the meeting, the nature and existence of any relevant disclosable pecuniary or personal interests in the items on this agenda and to specify the item(s) to which they relate.

3 Application for the Review a Premises Licence by The Metropolitan 1 - 104 Police for the premises known as The Aura, 763-765 Harrow Road, Wembley, HA0 2LW, pursuant to the provisions of the Licensing Act 2003

## Date of the next meeting: Date Not Specified

ē	Please remember to <b>SWITCH OFF</b> your mobile phone during the meeting.
•	The meeting room is accessible by lift and seats will be provided for
	members of the public.

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# **LICENSING ACT 2003**

# **Application for the Review a Premises Licence**

Name of Applicant:	The Metropolitan Police
Name & Address of Premises:	The Aura, 763-765 Harrow Road, Wembley, HA0 2LW
Applicants Agent:	

#### 1. Application

The application is for the review of a premises licence held by KN Bros Ltd. The premises are known as The Aura, 763-765 Harrow Road, Wembley, HA0 2LW.

#### 2. Grounds for Review

The grounds for review are the Prevention of Crime and Disorder, Public Safety and the Prevention of Public Nuisance.

#### 3. Relevant Representations

Representation has been received from The Police and supported by The Licensing Officer and local Councillors.

#### 4. Background

The premises are currently licensed for regulated entertainment, late night refreshment and the sale of alcohol from 11.00am to 1.00am Sunday to Thursday and 2.00am Friday and Saturday and to remain open from 11.00am to 1.30am Sunday to Thursday and 2.30am Friday and Saturday.

The Designated Premises Supervisor is Justyna Lukiewicz

The steps the Committee may take are:

- To modify, remove or add conditions
- To exclude the sale of alcohol or other licensable activity
- Remove the Designated Premises Supervisor
- Suspend the licence for up to 3 months.
- Revoke the licence

#### 5. Associated Papers

- A. Review Application
- B. Current Licence
- C. OS Map

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# APPLICATION FOR A REVIEW OF A PREMISES LICENCE OR CLUB PREMISES CERTIFICATE

# Application for the review of a premises licence or club premises certificate under the Licensing Act 2003

## PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Before completing this form please read the guidance notes at the end of the form. If you are completing this form by hand please write legibly in **block capitals**. In all cases ensure that your answers are inside the boxes and written in **black ink**. Use additional sheets if necessary. You may wish to keep a copy of the completed form for your records.

I Police constable, Philip Graves on behalf of the commissioner of the Metropolitan Police

Service.....

. *[insert name of applicant]* apply for the review of a premises licence under section 51 / apply for the review of a club premises certificate under section 87 of the Licensing Act 2003 for the premises described in Part 1 below (delete as applicable).

## Part 1 – Premises or club premises details

Name and postal address of premises or, if none, ordnance survey map reference or description

The Aura 763-765 Harrow Road Wembley

Post Town London

Post Code HA0 2LW

Name of premises licence holder or club holding club premises certificate KN Bros Limited

Number of premises licence or club premises certificate 164845

# Part 2 - Applicant details

l am			4			
1)	an interested pa	artv (please con	nplete (A) or (B) t	helow)	Please t	ick √ Yes
	a) a person living in					
			ving in the vicinity	of the premises		
			in the vicinity of th			
	d) a body represen	iting persons in	volved in busines	ss in the vicinity of the	premises	
12.5	-					-
2)	a responsible au	uthority (please	complete (C) bel	low)		x
3)	a member of the	club to which	this application re	elates (please complete	e (A) below)	
	10 A					-
(A) DE	ETAILS OF INDIVIDU	JAL APPLICA	NT (fill in as appl	icable)		
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Surna	me		3 al	First names		
-						
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l am 1	8 years old or over	*			Please ti	ck <b>√ Yes</b>
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E-mail address (optional)

Telephone number (if any)

2

Review of Premises License Aura

#### (C) DETAILS OF RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY APPLICANT

Name and address	20	3	-	- "A
PC Philip Graves 3122NW Wembley Police Station				
603 Harrow Road	1			
Wembley HA0 2HH				
			a <sup>((*);</sup>	
		4 4		
		39 	1. J. 1. 1.	
Telephone number (if any)		× 19		
E-mail address (optional)				

#### This application to review relates to the following licensing objective(s)

		4	Pleas	e tick one or more b	oxes
	the prevention of crime and disorder			x	
2)	public safety the prevention of public nuisance			X	
3) 4)	the protection of children from harm				

#### Please state the ground(s) for review (please read guidance note 1)

The Aura is a night club situated on the Harrow Road close to Sudbury Train Station. It is surrounded by various shops with residential properties above and opposite. Its current license allows the venue to have regulated entertainment, late night refreshments and the sale of alcohol on the premises. These licensable activities are permitted between the following hours:-

Monday	11.00hrs	01.00hrs
Tuesday	11.00hrs	01.00hrs
Wednesday	11.00hrs	01.00hrs
Thursday	11.00hrs	01.00hrs
Friday	11.00hrs	02.00hrs
Saturday	11.00hrs	02.00hrs
Sunday	11.00hrs	01.00hrs

The Aura has a long history of crime, ASB, hearings and licensing breaches and obstructive staff going back several years.

#### 18th of October 2022

The venue was reviewed on the 18th October 2022 by Brent Council's Noise Control Team (NCT). A quote from Martin Woods from the NCT below:

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'The NCT had exhausted every advisory avenue in assisting the licence holder to prevent public nuisance and had compiled strong and consistent evidence of a business failing to stop the same. As a responsible authority they felt they had no alternative but to demonstrate those failings and invite the committee to impose changes to the licence conditions.'

#### 3rd November 2022

Less than two months later the Metropolitan Police instigated an expedited review of the venue. This was due to the tragic death of a young man who was stabbed to death after being involved in incident inside the venue on 30<sup>th</sup> of October 2022. The failings of the club were highlighted by the Met prosecutor, quoted below:

"A failure of the age verification procedures since not every customer had their I.D. scanned; the access by the police to CCTV footage had initially been obstructed. There was not an appropriate gender mix of security staff, no women were working as security staff. The log record of security staff was not kept properly. Customers were observed entering and reentering the premises after the permitted time for doing so.

The overall failure to properly run the venue security had contributed to the possibility of the incident. Furthermore, the staff had not called the police when the fight broke out in the street, they had locked the doors and ignored the incident. Such attitudes were not conducive to the licensing objective of promoting the reduction of crime and disorder."

Neither of these two hearings resulted in the revocation of the license, but an additional set of conditions which currently stands at forty-five (45) conditions.

# Please provide as much information as possible to support the application (please read guidance note 2)

Below is a list of the licensing visit and licensing breaches at the Aura since the review in November 2022.

#### Sunday 21st of May 2023

On the above date an allegation of assault on a SIA staff member was made to the police, crime Reference 1912703/23. When police attended that evening staff were unable to provide the CCTV footage required to investigate the offence, which is a breach of the premises license.

#### Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> of July 2023

On the above date an allegation of assault was made at the venue, crime reference number 1918314/23 refers. When officers attended staff there were unable to download the CCTV footage required, again another requirement of the premises license.

#### Sunday 6th of August 2023

#### VISIT (ONSITE VISIT)

On 06/08/2023 PC Graves and PS Clarke attended the Aura Lounge between 18.30 and 18.45 hours when the venue was open and in business. There we spoke to Ms Justyna Lukiewicz one of the managers at the venue.

Whilst there we asked to view the CCTV from 00.00 hours on that same day Saturday night / Sunday morning for the camera(s) covering the garden / external area. Ms Lukiewicz took us to the CCTV room but was unable to show us the footage we requested. I explained to Mr Lukiewicz of the following condition on her license :-

34. 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. This staff member must be able to provide a Police or authorised council officer copies of recent CCTV images or data with the absolute minimum of delay when requested.

She then stated that 'Sam' could access the CCTV but he had just popped out to the shops. Ms Lukiewicz phoned Sam and passed her mobile to me. I explained who I was and that I wanted to view the CCTV. Sam said he could come down and that he was at home (not the shops). He said he could be there by 21.00 hours which was just over two hours. I explained that he was breaching condition 34 of his license by not having someone at the venue who could provide police or the local authority with CCTV while the venue was open.

It is disappointing that Ms Lukiewicz stated that 'Sam' was just 'down the shops' and had just popped out when in fact he was at home, over two hours away from The Aura

#### Sunday 13 August 2023

On the above date Martin Wood (Principal Nuisance Control Officer from Brent Council) attended the Aura due to a noise complaint. Mr Wood attended at 00.20 hours where he witnessed approximately eighty (80) patrons within the partially enclosed garden area. This is a breach of condition twenty-eight (28) of the premises license which sates:-

28. The use of the enclosed garden area or other external area to cease after 23.30pm.

CCTV footage was requested from the venue

#### Monday 4th of September 2023

After CCTV footage had been requested an allegation of burglary was made by the Aura with various items been taken including the CCTV system, crime reference number 1924654/23 refers.

This burglary meant the venue was again unable to provide their CCTV when requested by police.

#### Friday 14th June 2024

On Friday the 14<sup>th</sup> of June, Esther Chan from Brent Council's licensing team attended the Aura and conducted a licensing check at the venue. While there she found the following offences and invited Mr Simon Rad to attended Brent Civic Centre

where these offences were discussed.

**Condition 1** - Door supervisors shall wear clothing that can be clearly and easily identified on CCTV. *Comment* – The female door staff failed to wear clothing including her badge that can be clearly and easily identified on CCTV

**Condition 2** - A register/log containing the names, badge number, dates & times of duty of security staff and any incidents that occur shall be kept and made available to the Police and Licensing Authority. *Comment* – On viewing the log book, the last entry was recorded on 6 June 2024.

**Condition 4** - A "Challenge 21" policy shall be adopted and adhered to at all times. *Comment* – I was told that under 18s are not permitted to purchase alcohol. There were no indication that Challenge 21 policy is adopted.

**Condition 7** - An incident log shall be kept at the premises, and made available for inspection on request to an authorised officer of Brent Council 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 faults in the CCTV system or searching equipment or

scanning equipment

(e) any refusal of the sale of alcohol

(f) any visit by a relevant authority or emergency service.

Comment - It had been explained to Mr Rad that the above details must be recorded at all times.

**Condition 9** - After 23.30 hours the rear smoking area will cease to be used and the front smoking area shall be limited to 20 persons and each area shall be suitably supervised. *Comment* – It had be observed that two males were smoking shisha in the rear smoking area.

**Condition 10/14** - Notices asking customers to leave quietly shall be conspicuously displayed at all exits. *Comment* – I was advised that signs were taken down as a result of recent building works carried out at the venue.

**Condition 15** - A copy of the premises licence summary including the hours which licensable activities are permitted shall be visible from the outside of each entrance to the premises.

Comment - I was advised that signs were taken down as a result of recent building works carried out at the venue.

**Condition 17** - Facilities within the premises shall be made available for customers to await taxis. *Comment* – There were no facilities for customers to await taxis.

**Condition 25** - SIA door staff shall supervise the partially enclosed garden area at all times it is being used by customers after 7pm. *Comment* – There was no SIA door staff supervising the area at the time of my visit.

**Condition 27** - A noise limiter shall be installed and set at a level agreed with the Council's environmental health team.

*Comment* – I have been made aware that the Principal Nuisance Control Officer, Martin Wood wrote to you in April 2023 to remind you to install the noise limiter. Mr Rad stated that the noise limiter has been installed, however, I can confirm that the Council have not agreed the set level.

**Condition 44** - All SIA staff wear such clothing as to make themselves immediately identifiable as such, whether by way of high visibility apparel or in some other fashion.

*Comment* – The female door staff failed to wear clothing including her badge that can be clearly and easily identified on CCTV.

**Condition 45** - There must be 3 SIA staff on duty Sunday to Thursday between 9pm and closing, and 5 SIA staff on Fridays and Saturdays of whom at least 2 must be women. *Comment* – At the time of my visit, there was one female SIA door supervisor managing the front door. Mr Rad stated that he and another staff member held a SIA badge.

The above licensing check by Ms Chan shows multiple breaches of the premises license with a reoccurring theme of the

Review of Premises License Aura

#### Monday 24th of June 2024

One the above date Brent council received a Temporary Event Notice (TEN) from the Aura, reference 32126. This TEN was for the 19<sup>th</sup> / 20<sup>th</sup> of July 2024. The TEN was requesting the supply of alcohol, regulated entertainment and Late Night Refreshments from 22.00 to 04.00 hours with a capacity of three-hundred and fifty (350) people.

Due to the list of licensing breaches highlighted by Ms Chan on Friday the 14<sup>th</sup> June, the long history of licensing issues and that the current license only allows a capacity of 220 (when they were asking for 350) police refused the TEN.

A hearing was held which took place at Brent Civic Centre on Monday the 8<sup>th</sup> of July where Mr Simon Rad represented the Aura. The conclusion of this hearing was that the TEN could go ahead with no conditions attached to the event, a verdict that had detrimental effects on the late evening of the 19<sup>th</sup> of July into the early hours of Saturday morning.....

#### Thursday 27th of June 2024

Due to the list of offences identified by Ms Chan on 14<sup>th</sup> of June 2024 and the TEN submitted on 24<sup>th</sup> of June, Mr Simon Rad and Ms Justyna Lukiewicz attended the Civic Centre where a meeting was held. The meeting took place with PC Graves and Ms Chan to explain the concerns that the police and council had with the running of the venue and the licensing breaches that were found. Mr Simon Rad assured the police and Council that the breaches and concerns raised by the police and council would be dealt with in a satisfactory manner.

#### Friday 19th into Saturday 20th of July 2024

After the TEN was authorised by the committee on the 8<sup>th</sup> of July, scenes of drunkenness, violence, public order offences, assault on police officers and possession of class A drugs where seen from the Aura Club down to Tesco Express.

Police officers where on mobile patrols where a fight was taking place outside Tesco, which is a very short distance from The Aura. Males were fighting with one using a belt as a weapon, so this group was detained. As a result of this stop three males were arrested for a variety of offences namely obstructing police, affray, possession of an offensive weapon, assault on police, possession of class A drugs and public order offences.

