

Kingsley Adjei
Palm Island Lounge,
1 Craven Park Road
NW10 8SE

17 May 2023

Our Ref: 27896

Dear Kingsley Adjei,

Licensing Representation to the Initial Application for the Premises Licence at Palm Island Lounge, 1 Craven Park Road, 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 new premises licence under section 17 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 premise is located in Harlesden town centre, which consists of a series of parades of shops that run along Craven Park, Craven Park Road, Park Parade and High Street Harlesden. The town centre falls between, Harlesden and Kensal Green ward and is one of the most deprived areas in the borough.

Harlesden Town Centre is a hotspot for crime and anti-social behaviour, which is having an adverse impact in some areas and neighbourhoods generating complaints from residents, councillors and the Police.

The premises previously known as Vbyz Bar operated as a nightclub for a number of years. Due to crime and disorder linked to the premises, the premise licence was revoked in 2022 following a Closure Notice instigated by the Metropolitan Police.

On 28 April 2023, I communicated with the applicant via email to sought further information regarding the business operation and requested current photo images of the premises alongside a legible plan.

On 1 May 2023, the applicant provided his answers to my questions with photo images and an updated plan. (Appendix 1 & 2).

On assessing the new application on its own merit, the operating schedule fails to demonstrate that a grant will not lead to a negative impact on one or more of the licensing objectives and to the contrary add to the issues of an existing challenging area.

Although, the applicant describe the premises to be a restaurant and bar on the operating schedule, the proposal for late opening hours and the information provided (Appendix 1) suggest that the premise will likely operate as a nightclub.

Furthermore, there is no planning permission for the extension to the rear known as the 'Lounge Area (Wooden Shed)'. If this area is used for licensable activities, it may have significant impact on public safety and local residents whether it stays in its current form or removed under Planning Regulations.

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

If the committee however decide that there is sufficient evidence to the contrary, the Licensing Authority would ask that the following conditions be added to the operating schedule:-

1. CCTV shall be installed to Home Office Guidance standards and maintained in a good working condition and recordings shall be kept for 31 days and shall be made available to police and authorised Officers from Brent Council.
2. The CCTV system shall be capable of obtaining clear facial recognition images and a clear head and shoulders image of every person entering or leaving the premises.
3. CCTV camera shall be installed to cover the front external area of the premises.
4. The CCTV images shall be kept in an easily downloadable format.
5. A member of staff trained in the use of the CCTV system shall be available at the premise at all times that the premises are open to the public.
6. A "Challenge 25" policy shall be adopted and adhered to at all times
7. A sign stating "No proof of age – No sale" shall be displayed at the point of sale.
8. Alcohol to be consumed on the premises shall only be provided as an accompaniment to a meal. Customers are not be allowed to sit, stand or be served from the bar area, or any other staff area used for the preparation of alcoholic beverages.
9. Substantial food and non-intoxicating beverages, including drinking water, shall be available in all parts of the premises where alcohol is sold or supplied for consumption on the premises

10. 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.
11. Regular documented staff training on licensing legislation and operating procedures shall be given. The training shall be signed and dated and a copy of these training records available for inspection by Police and local authority enforcement officers.
12. 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 incidents of disorder
 - (e) all seizures of drugs or offensive weapons
 - (f) any faults in the CCTV system or searching equipment or scanning equipment
 - (g) any refusal of the sale of alcohol
 - (h) any visit by a relevant authority or emergency service.
13. Notices asking customers to leave quietly shall be conspicuously displayed at all exits.
14. No entry or re-entry shall be permitted after 23:00 hours.
15. A personal licence holder conversant in English shall be present on the premises and supervise the sale of alcohol throughout the permitted hours for the sale of alcohol.
16. The designated smoking area (DSA) shall be located at the front of the premises facing Craven Park Road. When the premises licence is in operation the DSA shall be limited to no more than 5 (five) people at any one time. This shall be supervised at all times.
17. Patrons permitted to temporarily leave and then re-enter the premises to smoke shall be restricted to a designated smoking area at the front of the premises.
18. Customers shall not be permitted to take open alcoholic drink containers outside the premises as defined on the plan submitted to and approved by the Licensing Authority.
19. Unaccompanied children shall not be permitted on the premises at any time. All children under the age of 18 shall be accompanied by a responsible adult at all times.
20. Deliveries shall be accepted between the hours of 09.00hrs and 18.00hrs.
21. A capacity specific risk assessment shall be conducted by a professional qualified risk assessor. This risk assessment shall be appraised annually or at the time of any building or layout structural works.
22. The playing of live or recorded music shall not be permitted in the rear Lounge Area.

The Licensing Authority propose the reduction of the following hours:

Recorded Music (Changed)

Friday to Saturday – 23:00hrs to 23:30hrs

Late Night Refreshments (Changed)

Friday to Saturday – 23:00hrs to 23:30hrs

Sale or Supply of Alcohol (Changed)

Sunday to Thursday – 17:00hrs to 22:30hrs

Friday to Saturday – 17:00hrs to 23:30hrs

Hours Open to the Public

Sunday to Thursday – 17:00hrs to 23:00hrs

Friday to Saturday – 17:00hrs to 00:00hrs

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Esther Chan', with a circular flourish at the beginning.

Esther Chan
Licensing Inspector
Regulatory Services