

Brent Licensing Team Brent Council

Harlesden Town Centre Team Harlesden Police station 76 Craven Park Harlesden NW10 8RJ

Telephone: 0208 733 3835

Email: www.met.police.uk Your ref: Santafe Hall Our ref: Representation 17/01/2024

Dear Licensing,

Re, Santafe Hall, 202 High Street, NW10 4SY - Notification of Review Hearing Following a Closure Order

Santafe Hall 202 High Street London NW10 4SY

I am Police Sergeant Cesar Sanguineti, based at Harlesden Police station, a member of Harlesden Town Centre Team.

Before undertaking this role, I was a sergeant in Emergency Response in Wembley, previously having worked as sergeant in Safer Neighbourhoods in Camden, additionally, my policing experience extends to: first responder in a response team, Designated Ward officer, 999 call handler, Partnership work in hate crime / ASB, etc. In my 9 years of police service, I have been fortunate enough to have gained substantial police experience.

Harlesden Town Centre was created and launched on 14th February 2022; the main aims:

- Target and reduce violence, especially against Women and girls
- Decrease ASB / Crime in the Harlesden town centre area
- Engage with the community, building trust between police, as well as engaging with local stakeholders and partner agencies, such as Brent Council.

From our inception to January 2024, Harlesden has been successful in many of our goals, working in partnership with the local community and partner agencies.

The address Santafe Hall, 202 High Street, NW10 4SY has come to police attention for suspected drug dealing. Police executed a drugs warrant at these premises on 17th November 2023, finding drugs in the premises and arresting persons for possession with Intent to Supply Class A. Since this is an ongoing police investigation, I am unable to release more details.

The courts authorised a full closure order on Santafe Hall, 202 High Street, NW10 4SY because of being involved in criminality on 28/12/2023 for 3 months.

There are further reports linked to Santafe Hall, 202 High Street, NW10 4SY, in police indices, such as a fight by the premises on 3rd December. There are further reports in police indices but may not be suitable to disclose in an open forum.

High Street Harlesden is a vibrant multi-cultural community, which has long been plagued by crime and ASB. There is a small number of wrongdoers, engaging in crime / ASB, affecting the lives of the large majority of law-abiding citizens who call this area of London home. Business such as Santafe Hall, bring crime and ASB into Harlesden.

I honestly believed that allowing Santafe Hall to operate in the Harlesden area, in spite of all the reasonable concerns raised above, would not only undo all police's efforts to make Harlesden a safer area, but would seriously impact the wellbeing of the local community. One more crime in the local area attributable to Santafe Hall's activities, is one crime too many.

Other police officers will represent police's perspective to this committee raising objections to the licence of Santafe Hall. These concerns are mostly due to criminal activity, and the ASB this activity brings. I would like to join my voice to these objections with these statement and argue against the licence of Santafe Hall.

I would beseech this committee to review the evidence, including that provided by the local community, consider the likely negative impact of allowing Santafe Hall to continue to operate in Harlesden: Increased ASB, serious crime, deployment of first responders that could be used elsewhere, local community impact with the disaffection it causes, bad reputation to the area, etc. I honestly do not believe Santafe Hall to be in public interest, those premises should be operated by another organisation that cares for the local stakeholders, not in making money while breaching the law while doing so.

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Cesar Sanguineti Sergeant Harlesden Town Centre Team