While this group of men were been detained by police staff from the Aura, including Mr Simon Rad (manager) and another male who stated he owned the security company working at the Aura

At 00.45 hours Mr Simon Rad is walking with PC McInnes and states 'He stared fighting outside (The Aura) and he pushed my friend (pointing to male handcuffed by police officer)

At 00.50 hours Mr Simon Rad describes a male putting on gloves who wanted to cancel a booking at the club, who to pushed and slapped him (Mr Rad)

At 00.51 hours a male in a white t-shirt explained to PS Sullivan that 'The gentleman over there (Mr Simon Rad) owns a business up the road and an altercation took place inside the venue (The Aura) so there's people here who have taken off their belts'

01.00 hours large groups outside the Aura unable to gain entry. Ms Justyna LUKIEWICZ (DPS) states 'They are waiting to come in but I've reached full capacity'

If this event (TEN) had not taken place there would have been no overspill of customers into the street and no scenes of violence. Police believe that the scenes described above are due to actions of the Aura. Aura staff and Aura customers where both present. The manager, Mr Rad identifies males handcuffed by police as his customers. Ms Lukiewicz clearly states they had over booked meaning these people causing the offences are on the streets.

#### Friday 26th of July 2024

Police attended the venue at 22.50 hours where they spoke with Mr Simon Rad. Police attended as they wanted to view CCTV footage for the previous weekend. It was explained to police that the staff could not download any footage as 'the mouse was broken'.

Mr Rad was asked how many SIA staff he had on duty and he replied by saying three. Five SIA members are meant to be on duty on Friday and Saturday nights. Mr Rad also stated that he was one of the SIA staff on duty but he had no clothing or SIA badge to identify himself as SIA staff

A warning letter was sent dated Friday 26<sup>th</sup> of July 2024 listing all the above licensing breaches.

#### Friday 23rd of August 2024

Due to the fight on 24 of August Police obtained CCTV after it was not available when first required. After viewing this CCTV footage patrons where seen at the following times entering the venue without passing through the metal detector, which is condition thirty-five (35) on the premises license.

23.52 hrs Lady in black and white outfit walks in without passing through metal detector or been searched

23.49 hrs two males (one wearing a very distinctive mustard jacket) again walk into the club without been searched or passing through the metal detector. Ironically the male is the mustard jacket is involved in the affray and can be seen throwing punches at other customers. This male in the mustard top is seen been escorted from the venue by Mr Simon Rad at 02.29 hours where he has attempted to push past Mr Rad and re-enter the venue.

#### Saturday 24th of August 2024

A fight occurred at approx 02.00 hours on 24/08 where the Police and the London Ambulance Service attended. While police where there they requested CCTV of the affray. Your staff stated that the CCTV was locked away and that there was none one on site that had access. Police discussed this with the DPS Justyna Lukiewicz who confirmed that the CCTV was locked and staff had no access

Again, another breach of the premises license.

#### Friday the 06/09/2024

Licensing police attended the venue on the above date regarding a previous assault (Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> of August 2024) and to check that the correct number of SIA were on duty each day. The SIA register showed that the venue was failing to provide the correct number of SIA on the dates listed below.

Mr Simon Rad was present who said he couldn't afford to have the numbers required. Ms Justyna Lukiewicz said she was having problems with the security company. A Warning letter was sent to the venue highlighting this latest breach dated, 11<sup>th</sup> of September 2024.

Day	Date	Numbers on du	uty Numbers required
Sunday	21/07	2	3
Monday	22/02	1	3
Tuesday	23/07	2	3
Thursday	25/07	2	3
Friday	26/07	3	5
Saturday	27/07	4	5
Sunday	28/07	1	3
Monday	29/07	1	3
Tuesday	30/07	1	3
Wednesday	31/07	1	3
Thursday	01/08	1	3
Friday	02/08	4	5
Sunday '	04/08	2	3
Monday	05/08	1	3
Tuesday	06/08	2	3
Wednesday	07/08	2	3
Saturday	10/08	4	5
Sunday	11/08	2	3
Monday	12/08	2	3
Tuesday	13/08	2	3

#### Thursday the 10th of October 2024

Licensing police attended the venue and found insufficient SIA staff on duty, a repeat of the last visit on Friday the 6<sup>th</sup> of September 2024. Another warning letter was served dated 12/10/2024:-

The appropriate number of SIA officers where again not on duty

	Day	Date	Numbers on duty	Numbers required	
	Wednesday	02/10	2	3	
	Thursday	03/10	2	3	
3	Thursday	10/10	2	3	

On Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> of October Mr Simon Rad stated that he was one of the two SIA officers. Mr Rad was not wearing any clothing that would identify him as SIA which is another stimulation of the premises. The female member of staff (the other SIA) had no clothing to identify her as SIA even though the business was open.

Police also asked to see a copy of the additional training regarding crime and disorder which should be refreshed every six months – condition 40 of the premises license

Police also asked to see the independent audit on promoting the licensing objectives, which should be conducted by an independent company – condition 41 of the premises license.

Both of the above two audits / training records should be stored at the venue and made available to the police or council and produced immediately upon request. Mr Rad was asked to produce both these records but could not produce them and did not know what either of them where.

#### **Summary**

This is the third review of the premises license in three years.

Numerous visits by the police and local authority have been made to the venue with multiple breaches been identified on most occasions, if not all. Warning letters and meetings have been held with the managers and DPS at the Aura highlighting the concerns of the police and council. To date there has been no improvement in the breaches at the club as detailed above. Of the few response to the warning letters sent, none address the issues raised and what action will be taken by the venue to rectify these on-going issues.

Crime has continued at the venue with assaults inside and outside. A TEN allowing the club to extend its licensable activities has resulted in multiple arrests and an assault on a female police officer.

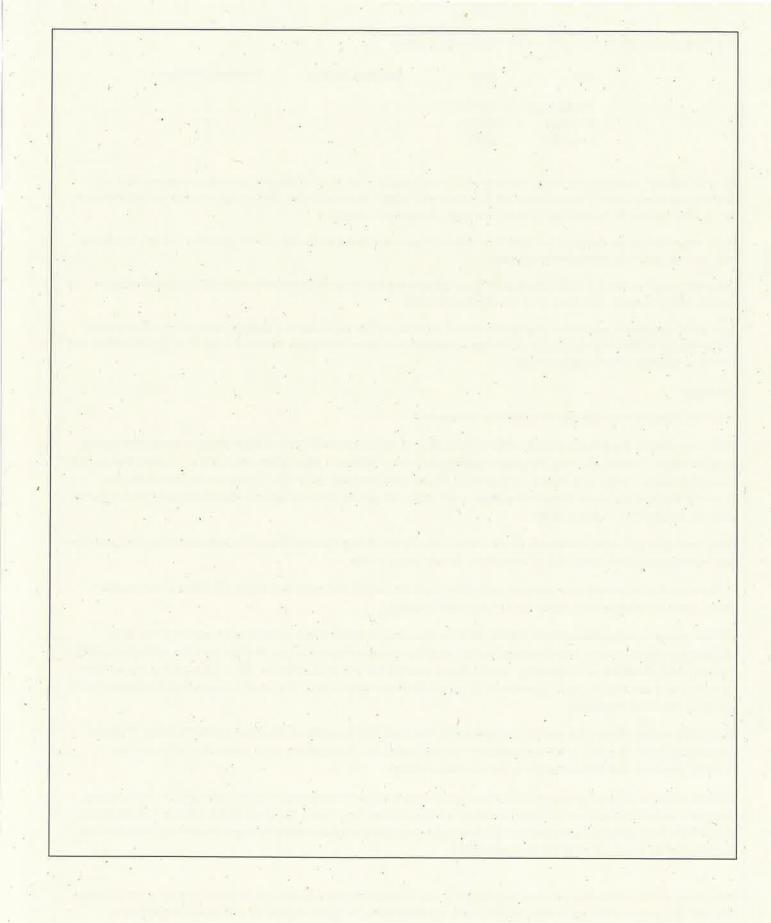
CCTV is meant to be provided immediately to police (a condition added at the last hearing) to aid police in investigating crime, which is not happening. Again this is on multiple occasions.

The last review hearing added extra conditions to allow the venue to trade. These conditions are not been met. Basic requests for training records and upholding the licensing objectives, customers to pass through scanners and to be searched upon entering are clearly not happening. I would expect a venue that has been reviewed twice and is getting regular visits from the police and local authority to abide by all the conditions on their license. The list of licensing breaches above clearly highlights this is not happening.

The current management team and DPS are aware that there are daily breaches at the venue (correct number of SIA for example) and their response is 'we can't afford it'. The attitude of the management team seems uninterested in the licensing objectives and the conditions on their premises license.

The police and council have engaged with this venue on repeated occasions emphasising the importance of the licensing objectives, but all attempts to get the venue to run in a legal manner have failed. Police are of the opinion that the venue and staff are in incapable of upholding the licensing objectives and running the venue in a legal manner and therefore see the only remedy is revocation of the premises license.

Police reserve the right to give evidence on any further incidents which may take place at, or in the vicinity of the premises, between the service of this application and the hearing and/or during the time allowed for any appeal proceedings.



# Please tick ✓ Yes

Have you made an application for review relating to this premises before?

If yes, please state the date of that application

Da	y Mon	th	Year

If you have made representations relating to this premises before, please state what they were and when you made them

### Checklist

- I have sent copies of this form and enclosures to the responsible authorities and the premises licence holder or club holding the club premises certificate, as appropriate
- I understand that if I do not comply with the above requirements my application will be rejected

## 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

### Part 3 – Signatures (please read guidance note 3)

Signature of applicant or applicant's solicitor or other duly authorised agent (see guidance note 4). If signing on behalf of the applicant please state in what capacity.

Post town	C 10*	Post o	ode
			*
			· · · ·
	8		
Contact name (where not previous application (please read guidance n	note 5)	address for correspor	dence associated with this
Contractions ( )			
Capacity	ENSING	OFFICER	
Date	50/10	012924	
	2 - 1	3122 NU	2
Signature			

If you would prefer us to correspond with you by e-mail your e-mail address (optional)

**Data Protection**: The London Borough of Brent will use this information for the purposes of The Licensing Act 2003 and related purposes. Any member of the public may examine the application form on request. In addition, this information may be disclosed to the Police, The London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority, relevant ward Councillors and other Council departments.

This authority is under a duty to protect the public funds it administers, and to this end may use the information you have provided on this form for the prevention and detection of fraud. It may also share this information with law enforcement agencies and other bodies responsible for auditing or administering public funds for these purposes.

#### **Notes for Guidance**

- 1. The ground(s) for review must be based on one of the licensing objectives.
- 2. Please list any additional information or details for example dates of problems which are included in the grounds for review if available.
- 3. The application form must be signed.
- 4. An applicant's agent (for example solicitor) may sign the form on their behalf provided that they have actual authority to do so.
- 5. This is the address which we shall use to correspond with you about this application.

# Please return the completed form and any accompanying documents to the following address with a copy to the premises licence holder / Club that the application relates to:-

Regulatory Services (Licensing) Brent Council Fifth Floor Brent Civic Centre Engineers Way Wembley HA9 0FJ

2020 8937 5359

Email: business.licence@brent.gov.uk

Cheques should be crossed and made payable to London Borough of Brent.

Please follow the instructions in the checklist on page 14 to submit the relevant copies to the responsible authorities. Contact details shown below:

Chief Officer of Police Brent Licensing Department Fifth Floor Brent Civic Centre Engineers Way Wembley HA9 0FJ

Tel: 020 8733 3206

Environmental Health Fifth Floor Brent Civic Centre Engineers Way Wembley HA9 0FJ

#### Tel: 020 8937 5252

Area Planning Service Brent Civic Centre Engineers Way Wembley HA9 0FJ

Tel: 020 8937 5210

North West Area 1 London Fire Brigade 169 Union Street London SE1 0LL

Tel: 020 8555 1200 x38778

Children's Services Brent Civic Centre Engineers Way Wembley HA9 0FJ

Public Safety Team Fifth Floor Brent Civic Centre Engineers Way Wembley HA9 0FJ

Tel: 020 8937 5359

Trading Standards Fifth Floor Brent Civic Centre Engineers Way Wembley HA9 0FJ

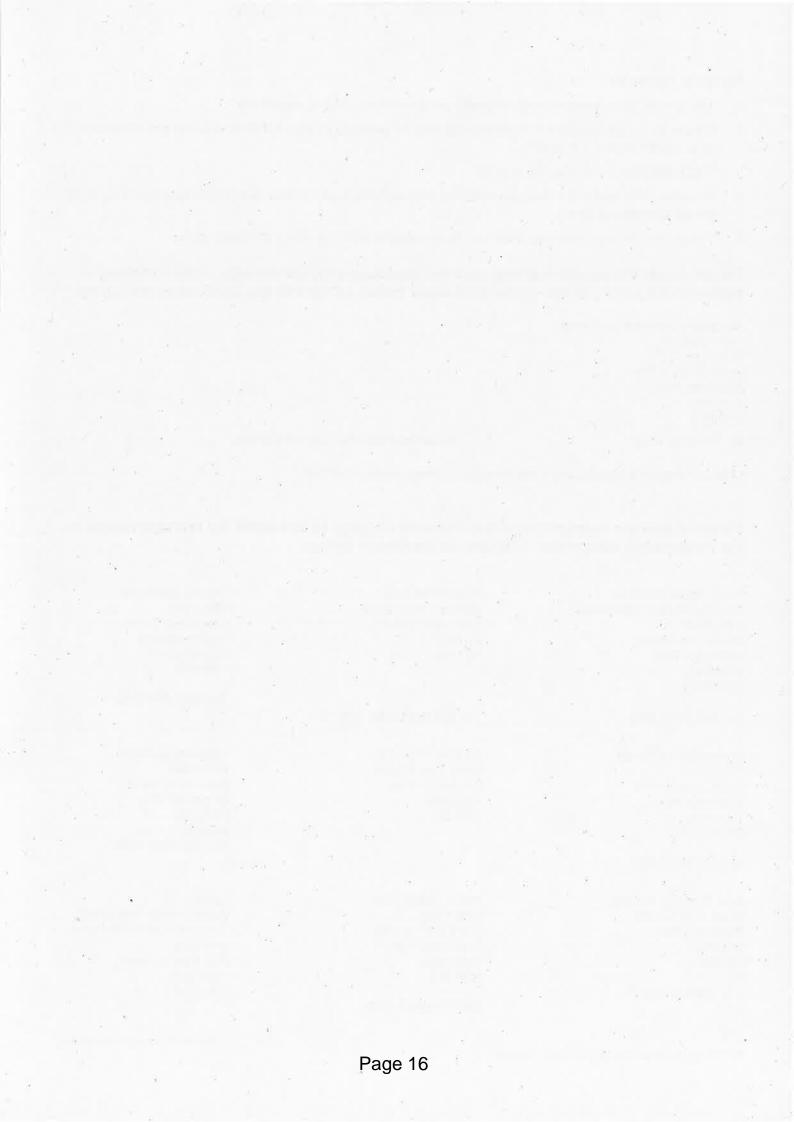
Tel: 020 8937 5555

Licensing Authority Fifth Floor Brent Civic Centre Engineers Way Wembley HA9 0FJ Tel: 020 8937 5359

DAAT Public Health Directorate Wembley Centre for Health and Care 116 Chaplin Road Wembley HA0 4UZ

Review of Premises License Aura

763-765 Harrow Road Wembley HA0 2LW - Police II





#### TERRITORIAL POLICING

# The Aura Ms Justyna Lukiewicz (DPS) 763-765 Harrow Road Wembley HA0 2LW

## NW BCU Licensing Department - Brent

Working together for a safer London

Wembley Police Station 603, Harrow Road Wembley HAO 2HH Tel: 07500 087 115 Email: Phil.S.Graves@met.police.uk Web: www.met.police.uk

*Our ref:* Police Warning Letter

Date: Friday 26<sup>th</sup> of July 2024

Dear Justyna,

I'm sure that you are now aware that my colleagues and I attended the Aura on Friday the 26<sup>th</sup> of July at 22.50 hours where we spoke to Simon Rad.

