
Kamika Samuel
Vybz Bar
1 Craven Park Road
Harlesden
London
NW10 8SE

4 September 2020

Our Ref: 19499

Dear Kamika Samuel,

Licensing Representation to the Variation Application for the Premises Licence at Vybz Bar, 1 Craven Park Road, Harlesden, London, NW10 8SE

I certify that I have considered the application shown above and I wish to make a representation that the likely effect of the grant of the application is detrimental to the Licensing Objectives for the reasons indicated below.

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

The application has been made for a variation application of a Premises Licence under section 34 of the Act.

The Licensing Authority representations are primarily concerned with the four licensing objectives;

- the prevention of crime and disorder;
- public safety;
- the prevention of public nuisance; and
- the protection of children from harm.

The Premises

The premises, namely Vybz Bar is located at 1 Craven Park Road, Harlesden, London, NW10 8SE.



Key: ● Premises location for Vybz Bar, 1 Craven Park Road, NW10 8SE

Premises Licence

The premises is currently permitted to carry out licensable activities including recorded music, live music, late night refreshment and supply of alcohol until 03.00hrs with a closing time of 03.00hrs to members of the public.

The current licence holder transferred the premises licence into their name in August 2017.

Complaints

A number of complaints have since been received in relation to the premises.

On 27th August 2018 a complaint was received which stated that the venue closed the shutters and stayed open until 7am. A request for CCTV was made in writing to the licence holder requesting the CCTV footage from the 26th, 27th and 28th August 2018 (sf000).

On 14th December 2018, a visit undertaken by a Licensing Inspector resulted in a warning letter regarding breaches of licence conditions and a rear patio area which was not included on the premises licence (sf001). Footage was viewed from the venue of 17th & 18th November 2018 which clearly showed the bar open to the public, alcohol sales, music and dancing after authorised hours of 0300 hours. The premises licence condition preventing no entry/re entry to the premises after midnight was being breached. The rear garden had also been used for licensable activities and smoking constituting further offences.

On 11th August 2019 a complaint was received to state the premises was opening until 05.30hrs on 10th and 11th August 2019. A warning letter was sent to the premises from the Licensing Police regarding this matter and CCTV footage was requested relating to the allegation (sf002).

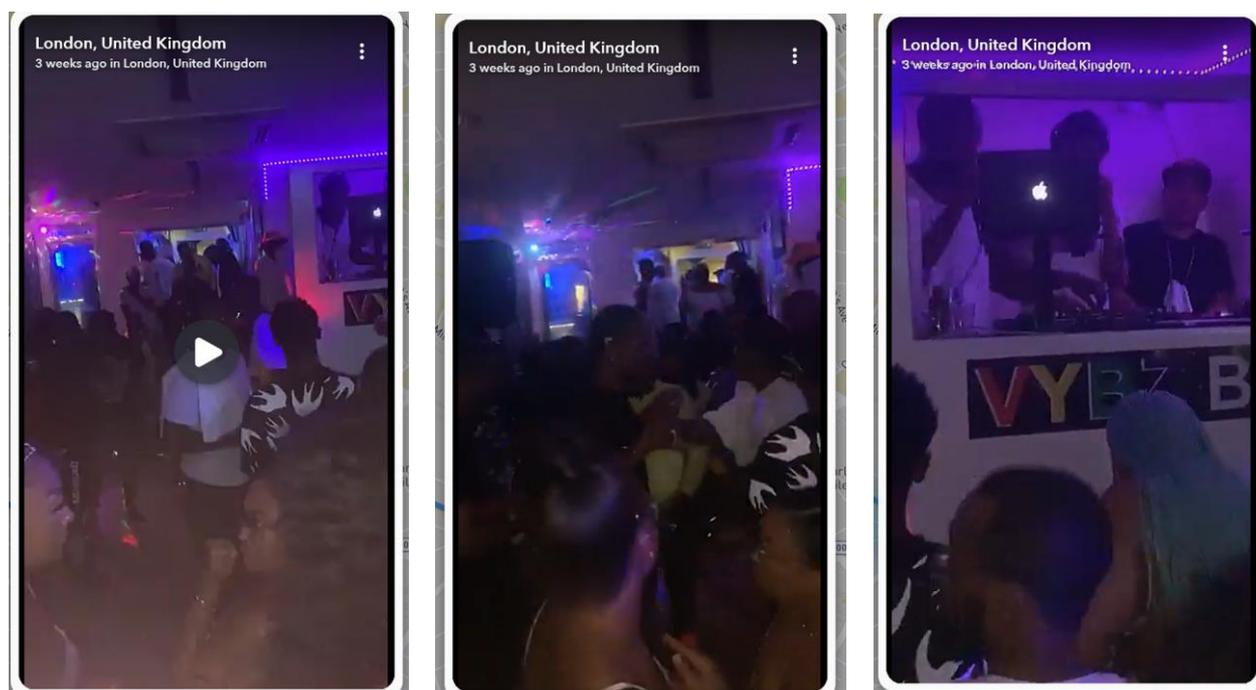
On 28th July 2020 a complaint was received to state the premises was opening until 05.00hrs on 26th July.

On 2nd August 2020 a complaint was received to state the premises had opened on Friday 31st and Saturday 1st August 2020. The premises' social media was advertising what appears to be a 'nightclub'. This would at the time, contravene government guidelines on the opening of such venues.

On 4th August 2020 a warning letter was sent to the premises regarding its operation as a nightclub and the exceeding of operating hours. This included adverts posted on social media for particular events (sf003 and sf004).

On 11th August 2020 a complaint was received that the premises had again been open on the weekend. A link was provided to a social media video from Snap Chat demonstrating that the premises is operating as a nightclub. Customers can be seen dancing and a DJ playing in the background. The link to this is provided below together with screenshots from the footage

https://map.snapchat.com/ttp/snap/W7_EDIXWTBiXAEEniNoMPwAAYuTjiK7mV-AikAXPV66FhAXPV658zAO1OAA/@51.538496,-0.255006,14.13z



On 15th August 2020, a prohibition notice was served on the premises regarding dancing and loud music.

On 3rd September 2020, CCTV footage was viewed in Brent Council's CCTV control room to ascertain whether there was any coverage of the premises over recent weekends. The attached log identifies some of the activities that took place and includes what appears to be the associated advertisements for some of the relevant events (sf005).

At the time of writing this representation on 4th September 2020, it was brought to the Licensing Team's attention that an event is to take place at the venue from 23.00hrs on Saturday 5th September 2020 until Sunday 6th September 2020 at 05.00hrs. A warning letter has today been hand delivered and sent via email to the licence holder regarding this (sf006). The extract from the website which permits the purchasing of tickers for the event is included in the warning letter.

Summary

The premises has failed to uphold the licensing objectives, has clearly breached licence conditions and has continued to allow access to customers after the permitted closing time.

I understand the premises has requested to increase their licensable activities and opening times until 05.00hrs. I am surprised that during the period of consultation to vary the premises licence, they have chosen to open until the later time of 05.00hrs without the relevant permission first being granted, therefore indicating non-compliance.

There isn't any current control over the patrons when they are exiting the premises, to the contrary many patrons remain outside for long periods of time, which is then affecting the neighbouring residents. Patrons have also been witnessed entering the premises after the no entry/re-entry time.

It is on this basis, that the Licensing Authority ask that the application for a variation of the premises licence is **refused** by the Licensing Sub-Committee.

The Licensing Authority reserve the right to include any further evidence, should this come to light up until the date of the hearing.

Yours faithfully



Susana Figueiredo
Licensing Inspector
Regulatory Services