We attended as we required CCTV footage to be downloaded from last weekend. Your staff were able to view the CCTV system but not download it, apparently as the mouse was broken. This is a breach of your premises license as per conditions 34 listed below.

34. 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. This staff member must be able to provide a Police or authorised council officer copies of recent CCTV images or data with the absolute minimum of delay when requested.

While trying to get you CCTV downloaded I asked Simon how many SIA he had on and he replied three. While I was there I only saw two SIA one male and one female. I spoke to Simon about this and he said that he was on duty as SIA and the manager.

I draw your attention to conditions 43, 44 and 45 of your premises license below.

43. Door supervisors of a suitable gender mix shall be employed from 21:00 on any day when the premises are open for the sale of alcohol.

44. All SIA staff wear such clothing as to make themselves immediately identifiable as such, whether by way of high visibility apparel or in some other fashion.

45. There must be 3 SIA staff on duty Sunday to Thursday between 9pm and closing, and 5 SIA staff on Fridays and Saturdays of whom at least 2 must be women.

From this you can see that you should have five (5) SIA on duty on a Friday night when we attended. Simon stated there were only three on duty including himself. Condition 44 clearly states the dress code for SIA. Simon was not wearing an SIA badge even after two visits on the same night and was dressed as a manager and not SIA. Simon had to go to his car to obtain his SIA badge but this was placed in his pocket and not on display where it should be.

From my visit on 26/07/2024 I can see that you are in breach on conditions 34, 44 and 45 of your premises license.

There also seems to be a problem with communication between the police, council, yourself, your bosses and the license holder. From speaking to Simon his responses seem be that it's not his responsibility and his bosses do not communicate to him.

You are now the DPS and responsible for all licensable activity at the venue. Can you please confirm what e-mail address and phone number is best for us to communicate with each other?

Can you also please respond to me within one week detailing what steps you will be taking to rectify all the breaches listed above.

Please treat this e-mail as a written warning for breaching your premises license

Yours Sincerely,

Phil

PC Phil Graves 3122NW NW BCU - Brent Licensing Philip.Graves@met.police.uk



TERRITORIAL POLICING

# Working together for a safer London

The Aura Ms Justyna Lukiewicz (DPS) 763-765 Harrow Road Wembley HA0 2LW

**Our ref:** Police Warning Letter

**NW BCU Licensing Department - Brent** 

Wembley Police Station 603, Harrow Road Wembley HA0 2HH Tel: 07500 087 115 Email: Phil.S.Graves@met.police.uk Web: www.met.police.uk

Date: Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> of September 2024

Dear Justyna,

Can I remind you of the following condition on your premises license:-

35. No patrons shall be admitted or re-admitted to the premises after (21.00) hours unless they have passed through a metal detecting search and, if the search arch is activated or at the discretion of staff, then physically searched, which will include a "pat down search" and a full bag search.

Due to the fight that occurred in the early hours of 24<sup>th</sup> of August this year you supplied me with CCTV footage of the affray and those involved in the fighting entering the premises. I have viewed this CCTV footage which shows the following people entering your venue after 21.00 hours who do not pass through the metal detector, nor are they searched.

23.52 hours. A lady in a very distinctive black and white outfit entering the venue. This lady does not pass through your metal detector nor is she searched.

23.49 hours. Two males enter the venue one wearing a mustard colour jacket. Again neither of these males are searched nor do they pass through the metal detector. Ironically the male in the mustard top is seen fighting at 02.23 hours with yourself and Mr Simon Rad trying to control the fight. The male in the mustard top is escorted out the front door by Mr Simon Rad at 02.29 hours.

Again I am concerned that you and your staff have failed to adhere to yet another condition on your premises license and one of those was involved in a fight inside your venue, which required the police and London Ambulance Service to attend. The last warning letter I sent your venue was only on the 11<sup>th</sup> of September 2024

Can you offer me any re-assurance on what measures you and your team will be taking to correct this and all the other liceninsg breaches I have made you aware of?

Yours Sincerely,

Phil

PC Phil Graves 3122NW NW BCU - Brent Licensing Philip.Graves@met.police.uk

Page 20



#### TERRITORIAL POLICING

# Working together for a safer London

The Aura Ms Justyna Lukiewicz (DPS) 763-765 Harrow Road Wembley HA0 2LW

**Our ref:** Police Warning Letter

**NW BCU Licensing Department - Brent** 

Wembley Police Station 603, Harrow Road Wembley HA0 2HH Tel: 07500 087 115 Email: Phil.S.Graves@met.police.uk Web: www.met.police.uk

Date: Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> of September 2024

Dear Justyna,

Can I remind you of the following two conditions on your premises license:-

34. 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. This staff member must be able to provide a Police or authorised council officer copies of recent CCTV images or data with the absolute minimum of delay when requested.

# 45. There must be 3 SIA staff on duty Sunday to Thursday between 9pm and closing, and 5 SIA staff on Fridays and Saturdays of whom at least 2 must be women.

As you are aware myself and two of my colleagues attend the Aura on Friday the 06/09/2024 at 22.16 hours. There we spoke to yourself and Mr Simon Rad about an assault that occurred on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> of August at approx 02.00 hours. When officers attended they asked you for a copy of the CCTV which your staff where unable to provide. You stated that the CCTV room was locked at this time, which is not an acceptable explanation.

Condition 34 of your license, as you very well know, states that there should be a staff member present who can access and download the CCTV with the absolute minimum of delay.

I had concerns over the number of SIA that you were employing so I asked for your SIA log, which you provided. Condition 45 of your license, again as you know details the numbers of SIA you should have on duty. Three (3) Sunday to Thursday and five (5) on Friday and Saturdays. Below is a list of the SIA you had on for dates in July and August

<u>Day</u>	Date	<u>Numbers on duty</u>
Sunday Monday Tuesday Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday	21/07 22/02 23/07 25/07 26/07 27/07 28/07	2 1 2 2 3 4 1
Monday	29/07	1

Page 21

Tuesday	30/07	1
Wednesday	31/07	1
Thursday	01/08	1
Friday	02/08	4
Sunday	04/08	2
Monday	05/08	1
Tuesday	06/08	2
Wednesday	07/08	2
Saturday	10/08	4
Sunday	11/08	2
Monday	12/08	2
Tuesday	13/08	2

The list above shows a total of twenty (20) days when you have breached your premises license by not having the correct amount of SIA on duty. When I spoke to you at 22.24 hours you said that you were 'having problems with your security company'. Simon stated that you 'couldn't afford it' and he was talking to Brent Council about it. I will take this opportunity to remind you that this conversation was recorded.

As you know you only received your last warning letter on 26/07/2024. I will take the opportunity to explain to you again that we take all the breaches listed above and all your previous breaches and warning letters very seriously. I have explained numerous times the importance of adhering to the conditions on your license which you and your team seem unable to fulfil.

We are at the stage now where your venue has had two reviews since October 2022. Additional training has been provided to your staff by an independent company regarding crime and disorder and the licensing objectives and still you are having licensing breaches almost on a daily basis. I am unsure what other steps can be taken to make sure that you adhere to the conditions on your premises license and uphold the licensing objectives?

Yours Sincerely,

Phil

PC Phil Graves 3122NW NW BCU - Brent Licensing Philip.Graves@met.police.uk



### TERRITORIAL POLICING

# Working together for a safer London

The Aura Ms Justyna Lukiewicz (DPS) 763-765 Harrow Road Wembley HAO 2LW

**Our ref:** Police Warning Letter

#### **NW BCU Licensing Department - Brent**

Wembley Police Station 603, Harrow Road Wembley HA0 2HH Tel: 07500 087 115 Email: Phil.S.Graves@met.police.uk Web: www.met.police.uk

Date: Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> of October 2024

#### Dear Justyna,

As you may be aware I attended the Aura again on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> of October 2024 at 20.45 hours where I spoke with Simon Rad. I attended to view your SIA register to see if you had the appropriate number of staff on duty due to recent warning letter I sent. I also asked to view your training records based around crime and disorder by an independent person and a copy of the audit conducted based around the licensing objectives, again by an independent company. Conditions 40,41,44 and 45 of your premises license below for your reference.

40. All staff and security shall undergo training in crime and disorder prevention and response which shall be refreshed at least once every six months. The training shall be provided by a person who is independent of the premises. A signed record of the training and the persons to whom it has been provided shall be maintained and produced immediately to an officer of the licensing authority or the Police upon request.

41. The premises shall arrange for an independent audit to be conducted of its compliance with the licensing and its promotion of the licensing objectives every six months. The audit shall be kept on the premises and produced immediately to an officer of the licensing authority or the Police upon request.

44. All SIA staff wear such clothing as to make themselves immediately identifiable as such, whether by way of high visibility apparel or in some other fashion.

45. There must be 3 SIA staff on duty Sunday to Thursday between 9pm and closing, and 5 SIA staff on Fridays and Saturdays of whom at least 2 must be women.

When I asked Simon for the training records he stated "I don't have that, any of them'. I showed him a copy of your premises license and asked him if he was familiar with conditions 40 and 41 and he stated he was 'not familiar' with them. As you can see from the above you are required to provide these training records to the police or council immediately upon request which you staff have failed to do. I asked if you might have knowledge of their whereabouts, but Simon informed me that you were off sick.

Again you didn't have the correct number of SIA staff on duty for Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> of Oct, Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> of Oct and Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> of October. I asked Simon why this was and explained he couldn't afford to pay for three SIA so he only employed two. Your SIA staff should also be wearing clothing that makes themselves immediately identifiable as SIA, neither Simon nor the female staff member had any clothing to make them visibly identifiable.

As you are fully aware I am making regular visits to your club and each time I am finding multiple licensing breaches. I am sending warning letters and there is no improvement in how you are running

Page 23

the venue. I have asked you, as the DPS what steps you will take to rectify the issues I raise. Your last response was complaining about the police investigation (which you are not the victim of) but you make no reference to how you are going to uphold the licensing objectives.

Again, I welcome your comments on how you are going to rectify the on-going licensing breaches. As I discussed with Simon on Thursday, the only option you are leaving me with is to review your license – again. If I take this option I will be asking Brent Council to revoke all of your licensable activities.

Neither yourself nor Simon seem to take these on-going licensing breaches seriously, which is something I would advise against.

At this stage with all the licensing breaches that are occurring I would advise you take independent legal advice from a qualified licensing agent.

Yours Sincerely,

Phil

PC Phil Graves 3122NW NW BCU - Brent Licensing Philip.Graves@met.police.uk Further supporting documents regarding crime at the venue.

### Saturday 14 September 2024

Criminal allegation of sexual assault on a female, reference 01/844209/24

Victim has attended the Aura and while there has had an unknown male touch her breasts, the victim was outside the venue when speaking to police and then stated that staff was not letting her back in and that the manger was being racially abusive to her

#### Monday 02 September 2024

Report of ASB (anti-social behaviour) from the venue, reference 01/796491/24

The informant is a resident stating that as well as people exiting the premises (The Aura) in the early hours being loud there is now a van pulling up on the road and handing out nitrous oxide very overtly keeping patrons in the area continuing to party in the street. This is causing local residents sleepless nights and anxiety. The Aura is not doing anything to prevent this activity continuing

#### Sunday 09 June 2024

Sexual assault (Rape) on a female. This crime report is still under investigation

Current open sexual assault case where the Victims had been drinking at the aura and don't remember leaving the venue leading them to believe they had there drinks spiked at the venue. The victims have left and been sexually assaulted at another location but met the perpetrators at The Aura with the belief that their drinks were spiked inside this venue. Victim has admitted doing class A Drugs inside the Aura Lounge before believing her drink was spiked.

Two males arrested for rape of a female over 16.

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	WITNESS S	TATEMENT		,	
<b>Criminal Procedure Rules</b>	, r 16. 2; Criminal Justice	Act 1967, s. 9; Mag	istrates' C	ourts Act 1	1980, s.5E
Statement of: Brendon MCI	NNES	Ĺ	I	I	
Age if under 18: Over 18	(if over 18 insert 'over 18')	Occupation: Police	Officer		

This statement refers to an urgent assistance call I attended on the 20/07/2024 on the Harrow road near Sudbury Roundabout where a colleague of mine had been assaulted and were trying to detain a number of people that had been involved in a fight.

The people I will refer to in this statement are my colleagues PS Sullivan and PC HICKS 3703NW. I will also refer to the manager of the Aura Lounge named Mr Simon RAD. I Know Mr Simon RAD as I have had many dealings with him in the past from a licensing perspective.

The urgent assistance call I attended was outside Tesco Express on the Harrow Road which is about fifty (50) meters away from the Aura Lounge.

On Saturday the 20/07/2024 I was on patrol conducting licensing visits with PS Sullivan and PC HICKS 3703NW. At about 00.40hrs I left Wembley Police Station in an unmarked police vehicle. As I exited the gates of Wembley Police Station and Urgent Assistance Call came over my PR (Personal Radio) as another police officer had been assaulted and requested more units. The location was given as Sudbury Roundabout which is about a minute drive from Wembley Police Station. I headed towards Sudbury Roundabout along with PS Sullivan and PC HICKS 3703NW. As I got to the roundabout and turned right onto the Harrow Road I could see the flashing lights of other police vehicles and seen officers who had three members of the public detained. As I stopped the police vehicle outside Tesco Express I immediately recognised Mr Simon RAD the manager from The Aura Lounge who seemed to be in the middle of it all. Mr Simon RAD recognised me and came over to me. I started walking towards a colleague that had a male in hand cuffs to see if she needed any assistance. Mr Simon RAD walked with me. Mr Simon RAD went on to say the following to me. "I don't even know these people, the four people came in. I refused them because it's a private party. They started shouting outside and attacked my friend. This is my friend." Mr Simon RAD then pointed to the male that my colleague had in hand cuffs. This male was later arrested. With what Mr Simon RAD said to me linked all this disorder starting from the Aura Lounge.

I then confirmed that this officer was ok and did not need my assistance. I then walked further down the road where another of my colleagues had a male detained in hand cuffs and appeared to be arguing with another member of the public. I approached the officer and the member of the public. I asked the member of public what his involvement in the incident was and the male replied, "I am security." I noticed this male was not wearing his SIA

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Signature Witnessed by Signate	ure: Pr USJun		
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Continuation of Statement of:

badge and asked him where it was? The male replied, **"I run the security firm over there."** Referring to the Aura Lounge. After I confirmed with the officer that she was ok and the situation was under control, I then got back into the unmarked police vehicle along with PS Sullivan and PC HICKS 3703NW to continue with our other planned visits. I drove past the Aura Lounge which was a few meters up the road and I observed about 50 to 70 people outside the Aura Lounge obstructing the foot path and all appeared to be waiting to enter the Aura Lounge. This crowd appeared to be unmanageable by the security staff at the venue.

I am aware that the venue did apply for a Temporary Event Notice for that evening that police did object to due to lack of information about the event being provided to police. The council decided to grant the Temporary Event Notice regardless of the concerns raised by police. If this Temporary Event Notice had not been granted, I don't believe I would have had to respond to the disorder that led to my colleague being assaulted.

I exhibit my body worn as my exhibit. Exhibit BRM/01

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Witness Signature:	. )
Signature Witnessed by Signature	Page 2 of 2
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STATEMENT OF WITNESS
(Criminal Procedure Rules, r. 16.2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s. 9)
URN
Statement of: Constable Philip Graves Age if under 18: Over 18 Occupation: Police officer
This statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it, anything which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.
Signature: 7 2 32 AW
Date: Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> of November 2024

On Friday the 15<sup>th</sup> of November 2024 I was on duty in full uniform in company with PC Hicks and PC McInnes. Due to the forth coming hearing scheduled for the Aura we attended the Aura Lounge at 763-765 Harrow Road, Wembley HA0 2LW at 2152 hours.

As we entered we were met by two SIA officers. Both were wearing high-viz jackets with the words 'security' displayed on their person and both had their personal ID's displayed. I asked how many security were on duty tonight and I was told 'two'.

We made our way into the club where we were met by Ms Justyna Lukiewicz (DPS & Manager). I asked Ms Lukiewicz how many SIA she had on duty as the door staff stated there were only two working, but the premises license required five on a Friday night with two females as per condition 45 below:

45. There must be 3 SIA staff on duty Sunday to Thursday between 9pm and closing, and 5 SIA staff on Fridays and Saturdays of whom at least 2 must be women.

43. Door supervisors of a suitable gender mix shall be employed from 21:00 on any day when the premises are open for the sale of alcohol.

Ms Lukiewicz stated that there were five SIA on duty. The two gentlemen I saw at the front door, herself, Piel (another female member of staff / management – name probably spelt wrong) and Mr. Simon Rad who was located in the front restaurant.

I then asked Ms Lukiewicz how her SIA staff should be dressed. She replied by saying "It's says high viz, something appropriate' I pointed out to Ms Lukiewicz that she was dressed looking like a manger with nothing that identified her as SIA. Ms Lukiewicz showed me her SIA badge which was attached to her waist and barely visible due to the jacket she was wearing stating that her badge identified her as SIA. Ms Lukiewicz was dressed all in black with a smart professional appearance. She had no writing on her (that was visible) that said security, neither did she have a high viz jacket or any body armour to identify her as SIA. Piel (other female SIA officer) was dressed in a similar fashion, no high viz jacket, nothing saying security or anything to identify her as SIA.

Both Ms Lukiewicz and Piel where in breach of condition 44 of the premise license.

44. All SIA staff wear such clothing as to make themselves immediately identifiable as such, whether by way of high visibility apparel or in some other fashion.

Signature:

2 martin

Signature Witnessed by:

Page 1 of 1 eStatement no: NW-1007811-2024



Continuation of Statement of: Constable Philip Graves

I asked Ms Lukiewicz where the fifth SIA staff and she stated that she had already told me and it was Mr Rad who was in the front restaurant part of the building. We all went to this location where I spoke to Mr Rad. I asked him if he was on SIA duties this evening and he replied by saying he was not as he had a medical condition preventing him from carrying out the role. Mr Rad explained that another person had been called in to be the fifth SIA officer. When we left the venue there was another SIA officer with the appropriate SIA badge and high viz jacket. This is another example of the management team at the venue not even knowing who is working and what role each member of staff has each evening.

I would also question the practicality of having a member or staff acting as a DPS and SIA at the same time. The Aura is a venue with a long history of licensing issues and has now been reviewed three times in as many years. With the level of crime inside and outside the venue not having the correct number of SIA on duty (as detailed in previous warning letters and statements) I would expect to have the appropriate number of SIA staff on duty solely to carry out their SIA tasks. Crime has been recorded inside and outside the venue and would argue not having the correct number of SIA and 'job sharing' is adding to the crime and hindering the clubs ability to function legally and uphold the liceninsg objectives.

On the 10<sup>th</sup> of October 2024 I attended the venue where I spoke with Mr Simon Rad. While there I asked him to produce the training records based around crime prevention and the liceninsg objectives which are conditions 40 and 41 on the premises license, as detailed below.

40. All staff and security shall undergo training in crime and disorder prevention and response which shall be refreshed at least once every six months. The training shall be provided by a person who is independent of the premises. A signed record of the training and the persons to whom it has been provided shall be maintained and produced immediately to an officer of the licensing authority or the Police upon request.

41. The premises shall arrange for an independent audit to be conducted of its compliance with the licensing and its promotion of the licensing objectives every six months. The audit shall be kept on the premises and produced immediately to an officer of the licensing authority or the Police upon request.

On this date Mr Rad was unable to produce these documents and appeared to have no knowledge of what they were or what they meant. Whilst conducting my visit on 15/11/2024 I again asked for these records. Ms Lukiewicz showed me an A4 folder with some hand written notes. I explained that this was not an independent audit / company which is detailed in the premises license. While speaking with Mr Rad and Ms Lukiewicz we discussed these two conditions. Mr Rad could not produce the training records based around crime and disorder or the licensing objectives. He went on to explain that he didn't know exactly what these conditions meant or what he should be producing. It was suggested that he contacted Brent council who placed these conditions upon the venue who may be able to assist.

I explained to both Ms Lukiewicz and Mr Rad that the conditions 40 and 41 where put on the license on 14<sup>th</sup> of December 2022, nearly two years ago and it was there responsibility as the DPS and management to meet the conditions listed. My assumption is that neither of these conditions have ever been adhered to as no staff member understands what it means and no paperwork can be produced.

The venue is again at fault for not been able to produce the documents detailed in conditions 40 and 41 of the premises license, conditions that were imposed at the last hearing.

Witness Signature:

Signature Witnessed by:

Page 2 of 1 eStatement no NW-1007811-2024

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Continuation of Statement of: Constable Philip Graves

#### **Summary**

The venue is currently under review by the police and the transfer of license has also been opposed. Even with these procedures in place the venue fails to keep up to the very basic conditions of its premises license like producing training documents, having their staff wear the appropriate attire, providing police with CCTV or having to correct number of staff on duty.

I believe the failing of these conditions and the general poor management at the venue over the last three years is the reason why there is so much crime and ASB emitting from the Aura. The last two years has shown that a night club is not the appropriate type of venue to be at this location. The number of warning letters and licensing offences shows that no matter what conditions are attached to the venue it will fail to adhere to them and uphold the licensing objectives.

Police are of the opinion that the venue has had plenty of time and chances from both ourselves and local authority to make the venue run in a safe and legal manner. Even with two years of trying to educate the venue the management team and DPS have failed to uphold the licensing objectives and adhere to very basic conditions on their premises license.

The only solution left, in the opinion of the police is the revocation of the license so a more suitable license holder and 'style' of venue can take its place.

PC Phil Graves 3122NW Licensing Officer - Brent

Witness Signature:

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Signature Witnessed by:

Page 3 of 1 eStatement no NW-1007811-2024

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From: Phil.S.Graves@met.police.uk
Sent: Tuesday, July 2, 2024 4:51 PM
To: info@theaura.co.uk
Cc: Business Licence; Esther, Chan; ENS Noise Team; Legister, Linda
Subject: Aura Lounge, 763 - 765 Harrow Road, Wembley, HA0 2LW - TEN 32126

Good afternoon Simon,

Thank you for attending the Civic Centre last week where we discussed your TEN application and the list of licenses breaches found by Esther Chan. As there was still a list of outstanding licensing breaches we were unable to agree terms for the TEN, which means a hearing has been arranged for **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> of July at 10.00 hours at the Civic Centre**.

- 1. Can you confirm that you received the e-mail from Esther Chan dated 01/07/2024 which had the attached list of offences along with attachments on how to change your DPS?
- 2. Can you confirm that all the listed breaches have now been rectified?
- 3. Can you detail how you have corrected each point?
- 4. I understand from the Noise Team at Brent Council that you have not agreed a 'level' of sound with them. Is this correct? Condition twenty-seven (27) of your premises license.
- 5. Your TEN application states the event it a discotheque. Can you provide me with the details of the artists performing on this date (19<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> of July)?
- 6. What measures where you planning on having to make sure the numbers don't go above the 350 you quote?
- 7. Have you advertised this event on social media?
- 8. Where you planning on this been a ticketed event?
- 9. Your current license only permits you to have a maximum of 220 people. The TEN that you are asking is for 350. What extra measures are you proposing the make sure this increase in numbers does not have a negative impact on the licensing objectives?

If you could respond to the points listed above by **Friday the 5<sup>th</sup> of July** please as the hearing is on Monday the 8<sup>th</sup>.

Thanks,

Phil

CC Brent Council

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Brent Civic Centre Engineers Way Wembley Middlesex HA9 0FJ

EMAIL <u>esther.chan@brent.gov.uk</u>Tel: 07960098200/0208 937 5303WEB www.brent.gov.uk

KN Bros Ltd / Atul Khosla & Sapna Panchal 763-765 Harrow Road Wembley HA0 2LW

1 July 2024

Our Ref: Premises Licence Number 164845

Dear Atul Khosla & Sapna Panchal,

## Licensing Act 2003 – Breach of Premises Licence Re: Aura Lounge, 763 - 765 Harrow Road, Wembley, HA0 2LW

I am writing to confirm my meeting on Thursday 27 June 2024 at Brent Civic Centre with Simon Rad and Justyna Lukiewicz, managers of the above premises, in the presence of Licensing Police Officers PC Phil Graves, PC Brendon McInness, and PC Steve Hicks.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss breaches identified during my inspection on Friday 14 June 2024 at approximately 23:55 hours, when the premises was open to the public. I was accompanied by the local Safer Neighbourhoods Team (SNT) and Noah Okunromade, Principal Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Officer.

These breaches have led to an objection raised by the police regarding a Temporary Event Notice (TEN) application for an event scheduled for 19-20 July 2024. We were informed that the director Director of KN Bros Limited, Atul Khosl and, the Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS) Jaminkumar Patel were unable to attend the meeting as both were abroad.

In fact, Mr Patel is currently in India for a month. During the meeting, Mr Rad mentioned that he had submitted an application to vary the DPS. However, upon reviewing his mobile phone, it was confirmed that he had notified the incorrect department. Furthermore, it appears that the relevant application forms to vary the DPS were not attached to the email. To date, the Licensing Department have not received an application to vary the DPS.

During the meeting we discussed the breaches that were identified at my inspection on 14 June 2024:

Condition 1 - Door supervisors shall wear clothing that can be clearly and easily identified on CCTV.

<u>Comment</u> – The female door staff failed to wear clothing including her badge that can be clearly and easily identified on CCTV.

Condition 2 - A register/log containing the names, badge number, dates & times of duty of security staff and any incidents that occur shall be kept and made available to the Police and Licensing Authority.

<u>Comment</u> – On viewing the log book, the last entry was recorded on 6 June 2024.

Condition 4 - A "Challenge 21" policy shall be adopted and adhered to at all times. <u>Comment</u> – I was told that under 18s are not permitted to purchase alcohol. There were no indication that Challenge 21 policy is adopted.

Condition 7 - An incident log shall be kept at the premises, and made available for inspection on request to an authorised officer of Brent Council 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 faults in the CCTV system or searching equipment or

scanning equipment

(e) any refusal of the sale of alcohol

(f) any visit by a relevant authority or emergency service.

<u>Comment</u> – It had been explained to Mr Rad that the above details must be recorded at all times.

Condition 9 - After 23.30 hours the rear smoking area will cease to be used and the front smoking area shall be limited to 20 persons and each area shall be suitably supervised. <u>Comment</u> – *It had be observed that two males were smoking shisha in the rear smoking area.* 

Condition 10/14 - Notices asking customers to leave quietly shall be conspicuously displayed at all exits.

<u>Comment</u> – I was advised that signs were taken down as a result of recent building works carried out at the venue.

Condition 15 - A copy of the premises licence summary including the hours which licensable activities are permitted shall be visible from the outside of each entrance to the premises.

<u>Comment</u> – I was advised that signs were taken down as a result of recent building works carried out at the venue.

Condition 17 - Facilities within the premises shall be made available for customers to await taxis.

<u>Comment</u> – There were no facilities for customers to await taxis.

Condition 25 - SIA door staff shall supervise the partially enclosed garden area at all times it is being used by customers after 7pm.

<u>Comment</u> – There was no SIA door staff supervising the area at the time of my visit.

Condition 27 - A noise limiter shall be installed and set at a level agreed with the Council's environmental health team.

<u>Comment</u> – I have been made aware that the Principal Nuisance Control Officer, Martin Wood wrote to you in April 2023 to remind you to install the noise limiter. Mr Rad stated

that the noise limiter has been installed, however, I can confirm that the Council have not agreed the set level.

Condition 44 - All SIA staff wear such clothing as to make themselves immediately identifiable as such, whether by way of high visibility apparel or in some other fashion. Comment – The female door staff failed to wear clothing including her badge that can be clearly and easily identified on CCTV.

Condition 45 - There must be 3 SIA staff on duty Sunday to Thursday between 9pm and closing, and 5 SIA staff on Fridays and Saturdays of whom at least 2 must be women.

**Comment** – At the time of my visit, there was one female SIA door supervisor managing the front door. Mr Rad stated that he and another staff member held a SIA badge.

## <u>Plan</u>

It has been noted that you have converted the front 'Restaurant' area into a separate business trading as 'Manek Chowk', which occupy a separate entrance. You are required to submit a variation application to modify the plan connected to 'The Aura' by **<u>29 July 2024</u>**.

You must also submit an application for a new premises licence for Manek Chowk if licensable activities are provided. You must ensure the sale of alcohol and late night refreshments (hot food and drink) are not provided after 23:00hrs until authorisation is granted.

## Outstanding Action following Decision of the Alcohol and Entertainment Licensing Sub-Committee following a hearing on 14 December 2022.

Following my letter dated 7 September 2023, it is apparent that the above action is still outstanding.

The interim steps conditions will be removed but, given the management, nuisance and other issues identified with the premises the sub-committee have some concerns as to the appropriateness of a 220 people remaining on the premises after the garden area closes.

They would therefore, in lifting the interim steps condition limiting capacity, require a report and plan dealing with the appropriate capacity to be provided to the local authority within 14 days.

## Breach of Section 33 of Licensing Act 2003.

According to Companies House, you have failed to notify the Licensing Authority that you have changed the registered office address from 48 Hollywood Gardens Hayes UB4 0DX to a number of addresses since 2022. The latest record indicate that on 5 February 2023, the registered office address changed from 2 Westglade Court Woodgrange Close Harrow HA3 0XQ to <u>763-765</u> Harrow Road Wembley HA0 2LW.

You must complete the notification of change of name or address premises licence holder and return it to <u>business.licence@brent.gov.uk</u> by <u>15 July 2024.</u>

## **Role of Designated Premise Supervisor**

The Licensing Act 2003 does not require a <u>DPS</u> or any other personal licence holder to be present on the premises at all times when alcohol is sold. However, the DPS and the premises licence holder remain responsible for the premises at all times.

The Licensing Authority will normally expect the DPS to have been given the day-to-day responsibility for running the premises and as such it is expected that the DPS would usually be present at the licensed premises on a regular basis. The Authority expects that this will be in excess of 50% of a 7-day week.

The Council expects that a DPS will be able to demonstrate knowledge of both the local geographic area and the patrons the premises attracts. The DPS should be sufficiently conversant in English to be able to properly communicate with patrons.

The premises licence holder will be expected to ensure that the DPS has experience commensurate with the size, capacity, nature and style of the premises and licensable activities to be provided.

Within all licensed premises, whether or not alcohol is to be sold, the Licensing Authority will expect there to be proper management arrangements in place which will ensure that there is an appropriate number of responsible, trained/instructed persons at the premises to ensure the proper management of the premises and of the activities taking place, as well as adherence to all statutory duties and the terms and conditions of the premises licence.

The Council recommends that all persons employed on licensed premises who are engaged in the sale and supply of alcohol be encouraged to attend regular training programmes to raise awareness of their responsibility and particularly of the offences contained within the Act. Training programmes that raise awareness of the issues relating to drugs and violence in licenced premises are necessary. Suitable training should be extended to all staff involved in managing or supervising the premises. All training undertaken should be recorded and signed by the designated Premises supervisor.

If you feel that the conditions embedded on the premise licence are no longer viable for the current business, you may wish to seek independent advice on how you can vary the premise licence to modify the hours, licensable activities and conditions.

# If we find evidence that you are undermining the licensing objectives, we will take further action in the form of a review of the premise licence and/or prosecution.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require further clarification.

Yours faithfully,

Esther Chan Licensing Inspector Regulatory Services

cc. Brent Licensing Police

Community Safety

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From: Phil.S.Graves@met.police.uk
Sent: Tuesday, November 5, 2024 12:26 PM
To: annemarry
Cc: Esther, Chan
Subject: The Aura, 763-765 Harrow Road, HAO 2LW - 33304 - Police and Council Meeting

Ana,

Thank you for your phone call yesterday. I've spoken to Brent Council and have arranged a meeting with them on:-

## Friday 8th of November at 14.00 hours @ Brent Civic Centre, Engineers Way, Wembley HA9 0FJ

Please invite your accountant, investor and bring along any relevant paper work. Proof of sale of the venue to yourself and any associated paperwork would assist greatly. Please call me on the number below on Friday and I will come down and meet you. Ms Chan, from Brent Council will also join us in the meeting.

Any issues please respond to myself and Esther Chan.

Thank you,

Phil

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MG11

STATEMENT OF WITNESS
(Criminal Procedure Rules, r. 16.2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s. 9)
URN
Statement of: Constable Philip Graves Age if under 18: Over 18 Occupation: Police officer
This statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it, anything which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.
Signature: 7 362 AW
Date: Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> of November 2024

Due to the transfer of license application (reference 33304) a meeting was arranged at Brent Civic Centre on 8<sup>th</sup> of November 2024 at 14.00 hours. Those present were myself PC Phil Graves, PC Steve Hicks, Esther Chan (Brent Council) and Rhea Vagarwal (Brent Council).

Those representing the License transfer were Ana Maria Grama (Proposed Transferee / Management Team) Mohamned Dean (changed to Marcus Dean) – Dean Security & Proposed DPS, Iftikhar Ashard Investor, Mithun Shah – Management Team (Ana's husband) and Sandip Joshi - Accountant

I asked those present if they could explain their intentions for the Aura. Mr Ashard replied by saying:-

- 1. He was aware that the venue was up for sale in October 2024
- 2. Those present where the planned new management team,
- 3. The previous license holders had explained that there were 'problems' but didn't go into detail.
- 4. The Purchase is 70% in completion, going through numbers. Aim to complete by the new year
- 5. Over a half million pounds invested
- 6. Purchase has not happened yet
- 7. Was not aware of the licensing issues (review etc.) until he had seen the blue notices
- 8. There is a 15 year lease on the property.
- 9. The overall theme of the venue was to transfer it into a family run high class restaurant with regulated entertainment, live music and dance.

Mr Dean (security and proposed DPS) explained the following:

- 1. Confirms it will be a family-oriented establishment
- 2. To adopt a 25 challenge
- 3. Atul (current license holder) and Justyna (current DPS) are both incompetent

RESTRICT

- 4. Been in the business since 1994
- 5. 2004 instructed for SIA services
- 6. Have more live music
- 7. He will provide the security

Mr Ashard asked me what the main problems where from a policing perspective. I explained that the venue was attracting the 'wrong type of customers'. The Aura has a long history of violent crime, drugs, incompetent

<del>e 61</del>

ED (when complete)

Signature:

2 martin

Signature Witnessed by:

Page 1 of 1 eStatement no: NW-1007811-2024 Continuation of Statement of: Constable Philip Graves

management team and constant breaches of their premises license. I emphasised that the venue had already been reviewed twice in the last three years and there are still continual licensing breaches. I explained that I had made many visits and found many licensing faults. Various warning letters had been sent, but there had been no improvement. Due to this I submitted a review of the venue asking for revocation of the license and I have already submitted representations opposing the transfer of the premises license to Ms Ana Grama.

The investor Mr Ashard suggested that he and the police put a strategy together for a period of time to try and work through the current issues. I explained that I intended to continue with the review of the license unless a set of 'restaurant conditions' could be agreed by all parties prior to this hearing taking place which is due on the 11<sup>th</sup> of December. These set of conditions would reflect a 'family orientated restaurant' and would move away from the 'night club' theme which appears un-manageable at present.

The proposed new license holder had barley spoken so I asked Ms Grama what her background was and what experience she had in running a challenging restaurant / nightclub. Ms Grama replied by saying that she has never had any experience in the hospitality industry, but she worked in a restaurant back in her home country. She then went on to explain that she was not a personal license holder and it was in fact her husband that would be running the business. I asked why she was applying for the transfer of license when she has had no experience and it was in fact her husband that would be running the business? Mr Dean answered on her behalf saying this was a 'mistake' on behalf of the management team and the wrong name was put on the transfer.

Mr Dean explained that he would be the DPS for the venue and take control of the licensing breaches and the security. I asked why there had been no DPS transfer and again this seemed to be another fault on behalf of the 'new management team'. As of today 14/11/2024 there has been no DPS transfer sent to the police.

Mr Ashard explained that he was planning on a 5-7 day closure to revamp the business in the New Year. He was also going to rename the venue as 'Babylon Bar and Restaurant' with a mixture of Indian, Mexican and Lebanese cuisine. While this was in progress Mr Ashard asked to have a signed agreement with police. I explained that this would not be happening. Again I suggested to Mr Ashard and his team that he submits a set of conditions (via a full variation to Brent Council) suitable for a respectful family restaurant and that they contact an experienced licensing agent to assist with their application.

Ms Chan (Brent Council) raised issues around food safety, smoking area and the concerns of her colleagues in planning over the front of the venue (separate restaurant). Ms Chan asked if anyone knew who the rate payer for the venue was, but no one did. The hearing and consultation dates where read out by Ms Chan to all those present:-

The consultation date for the transfer ends on 14/11/2024 and a hearing date has been arranged for 11<sup>th</sup> of December 2024.

The consultation date for the hearing ends on 28/11/2024 and a hearing date has been arranged for 17<sup>th</sup> of December 2024

#### Summary

The proposed new management team have only in the last month decided to invest half a million pounds in buying the Aura. No money has been transferred and no paperwork showing for proof of purchase has been produced to the police or council, as requested by myself via e-mail on 05/11/2024.

Witness Signature:

EZ DO AAN

Signature Witnessed by:

Page 2 of 1 eStatement no NW-1007811-2024

RESTRICTED (When complete)

Continuation of Statement of: Constable Philip Graves

Ms Ana Grama (proposed License holder) has no experience in running a busy and challenging restaurant / night club and the proposed new management team state it was an error or their behalf appointing her and in fact it should have been her husband applying for this post. To date I have received no official communication regarding this transfer that I have already opposed.

This management team state that Mr Dean with the DPS, but no transfer of DPS has been applied for. So at present the old DPS is still shown and the incorrect license holder is applying to run the business. Neither of these scenarios fulfils me with any confidence.

I have had no contact from the new management team regarding a list of proposed conditions for the family restaurant. They are aware that the venue is under review and I have opposed the license transfer. I would have expected a new management team serious in turning a failing nightclub into a prosperous family orientated restaurant to have sent in a list of proposed conditions, transfer of DPS and an explanation of the license transfer.

My overall impression was one of poor management and planning and I hold no confidence in this new team running the venue in an appropriate and legal manner.

PC Phil Graves 3122NW Licensing Officer - Brent

Witness Signature:

EZ DO AR

Signature Witnessed by:

RESTRICTED (When complete)

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Brent Civic Centre Engineers Way Wembley Middlesex HA9 0FJ email edwin.maldoom@brent.gov.uk web www.brent.gov.uk

Business Licence Regulatory Services Brent Council Engineers Way Wembley HA9 0FJ

20 Nov 2024

Ref: 33303

Dear Business Licence,

# Representation in support of the application to review the premises licence for The Aura, 763-765 Harrow Road, Wembley, HA0 2LW (Premises Licence Number: 164845).

The above-mentioned application has been made under section 51 of the Licensing Act 2003.

As a delegated officer of the Licensing Authority, acting as a defined 'Responsible Authority' under the Licensing Act 2003, I confirm my representation in support of the application submitted by Metropolitan Police Service.

This representation is made on the grounds that the continued operation of this premises licence, without further intervention, is likely to undermine three out of the four licensing objectives:

- The prevention of crime and disorder;
- Public safety;
- The prevention of public nuisance;
- The protection of children from harm;

## Licensing History

The premises licence was originally granted on 24 November 2005, having been converted from the previous justices' licence.

The current premises licence holder, KN Bros Limited, has held the premises licence since 24 September 2019, with Atul Khosla and Sapna Panchal listed as directors of the limited company that hold the licence. The Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS) has been Justyna Lukiewicz since 16 July 2024.

An application to transfer the premises licence to Ana-Maria Grama was submitted on 31 October 2024. The Metropolitan Police Service has objected to this transfer application, and the matter remains undetermined at the time of writing.

Page 1 of 3

The premises has been subject to two prior review hearings:

## 18 October 2022:

The review brought by Brent Council's Nuisance Control Team, was based on the licensing objective of 'the prevention of public nuisance' being undermined following substantiated noise complaints, perceived poor management, and non-compliance of premises licence conditions. The Licensing Sub-Committee determined to reduce the terminal hours for licensable activity, amended current conditions and imposed further conditions.

## 14 December 2022:

Following an instance of serious crime and disorder, in which a man was fatally stabbed outside the premises, the Metropolitan Police Service submitted a summary review under Section 53A of the Act. At the review hearing, Licensing Sub-Committee determined to impose additional conditions on the premises licence.

## Enforcement & Complaints

The Licensing Authority has documented several complaints and enforcement actions relating to the premises within the last 15 months.

## 30 August 2023:

A warning letter was issued by the Licensing Enforcement Officer at Brent Council for failing to comply with the conditions of the premises licence regarding the use of the garden area after 23:30. CCTV was subsequently requested for a specified time and date, however the premises licence holder failed to provide the CCTV to the Officer. [Annex A - Licensing Warning Letter 30.08.2023]

## 5 September 2023:

Email from the Metropolitan Police Service informing the Licensing Authority about the premises failing to provide CCTV despite multiple requests, highlighting concerns regarding SIA door supervisors, irresponsible drinking inside the premises and failure to adhere to the conditions pertaining to the metal detector and not providing CCTV viewing upon request by the Police. [Annex B - Met Police Email 05.09.2023]

## 7 September 2023:

A warning letter issued by the Licensing Enforcement Officer at Brent Council outlining an action plan within a clearly defined timeframe. This action plan included steps to adhere with the CCTV provision, providing the incident log, providing a noise dispersal policy, submitting a minor variation application to update the premises plan and to provide a maximum capacity report. [Annex C - Licensing Warning Letter 07.09.2023]

## 8 Feb 2024:

The Council were notified that London Fire Brigade had issued a prohibition notice under Article 31 of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order on 27 January 2024, following concerns about the potential risk to members of the public in case of a fire. The prohibition notice was subsequently lifted on 8 March 2024. [Annex D1 - London Fire Brigade Prohibition Notice 01.02.2024] [Annex D2 - London Fire Brigade Prohibition Notice 08.03.2024]

## 1 July 2024:

A warning letter issued by the Licensing Enforcement Officer at Brent Council highlighting that upon a recent inspection, 12 conditions were found to not being complied with. Additionally, a minor variation application had still not been submitted to update the premises plan, and the

Page **2** of 3

failure by the premises licence holder to notify the Council of the change of registered address as per Section 33 of the Act. [Annex E - Licensing Warning Letter 01.07.2024]

## 14 September 2024:

A warning letter issued by the Metropolitan Police Service raising their concerns regarding persistent non-compliance of premises licence conditions. [Annex E - Licensing Warning Letter 01.07.2024]

## <u>Summary</u>

The Licensing Authority fully supports the Metropolitan Police Service's stance of revocation within its review application. Despite two recent reviews, multiple warnings, and clear guidance provided by the respective Licensing Enforcement Officer, the premises has demonstrated a persistent disregard for compliance matters and the promotion of the licensing objectives.

There is a reasonable expectation that any premises that has been subject to two review hearings and multiple enforcement visits by the Police and the Licensing Authority would take every possible step to go above and beyond to ensure compliance with the terms of its premises licence and to promote the four licensing objectives.

Despite the numerous chances to rectify the concerns raised and demonstrate responsible management, the premises has ultimately failed to provide the necessary confidence in their business operation to both the Licensing Authority and the Police.

Under Section 182 Guidance (Paragraph 11.23), licensing authorities are advised to take decisive action, including revocation, where premises are found to be trading irresponsibly and where other measures taken have proven to be insufficient. Given the sustained non-compliance and lack of engagement with responsible authorities, revocation of the premises licence is likely the only proportionate and effective course of action to take.

If a new operator wishes to fundamentally change the business model, they have the option to apply for a new premises licence, which would provide a fresh start and an opportunity to demonstrate responsible management while promoting the four licensing objectives.

Yours sincerely,

E. Maldoom

Edwin Maldoom Licensing Enforcement Officer

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Brent Civic Centre Engineers Way Wembley Middlesex HA9 0FJ

EMAIL esther.chan@brent.gov.uk WEB www.brent.gov.uk

KN Bros Ltd / Atul Khosla & Sapna Panchal The Aura 763-765 Harrow Road Wembley HA0 2LW

30 August 2023

Our Ref: 11859

Dear Atul Khosla & Sapna Panchal,

## Licensing Act 2003 – Breach of Premises Licence Re: The Aura, 763 - 765 Harrow Road, Wembley, Middlesex, HA0 2LW

I am writing to address a matter that has recently come to our attention and requires your immediate attention.

On Sunday 13 August 2023, Principal Nuisance Control Officer, Martin Wood visited the above premises following a noise complaint. At 00:20hrs, Mr Wood witnessed approximately 80 patrons within the partially enclosed garden area.

It has come to my attention that this occurrence constitutes a direct breach of the **Condition 28** outlined within the premise licence, which stipulate:

The use of the enclosed garden area or other external area to cease after 23.30pm.

In light of the breach, the Council request your assistance by providing CCTV footage for the for the following and times covering both the internal and external views of the premises:

• Sunday 13 August 2023 – 23:30hrs to 01:00hrs and 02:00hrs to 03:00hrs

Enforcement action will be taken by either the licensing authority or Metropolitan Police as this is a serious licensing offence under Section 136 Licensing Act 2003 and if prosecuted you could face an unlimited fine and/or 6 months imprisonment. We may also consider the review of the premises licence.

In view of the above, we kindly request that you contact me at your earliest convenience to discuss arrangements for the provision of the requested CCTV footage. Your prompt attention to this matter will be highly appreciated.

If you require any clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

Ther

Esther Chan Licensing Inspector Regulatory Services

cc. Brent Licensing Police Martin Wood

# Maldoom, Edwin

From: Sent:	Brendon.McInness@met.police.uk 05 September 2023 11:33
То:	Esther, Chan
Subject:	The Aura
Attachments:	MG11 Aura Lounge by PC Kishan Gadhia.docx; Aura evidence August 2023.docx

Hi Esther.

Please find attached evidence from the AURA Lounge. In addition to the above. I had contacted the manager Sam on the 15/07/2023 regarding an incident that PC GADHIA had attended and requested CCTV to be saved covering all the cameras in the venue from midnight until closing time. Sam assured me that this would be done whilst on the phone. I also asked for CCTV covering the rear garden for the 05/07/2023.

On the 25/07/2023 I sent Sam an email asking if the footage had been saved and got no reply. On the 28/07/2023 I sent another email to Sam asking to please respond to the previous email and again got no reply.

I viewed Body Worn Video from officers that attended the incident on the 15/07/2023 and found a number of breaches which matches the evidence provided by PC GADHIA.

I observed customers drinking straight from bottles of spirits, Security were not wearing identifiable clothing and were in plain clothes, Police were entering through the entrance and it appeared as though the metal detector was either not working or switched off as I'm sure if a police officer walked through the metal detector with all the PPE it would trigger the detector. Police asked The manager to view the CCTV and the manager responded that they could not as he did not know how to use it and had to call someone else.

Kind regards



PC Brendon McInnes 1187NW Brent Licensing North West Command Unit Metropolitan Police ☎ Met Phone: 743835 In an emergency, always dial 999

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EMAIL esther.chan@brent.gov.uk WEB www.brent.gov.uk

KN Bros Ltd / Atul Khosla & Sapna Panchal The Aura 763-765 Harrow Road Wembley HA0 2LW

7 September 2023

Our Ref: 11859

Dear Atul Khosla & Sapna Panchal,

## Licensing Act 2003 – Breach of Premises Licence Re: The Aura, 763 - 765 Harrow Road, Wembley, Middlesex, HA0 2LW

I am writing to confirm our meeting that took place on Wednesday 6 September 2023 at Brent Civic Centre. The meeting attendees also included Licensing Officer, Mohammed Serdouk and Mr Simon Rad who holds a personal licence and serves as the manager of The Aura for the past 7 months.

At the time of our meeting, you were requested to provide CCTV footage in relation to the visit conducted by Principal Nuisance Control Officer, Martin Wood on Sunday 13 August 2023. You were unable to provide the CCTV footage due to a recent burglary on Sunday 3 September 2023, which resulted in the CCTV system and the USB stick stored in the safe stolen from the premises.

As a result of Mr Wood's visit, you were advised that the Council have reason to believe that you are in breach of your licensing conditions and therefore minded to initiate enforcement action.

You confirmed that every night, the DJ in the rear external seating area known as the 'External Canopy Area' on the plan stop the music by 23:15hrs and patrons are escorted to the 'Lounge/Dance Area'.

Due to a delay with the service in the kitchen, your customers have caused challenges by refusing to move the Lounge/Dance Area' as requested by members of staff.

During our meeting, I informed you of complaints related to your patrons parking in an irresponsible manner in the neighbourhood. Whilst I appreciate that your business can not be held accountable for parking matters, you said regular patrols are untaken following the review of the premises licence in 2022.

It has also been established that you have converted the front 'Restaurant' area into a separate business trading as 'Sugar Rush', which is operated by a different food business operator. You

stated that you are in the process of entering into a contract to franchisee of Sugar Rush and will have full control of the business.

Based on the above-mentioned points of discussion I now request the following items to be actioned to assist with my investigation.

# CCTV Footage

- Contact your CCTV provider to restore the recordings for the past 31 days. Retain the CCTV recordings for 13 August 2023 as per my request.
- Provide evidence i.e. copy of an invoice for the new installation of the CCTV system.
- Ensure a staff member is conversant with the operation of the CCTV system on the premises at all times when the premises is open.
- Provide the Police CAD reference related to the recent burglary.

# Timescale to action – Monday 25 September 2023

# Incident on Sunday 13 August 2023

• Provide an incident log of the visit conducted by Officer Martin Wood. Please provide times and contents of your conversation with Mr Wood.

# Timescale to action – Monday 25 September 2023

# Parking & Noise Complaints

- Provide your current noise dispersal policy.
- Explain the process for parking management in writing.

# Timescale to action – Monday 25 September 2023

# Plan of the Premises

- Submit a minor variation application to update the plan for The Aura.
- Submit an application for a new premises licence for Sugar Rush if licensable activities are provided. You must ensure late night refreshments (hot food and drink) are not provided after 23:00hrs until authorisation is granted.

# Timescale to action – Monday 9 October 2023

# Outstanding Action following Decision of the Alcohol and Entertainment Licensing Sub-Committee following a hearing on 14 December 2022.

The interim steps conditions will be removed but, given the management, nuisance and other issues identified with the premises the sub-committee have some concerns as to the appropriateness of a 220 people remaining on the premises after the garden area closes.

They would therefore, in lifting the interim steps condition limiting capacity, require a **report** and plan dealing with the appropriate **capacity** to be provided to the local authority within 14 days.

# Timescale to action – Monday 25 September 2023

If we find further evidence that you are undermining the licensing objectives, we will have no option but to proceed with enforcement action.

Should you require clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me or the Licensing Team for assistance.

Yours faithfully,

(Show

Esther Chan Licensing Inspector Regulatory Services

cc. Brent Licensing Police Martin Wood This page is intentionally left blank



Fire Safety Regulation, North West 2 Team 169 Union Street London SE1 0LL T 020 8555 1200 x89171

> Minicom 020 7960 3629 Iondon-fire.gov.uk

\* F D O C \*

The Chief Executive London Borough of Brent Brent Civic Centre Engineer's Way Wembley Middlesex HA9 0FJ

Received 8 - FEB 2024 DIGITAL POSTROOM

The London Fire Commissioner is the fire and rescue authority for London

Date 1 February 2024 Our Ref 28/010455/PG

Dear Sir/Madam

Premises: The Aura, 763-765 Harrow Road, Wembley, HAO 2LW

## SERVICE OF PROHIBITION NOTICE

The London Fire Commissioner (the Commissioner) is the fire and rescue authority for London. The Commissioner is responsible for enforcing the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 (as amended) (The Order) in London.

On **27 January 2024** the Commissioner served a prohibition notice under Article 31 of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order2005 (as amended) (the Order) in respect of use of the above premises. I enclose a copy of that notice for information of your officers.

The prohibition notice was served as in the opinion of the Commissioner, the risk to members of the public in case of fire was so serious that prohibition or restriction of use was necessary to protect those persons from imminent serious personal injury.

The Commissioner would be grateful for any assistance you are able to offer locally in monitoring use of these premises and ensuring that persons are not placed at risk by using the premises for the prohibited use(s). Contravention of a prohibition notice is an indictable offence under Article 32(2(h) of the Order. In the event that your officers witness use of the premises in contravention of the notice, we would be grateful if you could provide evidence of that, as we will consider taking a prosecution against those responsible.

Should the responsible person for the premises not make adequate arrangements to prevent the premises being used in contravention of the notice. The Commissioner may seek your assistance to ensure that persons are not placed at risk. This may include a request that action is taken under your powers to secure the premises.

We will notify you if the prohibition imposed is lifted due to action taken by the responsible person or is withdrawn by the Commissioner.

I should be grateful if you would bring this letter to the attention of the appropriate departments in your Authority.

Page 1 of 2

Page 77

I have written in similar terms to the Metropolitan Police Borough Commander.

FS08\_03 (Rev 6, 01/05/2022)



# **PROHIBITION NOTICE**

NOTICE ISSUED UNDER ARTICLE 31 OF THE REGULATORY REFORM (FIRE SAFETY) ORDER 2005 (as amended)

Premises to which this notice relates:	The Aura Wembley <u>Ltd, 763</u> – 765 Harrow Road, Wembley, HAO 2LW.
Use of the premises to which this notice relates:	Restaurant, Bar and Shisha Lounge
Name of responsible person:	The Responsible Person for the premises to which this notice relates
Name of authorising officer:	DAC Andy Pennick

The London Fire Commissioner (the Commissioner) is the fire and rescue authority for London. The Commissioner is responsible for enforcing the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 (as amended), hereafter referenced as 'The Order', in London.

A duly authorised representative of the Commissioner is of the opinion that the use of the premises to which this notice relates involves, or will involve, a risk to relevant persons so serious that the use of the premises ought to be prohibited.

The duly authorised representative of the Commissioner is of this opinion because:

Fire separation between floors is insufficient

The means of escape is inadequate

The means of giving warning in case of fire is insufficient.

Escape routes are blocked or obstructed by combustible materials.

Quick and safe evacuation is compromised by the presence of highly combustible materials.

The Commissioner hereby directs that the use of the premises to which this notice relates is prohibited or restricted as follows:

The ground floor must not be used by persons (other than those undertaking remedial works), until the matters identified above as giving rise to serious risk have been remedied.

In the opinion of the Commissioner the risk of serious personal injury to relevant persons is imminent. The prohibition or restriction specified in this notice has immediate effect.

This notice continues in force until the matters identified above as giving rise to serious risk have been remedied or the Commissioner withdraws it. Further works or measures may be required to achieve compliance with The Order. Where necessary, these will be detailed in a separate enforcement notice.

Date: 27/01/2024 Signature: " Deputy Assistant Commissioner" (Andy Pennick) ٥

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(Rev 13, 03/08/2022)

## NOTES

- Contravention of any prohibition or restriction imposed by a prohibition notice is an offence under Article 32 (2) (h)
  of The Order and renders the offender liable, on a summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding the statutory
  maximum or, on conviction on indictment, to a fine or imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years, or both.
- In any proceedings for an offence referred to in note 1, where the person charged is a person other than the person on whom the prohibition notice was served, it shall be a defence for that person to prove that he/she did not know and had no reason to believe the notice had been served.
- 3. The person on whom the notice is served has a responsibility to take all reasonable steps to ensure compliance with the notice and is advised to make the effect of the notice known to those who might work on or resort to the premises. Failure to take such steps may constitute a contravention of the terms of the notice and render the person on whom the notice is served liable to the penalties described in note 1.
- 4. Your attention is drawn to the provision for appeal to a magistrates' court against this notice in Article 35 of The Order,

A person on whom a prohibition notice is served may appeal to the court within 21 days from the date on which the prohibition notice is served.

The bringing of an appeal does not have the effect of suspending this notice, unless on the application of the appellant, the court so directs (and then only from the giving of the direction).

## ENVIRONMENT AND SAFETY INFORMATION ACT 1988 SECTION 4 - PROTECTION OF TRADE SECRETS

The above Act requires the Commissioner to maintain public registers of notices issued under Article 31 of The Order, (other than those which impose requirements or prohibitions solely for the protection of persons at work) and Sections 21 and 22 of the Health and Safety at Work etc, Act 1974.

Provisions are made within the Act for persons on whom the above notices are served to appeal against any proposed entry in the register which may disclose "trade secrets" or "secret manufacturing processes".

Entries in the register are required to be made after the period for appeal against the notice expires or after any appeal is disposed of.

If you feel that any such entry would disclose information about a trade secret or secret manufacturing process you may write to the Assistant Commissioner, Fire Safety, within a period of 14 days following the service of the notice, requesting exclusion of these details(see Section 4 of the 1988 Act).

Pareage 80

(Rev 13, 03/08/2022)

Fire Safety Regulation, North West 2 Team 169 Union Street London SE1 OLL T 020 8555 1200 x89171

> Minicom 020 7960 3629 london-fire.gov.uk

> > Date: 8 March 2024

Our Ref 28/010455/PG



The London Fire Commissioner is the fire and rescue authority for London Received

The Chief Executive London Borough of Brent Brent Civic Centre Engineer's Way Wembley Middlesex, HA9 0FJ

1 4 MAR 2024 DIGITAL POSTROOM 20

Dear Sir/Madam

# REGULATORY REFORM (FIRE SAFETY) ORDER 2005 (as amended) - ARTICLE 31

# Premises: The Aura, 763-765 Harrow Road, Wembley, HA0 2LW

The London Fire Commissioner (the Commissioner) is the fire and rescue authority for London. The Commissioner is responsible for enforcing the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 (as amended) (The Order) in London.

Following the Commissioner's officers visits to the above premises on **6 March 2024**, I write to confirm that the Prohibition Notice issued under Article 31 of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 (as amended) is:

NO LONGER IN FORCE. SUFFICIENT REMEDIAL WORKS TO REDUCE THE IMMEDIATE • RISK HAVE BEEN TAKEN.

Following the issue of the Prohibition Notice, an Enforcement Notice regarding the above premises may also have been issued. Should that be the case I would remind you that the responsible person is still required to comply with the matters specified in the Enforcement Notice.

Any queries regarding this letter should be addressed to the person named below. If you are dissatisfied in any way with the response given, please ask to speak to the Team Leader quoting our reference.

Signed:

Assistant Commissioner (The Officer appointed for the purpose)

Reply to Inspecting Officer Patrick Devine Direct T 020 8555 1200 ext.89170/89171 FSR-AdminSupport@london-fire.gov.uk

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Brent Civic Centre Engineers Way Wembley Middlesex HA9 0FJ

EMAIL <u>esther.chan@brent.gov.uk</u>Tel: 07960098200/0208 937 5303WEB www.brent.gov.uk

KN Bros Ltd / Atul Khosla & Sapna Panchal 763-765 Harrow Road Wembley HA0 2LW

1 July 2024

Our Ref: Premises Licence Number 164845

Dear Atul Khosla & Sapna Panchal,

## Licensing Act 2003 – Breach of Premises Licence Re: Aura Lounge, 763 - 765 Harrow Road, Wembley, HA0 2LW

I am writing to confirm my meeting on Thursday 27 June 2024 at Brent Civic Centre with Simon Rad and Justyna Lukiewicz, managers of the above premises, in the presence of Licensing Police Officers PC Phil Graves, PC Brendon McInness, and PC Steve Hicks.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss breaches identified during my inspection on Friday 14 June 2024 at approximately 23:55 hours, when the premises was open to the public. I was accompanied by the local Safer Neighbourhoods Team (SNT) and Noah Okunromade, Principal Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Officer.

These breaches have led to an objection raised by the police regarding a Temporary Event Notice (TEN) application for an event scheduled for 19-20 July 2024. We were informed that the director Director of KN Bros Limited, Atul Khosl and, the Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS) Jaminkumar Patel were unable to attend the meeting as both were abroad.

In fact, Mr Patel is currently in India for a month. During the meeting, Mr Rad mentioned that he had submitted an application to vary the DPS. However, upon reviewing his mobile phone, it was confirmed that he had notified the incorrect department. Furthermore, it appears that the relevant application forms to vary the DPS were not attached to the email. To date, the Licensing Department have not received an application to vary the DPS.

During the meeting we discussed the breaches that were identified at my inspection on 14 June 2024:

Condition 1 - Door supervisors shall wear clothing that can be clearly and easily identified on CCTV.

<u>Comment</u> – The female door staff failed to wear clothing including her badge that can be clearly and easily identified on CCTV.

Condition 2 - A register/log containing the names, badge number, dates & times of duty of security staff and any incidents that occur shall be kept and made available to the Police and Licensing Authority.

<u>Comment</u> – On viewing the log book, the last entry was recorded on 6 June 2024.

Condition 4 - A "Challenge 21" policy shall be adopted and adhered to at all times. <u>Comment</u> – I was told that under 18s are not permitted to purchase alcohol. There were no indication that Challenge 21 policy is adopted.

Condition 7 - An incident log shall be kept at the premises, and made available for inspection on request to an authorised officer of Brent Council 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 faults in the CCTV system or searching equipment or

scanning equipment

(e) any refusal of the sale of alcohol

(f) any visit by a relevant authority or emergency service.

<u>Comment</u> – It had been explained to Mr Rad that the above details must be recorded at all times.

Condition 9 - After 23.30 hours the rear smoking area will cease to be used and the front smoking area shall be limited to 20 persons and each area shall be suitably supervised. <u>Comment</u> – *It had be observed that two males were smoking shisha in the rear smoking area.* 

Condition 10/14 - Notices asking customers to leave quietly shall be conspicuously displayed at all exits.

<u>Comment</u> – I was advised that signs were taken down as a result of recent building works carried out at the venue.

Condition 15 - A copy of the premises licence summary including the hours which licensable activities are permitted shall be visible from the outside of each entrance to the premises.

<u>Comment</u> – I was advised that signs were taken down as a result of recent building works carried out at the venue.

Condition 17 - Facilities within the premises shall be made available for customers to await taxis.

<u>Comment</u> – There were no facilities for customers to await taxis.

Condition 25 - SIA door staff shall supervise the partially enclosed garden area at all times it is being used by customers after 7pm.

<u>Comment</u> – There was no SIA door staff supervising the area at the time of my visit.

Condition 27 - A noise limiter shall be installed and set at a level agreed with the Council's environmental health team.

<u>Comment</u> – I have been made aware that the Principal Nuisance Control Officer, Martin Wood wrote to you in April 2023 to remind you to install the noise limiter. Mr Rad stated

that the noise limiter has been installed, however, I can confirm that the Council have not agreed the set level.

Condition 44 - All SIA staff wear such clothing as to make themselves immediately identifiable as such, whether by way of high visibility apparel or in some other fashion. Comment – The female door staff failed to wear clothing including her badge that can be clearly and easily identified on CCTV.

Condition 45 - There must be 3 SIA staff on duty Sunday to Thursday between 9pm and closing, and 5 SIA staff on Fridays and Saturdays of whom at least 2 must be women.

**Comment** – At the time of my visit, there was one female SIA door supervisor managing the front door. Mr Rad stated that he and another staff member held a SIA badge.

# <u>Plan</u>

It has been noted that you have converted the front 'Restaurant' area into a separate business trading as 'Manek Chowk', which occupy a separate entrance. You are required to submit a variation application to modify the plan connected to 'The Aura' by **<u>29 July 2024</u>**.

You must also submit an application for a new premises licence for Manek Chowk if licensable activities are provided. You must ensure the sale of alcohol and late night refreshments (hot food and drink) are not provided after 23:00hrs until authorisation is granted.

# Outstanding Action following Decision of the Alcohol and Entertainment Licensing Sub-Committee following a hearing on 14 December 2022.

Following my letter dated 7 September 2023, it is apparent that the above action is still outstanding.

The interim steps conditions will be removed but, given the management, nuisance and other issues identified with the premises the sub-committee have some concerns as to the appropriateness of a 220 people remaining on the premises after the garden area closes.

They would therefore, in lifting the interim steps condition limiting capacity, require a report and plan dealing with the appropriate capacity to be provided to the local authority within 14 days.

# Breach of Section 33 of Licensing Act 2003.

According to Companies House, you have failed to notify the Licensing Authority that you have changed the registered office address from 48 Hollywood Gardens Hayes UB4 0DX to a number of addresses since 2022. The latest record indicate that on 5 February 2023, the registered office address changed from 2 Westglade Court Woodgrange Close Harrow HA3 0XQ to <u>763-765</u> Harrow Road Wembley HA0 2LW.

You must complete the notification of change of name or address premises licence holder and return it to <u>business.licence@brent.gov.uk</u> by <u>15 July 2024.</u>

# **Role of Designated Premise Supervisor**

The Licensing Act 2003 does not require a <u>DPS</u> or any other personal licence holder to be present on the premises at all times when alcohol is sold. However, the DPS and the premises licence holder remain responsible for the premises at all times.

The Licensing Authority will normally expect the DPS to have been given the day-to-day responsibility for running the premises and as such it is expected that the DPS would usually be present at the licensed premises on a regular basis. The Authority expects that this will be in excess of 50% of a 7-day week.

The Council expects that a DPS will be able to demonstrate knowledge of both the local geographic area and the patrons the premises attracts. The DPS should be sufficiently conversant in English to be able to properly communicate with patrons.

The premises licence holder will be expected to ensure that the DPS has experience commensurate with the size, capacity, nature and style of the premises and licensable activities to be provided.

Within all licensed premises, whether or not alcohol is to be sold, the Licensing Authority will expect there to be proper management arrangements in place which will ensure that there is an appropriate number of responsible, trained/instructed persons at the premises to ensure the proper management of the premises and of the activities taking place, as well as adherence to all statutory duties and the terms and conditions of the premises licence.

The Council recommends that all persons employed on licensed premises who are engaged in the sale and supply of alcohol be encouraged to attend regular training programmes to raise awareness of their responsibility and particularly of the offences contained within the Act. Training programmes that raise awareness of the issues relating to drugs and violence in licenced premises are necessary. Suitable training should be extended to all staff involved in managing or supervising the premises. All training undertaken should be recorded and signed by the designated Premises supervisor.

If you feel that the conditions embedded on the premise licence are no longer viable for the current business, you may wish to seek independent advice on how you can vary the premise licence to modify the hours, licensable activities and conditions.

# If we find evidence that you are undermining the licensing objectives, we will take further action in the form of a review of the premise licence and/or prosecution.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require further clarification.

Yours faithfully,

Esther Chan Licensing Inspector Regulatory Services

cc. Brent Licensing Police

Community Safety

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Sent: Monday, November 4, 2024 1:40 PM To: Business Licence <business.licence@brent.gov.uk> Subject: Re: Review Application - 33303 - Sudbury

I am writing to formally support the Police's review for the Aura nightclub due to concerns regarding its impact on the local community and its potential to undermine several key licensing objectives. As outlined under the Licensing Act 2003, I believe the following objectives are at risk:

1. **The Prevention of Crime and Disorder**: Aura nightclub has become a hub of anti-social behavior, with numerous incidents causing disturbances in the area. Reports of anti-social behaviour have become increasingly frequent, affecting the safety and well-being of local residents.

2. **Public Safety**: Significant overcrowding on the surrounding streets has been occuring from clients who come to the club and park their cars around the club, on nearby streets, particularly due to inadequate parking facilities. This overflow causes dangerous congestion, with vehicles double-parking or blocking driveways, increasing the risk of accidents and obstructing access for emergency vehicles.

3. **The Prevention of Public Nuisance**: Noise levels from the club, as well as the crowds of people congregating outside, have become a significant nuisance for residents. Music, shouting, and loud conversations continue well into the early hours, disrupting the peace and causing regular disturbances to those living nearby.

Given the ongoing issues, I strongly urge the council to carefully consider the impact of Aura nightclub's operations on the local community and take appropriate measures to mitigate these problems.

Thank you.

Kind regards, Teo Benea Cllr for Sudbury ward This page is intentionally left blank

From: Lorber, Councillor Paul <<u>Cllr.Paul.Lorber@brent.gov.uk</u>>
Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2024 5:42 PM
Subject: Re: Alcohol and Entertainment Licensing Sub-Committee

Dear All

I refer to the Hearings about The Aura.

I write in my capacity as a Sudbury Councillor and not as member of Licensing.

Firstly I am surprised that the application transfer is being heard first. The order seems back to front.

Secondly I wish to support the Police in their objections. There is a long history of a Banqueting Hall, Private Members Club and Clubs under previous ownerships with shorter opening hours and smaller venue in this area. There were few problems or issue until relatively recently and the rebranding the Aura under current name and various changing and unclear ownerships.

There is a long history of breaches in Licensing requiring action both from the Council and the Police.

The Council Officers have had to deal with many complaints of noise from residents culminating in their request to terminate the Licence. This was not supported by one Licensing Committee - with more concern about preserving the business rather than protecting residents.

The Police have requested action and termination of the Licence but this too was not agreed.

This was followed soon after by a murder outside of the premises as a result of an argument inside the premises.

The final Licensing Hearing was persuaded by conditions proposed by the applicant and their barrister.

As the latest evidence from the Police shows the Aura owners and management have failed to comply even with conditions that they proposed and signed up to.

There have been continuing problems with breaches, anti social behaviour and fights outside initiated by people visiting and attracted to the area by the Aura.

In the interests of protecting local residents and stopping their subjection to risks of violence and anti social behaviour the Police submission should be accepted and the terminated.

The Council and the Licensing Committee were misled about ownership and management of The Aura before. The last minute attempts to transfer the Licence should not be accepted at face value.

The Aura is not a suitable or a responsible business to be allowed to continue to function in the Sudbury Town area.

Local residents should have the right to peaceful enjoyment of the area near their homes with out the fear of violence, intimidation and anti social behaviour. The Aura is in breach of the most fundamental conditions of the Licensing System and the Licence should therefore be revoked.

Regards

Paul

Sent: 28 November 2024 11:52
To: Benea, Councillor Teo < <u>Cllr.Teo.Benea@brent.gov.uk</u>>
Subject: Opposition to Aura Licensure (Private and Confidential)

Dear Councillor Benea,

As

residents concerned with the local community's welfare, we write to object to the continued licensure of the Aura Lounge on Harrow Road.

The establishment is linked with violence and disorder. You may be aware of a YouTube video that documented a brawl outside the club. In addition, a young man was stabbed outside the Aura over a year ago. The owners or their agents have breached their obligation to provide a safe environment for their patrons. If there had been better security mechanisms in place and greater collaboration with local police, perhaps these unfortunate incidents would not have occurred. The owners may argue the incidents took place outside the premises. But they have an obligation to not only protect people inside their club but outside as well.

Violent incidents outside the club are just one issue associated with the Aura. a server and was threatened by patrons after a dispute over the price of a

liquor bottle. It's clear by incidents inside and outside the Aura, the establishment is frequented by some patrons with violent tendencies.

The Aura has also had a negative impact on nearby businesses and residents. Patrons of the business have discarded empty liquor bottles and cans in front of nearby homes and businesses, blocked resident and business driveways, and also caused disturbances with arguments, altercations, and noise. To put it bluntly, Aura patrons have been a nuisance and the club's security has failed to prevent them from disturbing others. Some residents and neighbouring business owners are intimidated and reluctant to step forward and complain, because they are afraid that either the Aura or patrons will somehow retaliate.

We support our community, including local Sudbury businesses. But the Aura has failed in its duties to protect its patrons, staff, and to be a good neighbour to nearby residents and businesses. For these reasons, we oppose the Aura's continued licensure as an entertainment venue with the right to sell alcohol to its patrons.

If our names and addresses can be kept confidential, it's greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

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Brent Council Regulatory Services Brent Civic Centre Engineers Way Wembley HA9 0FJ

Dear Sir

# <u>Re Licencing Review of 'The Aura', 763-765 Harrow Road, HAO 2L</u> <u>Licence No164845</u>

We are writing to support the Application made to review the licence granted to the above business premises, known as 'The Aura'.

Brent guidelines state, and we quote, 'All licensable activities in Brent should contribute to and not have a negative impact on our four objectives..' Where we comment on this application under these objectives below, we are commenting on the issues that are already well documented by the Police and Brent Council Officers.

- 1. Preventing crime and disorder
- 2. Public safety

There are known issues relating to crime and disorder which include death, knife welding, fights, drunkenness. Despite reasonable and active intervention by the Council and the Police, the management of the Club has failed to take pro-active action to maintain a watchful, preventative presence over the actions of its customers.

3. Preventing public nuisance

As mentioned, the area has continued to experience anti-social behaviour, noise, and a disregard for residents. The High Street has housing above most of the shops, with residents already subject to the above-mentioned exposure to crime, anti-social behaviour and noise issues. With business opening hours that are late and closing into the early hours of the morning, this intensifies the nuisance in the area.

As stated in the Application and evident in the Council's records, noise and use of outside spaces of the premises is not controlled by the management with continual breaches of the licence conditions.

Our concerns remain that 'The Aura' owners and management team have systematically failed to meet the conditions of the licence. Indeed, if 40 conditions have had to be imposed to date placing an onerous task on Council Officers to monitor these, then the business is not 'fit for purpose' and the licence should be reviewed. Furthermore, the anti-social behaviour and violence seen is making the High Street an unsafe environment for the community, deterring residents and visitors from using the area as intended. This not only undermines public confidence in the safety of the High Street but also negatively impacts neighbouring businesses, who rely on a secure and welcoming environment to thrive.

The ongoing disturbances associated with 'The Aura' demonstrate a disregard for the responsibility that comes with operating a licensed establishment. Such failures compromise the well-being of residents, place an undue burden on our law enforcement and council resources, and tarnish the reputation of the area as a whole.

Given the above, we support a thorough review of the licence to determine whether the establishment is capable of complying with its obligations or if alternative actions, including revocation of the licence, are warranted to ensure order and safety to the High Street.

In summary, we support this application to review the licence as 'The Aura' is having an increasingly negative impact on the wellbeing of those living and working in the area and does not make a positive contribution to the area.

Yours sincerely



Regulatory Services Brent Civic Centre Engineers Way Wembley HA9 0FJ

TEL: 020 8937 5359 EMAIL: business.licence@brent.gov.uk WEB: www.brent.gov.uk

# **London Borough of Brent**

# **Premises Licence**

Part A

This Premises Licence was granted by Brent Council, Licensing Authority for the area of the Borough of Brent under the Licensing Act 2003

> Original grant date: 01 November 2005 Current issue date: 31 July 2024

Authorised signatory

Premises licence number: 164845

Part 1 -- Premises Details

Postal address of premises, or if none, ordinance survey map reference or description

The Aura 763 - 765 Harrow Road, Wembley, Brent, HA0 2LW

Where the licence is time limited the dates

Licensable activities authorised by the licence

Section E: Live music Section F: Recorded music Section I: Provision of late night refreshment: Indoors Section J: Sale of alcohol: On the premises

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The times the licence authorises the carrying out of licensable activities

Section E: Live music		
Day	Start Time	End Time
Monday	11:00	01:00
Tuesday	11:00	01:00
Wednesday	11:00	01:00
Thursday	11:00	01:00
Friday	11:00	02:00
Saturday	11:00	02:00
Sunday	11:00	01:00
Saturday	11:00	02:00

Christmas Eve (24th December); Christmas Day (25th December); Boxing Day (26th December); New Year's Eve (31st December); New Year''s Day (1st January); All Public Bank Holidays (27th December, 1st and 29th August, 2nd May etc) Good Friday; Easter Sunday; Easter Monday; Diwali Festivities., All from 11.00hrs to 02.00hrs

Section F: Recorded music		20 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 -
<u>Day</u>	Start Time	End Time
Monday	11:00	01:00
Tuesday	11:00	01:00
Wednesday	11:00	01:00
Thursday	11:00	01:00
Friday	11:00	02:00
Saturday	11:00	02:00
Sunday	11:00	01:00

Christmas Eve (24th December); Christmas Day (25th December); Boxing Day (26th December); New Year"s Eve (31st December); New Year"s Day (1st January); All Public Bank Holidays (27th December, 1st and 29th August, 2nd May etc) Good Friday; Easter Sunday; Easter Monday; Diwali Festivities., All from 11.00hrs to 02.00hrs

Section I: Provision of Late N	light Refreshments:Indoors	
Day	Start Time	End Time
Monday	23:00	01:00
Tuesday	23:00	01:00
Wednesday	23:00	01:00
Thursday	23:00	01:00
Friday	23:00	02:00
Saturday	23:00	02:00
Sunday	23:00	01:00

Christmas Eve (24th December); Christmas Day (25th December); Boxing Day (26th December); New Year''s Eve (31st December); New Year''s Day (1st January); All Public Bank Holidays (27th December, 1st and 29th August, 2nd May etc) Good Friday; Easter Sunday; Easter Monday; Diwali Festivities., All from 11.00hrs to 02.00hrs

Day	Start Time	End Time
Monday	11:00	01:00
Tuesday	11:00	01:00
Wednesday	11:00	01:00
Thursday	11:00	01:00
Friday	11:00	02:00
Saturday	11:00	02:00
Sunday	11:00	01:00

Christmas Eve (24th December); Christmas Day (25th December); Boxing Day (26th December); New Year''s Eve (31st December); New Year''s Day (1st January); All Public Bank Holidays (27th December, 1st and 29th August, 2nd May etc) Good Friday; Easter Sunday; Easter Monday; Diwali Festivities., All from 11.00hrs to 02.00hrs

The opening hours of the premises		
Day	Start Time	End Time
Monday	11:00	01:30
Tuesday	11:00	01:30
Wednesday	11:00	01:30
Thursday	11:00	01:30
Friday	11:00	02:30
Saturday	11:00	02:30
Sunday	11:00	01:30

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

On the premises

## Part 2

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

KN Bros Limited

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

#### Justyna Lukiewicz

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

# Licence Number:

## Annex 1 – Mandatory conditions

### No Irresponsible Drinks Promotions

(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—

1. (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 disability).

### Free Water

The responsible person must ensure that free potable water is provided on request to customers where it is reasonably available.

### Age Verification Policy

(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.

## Small Measures to be Available

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

## Minimum Price of Alcohol

**1.**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.

2.For the purposes of the condition set out in paragraph 1-

(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-

# $P=D+(D \times V)$

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)---valued added tax means value added tax charged in accordance with the Value Added Tax Act 1994.

3.Where the permitted price given by Paragraph (b) of paragraph 2 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.

4.(1) Sub-paragraph (2) applies where the permitted price given by Paragraph (b) of paragraph 2 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 rat e 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.

## Requirement for a DPS

(1) No supply of alcohol may be made under the premises licence-

(a)at a time when there is no designated premises supervisor in respect of the premises licence, or

(b)at a time when the designated premises supervisor does not hold a personal licence or their personal licence is suspended.

(2) Every supply of alcohol under the premises licence must be made or authorised by a person who holds a personal licence.

## Door Supervisors and Security Staff to be Licensed by the SIA (when required)

Where the licence includes a condition that at specified times one or more individuals must be at the premises to carry out a security activity, each individual must be licensed by the Security Industry Authority, with the following exceptions:

a) premises where the premises licence authorises plays or films

b) any occasion mentioned in paragraph 8(3)(b) or (c) of Schedule 2 to the Private Security Industry Act 2001 (premises being used exclusively by a club with a club premises certificate, under a temporary event notice authorising plays or films or under a gaming licence), or

c) any occasion within paragraph 8(3)(d) of Schedule 2 to the Private Security Industry Act 2001

## Film Classification When required

(i) The admission of children to the exhibition of any film must be restricted in accordance with the recommendation of the designated film classification body unless section (ii) applies.

(ii) Where the licensing authority notifies the holder of the licence that this subsection applies the admission of children must be restricted in accordance with any recommendation made by the licensing authority.

In this section-

"children" means persons aged under 18; and

"film classification body" means the person or persons designated as the authority

under section 4 of the Video Recordings Act 1984 (c. 39) (authority to determine suitability of video works for classification).

## Annex 2 – Conditions consistent with the operating schedule

1. Door supervisors shall wear clothing that can be clearly and easily identified on CCTV.

2. A register/log containing the names, badge number, dates & times of duty of security staff and any incidents that occur shall be kept and made available to the Police and Licensing Authority.

3. Customers shall not be permitted to take open drink containers outside the premises as defined on the plan submitted to and approved by the Licensing Authority.

4. A "Challenge 21" policy shall be adopted and adhered to at all times.

5. No alcohol shall be available for any customer when the premises are open primarily for use by persons under the age of 18.

6. Substantial food and non-intoxicating beverages shall be available during the whole of licensed hours in all parts of the premises where intoxicants are provided.

7. An incident log shall be kept at the premises, and made available for inspection on request to an authorised officer of Brent Council 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 faults in the CCTV system or searching equipment or
- scanning equipment
- (e) any refusal of the sale of alcohol
- (f) any visit by a relevant authority or emergency service.

8. No entry or re-entry shall be permitted after 00.00 hours Sunday to Thursday and 01.00hours Friday and Saturday.

9. After 23.30 hours the rear smoking area will cease to be used and the front smoking area shall be limited to 20 persons and each area shall be suitably supervised.

10. Notices asking customers to leave quietly shall be conspicuously displayed at all exits.

11. Nudity, striptease and other entertainment of an adult nature shall not be permitted on the premises.

12. All doors and windows shall remain closed during any licensable activity and where a door is used for patrons to enter or leave the premises the door shall be lobbied and fitted with a self-closing device.

13. The level of music shall be arranged so as not to cause a nuisance to local residents.

14. Notices asking customers to leave quietly shall be conspicuously displayed at all exits.

15. A copy of the premises licence summary including the hours which licensable activities are permitted shall be visible from the outside of each entrance to the premises.

16. Suitable and sufficient fire fighting equipment shall be installed and properly maintained.

17. Facilities within the premises shall be made available for customers to await taxis.

18. No children shall be admitted unless accompanied by a responsible adult.

19. The total number of people on the premises including staff and performers shall not exceed 220.

20. Any locks or flush latches on exit doors shall be unlocked and kept free from fastenings whilst the public are on the premises.

21. Any socket outlets (or other power supplies used for DJ equipment, band equipment and other portable equipment) that are accessible to performers, staff or the public shall be suitably protected by a residual current device (RCD having a rated residual operating current not exceeding 30 milliamps).

## Annex 3 – Conditions attached after a hearing by the licensing authority

## Conditions Attached by committee -- 18 October 2022:

22. The terminal hour for licensable activities on Sunday to Thursday is 01:00hrs

(with closing 30 minutes later, a reduction of 1hr)

23. b) The terminal hours for licensable activities on Friday - Saturday is 02:00hrs

(with closing 30 minutes later, a reduction of 1hr)

24. Regulated entertainment in the form of live or recorded music shall not be permitted within the partially enclosed Garden Area or other external area".

25. SIA door staff shall supervise the partially enclosed garden area at all times

it is being used by customers after 7pm.

26. Noise levels in the partially enclosed garden area shall be monitored so as

to ensure that no public nuisance results.

27. A noise limiter shall be installed and set at a level agreed with the Council's

environmental health team.

28. The use of the enclosed garden area or other external area to cease after

23.30pm.

## Conditions Attached by committee -- 14 December 2022:

29. The premises shall install and maintain a comprehensive CCTV system as per the minimum requirements of the Metropolitan Police.

30. All entry and exit points will be covered enabling frontal identification of every

person entering in any light condition.

31. The CCTV system shall continually record whilst the premises is open for

licensable activities and during all times when customers remain on the premises and will include the external area immediately outside the premises entrance.

32. All recordings shall be stored for a minimum period of 31 days with date and time stamping.

33. Viewing of recordings shall be made available immediately upon the request of Police or authorised officer throughout the entire 31-day period.

34. 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. This staff member must be able to provide a Police or authorised council officer copies of recent CCTV images or data with the absolute minimum of delay when requested.

35. No patrons shall be admitted or re-admitted to the premises after (21.00) hours unless they have passed through a metal detecting search and, if the search and is activated or at the discretion of staff, then physically searched, which will include a "pat down search" and a full bag search.

36. All customers entering the premises shall have their ID scanned on entry.

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.

37. In the event that a serious assault is committed on the premises (or appears to have been committed) the management will immediately ensure that:

(a) The police (and, where appropriate, the London Ambulance Service) are called without delay;

(b) All measures that are reasonably practicable are taken to apprehend any

suspects pending the arrival of the police;

(c) The crime scene is preserved so as to enable a full forensic investigation to be carried out by the police; and

(d) Such other measures are taken (as appropriate) to fully protect the safety of all persons present on the premises. 38. A direct telephone number for the manager at the premises shall be publicly

available at all times the premises is open. This telephone number is to be made available to residents and businesses in the vicinity.

39. A member of management or security shall patrol outside the premises from 23:00hours until 30 minutes after the premises close.

40. All staff and security shall undergo training in crime and disorder prevention and response which shall be refreshed at least once every six months. The training shall be provided by a person who is independent of the premises. A signed record of the training and the persons to whom it has been provided shall be maintained and produced immediately to an officer of the licensing authority or the Police upon request.

41. The premises shall arrange for an independent audit to be conducted of its

compliance with the licensing and its promotion of the licensing objectives every six months. The audit shall be kept on the

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premises and produced immediately to an officer of the licensing authority or the Police upon request.

42. Ash Singh shall not take any role in the management of the premises.

43. Door supervisors of a suitable gender mix shall be employed from 21:00 on any day when the premises are open for the sale of alcohol.

44. All SIA staff wear such clothing as to make themselves immediately identifiable as such, whether by way of high visibility apparel or in some other fashion.

45. There must be 3 SIA staff on duty Sunday to Thursday between 9pm and

closing, and 5 SIA staff on Fridays and Saturdays of whom at least 2 must be

women.

Annex 4 – Plans

See attached

Basemap Map



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