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Leeds District Licensing Department

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23rd April 2015

Mr. Patrick Whur
Woods Whur 2014 Ltd
Devonshire House
38, York Place
Leeds
LS1 2ED

cc. Entertainment Licensing Section. Leeds City Council, Civic Hall, Leeds. LS1 1UR

**RE: BAR FIBRE, 168, BRIGGATE, LEEDS, LS1 6LY
APPLICATION TO VARY A PREMISES LICENCE – LICENSING ACT 2003:
POLICE – LETTER OF REPRESENTATION – CUMULATIVE IMPACT POLICY:**

Thank you for submitting your application for the above premises, received at the address above on 27th March 2015.

The application relates to premises which fall within one of the areas of Leeds currently subject to a policy of cumulative impact, as detailed in the present Statement of Licensing Policy 2014-2018, issued by Leeds City Council as the licensing authority.

The area concerned in this particular case is **Area 1 Leeds City Centre**.

Therefore, in line with the current statutory guidance issued by the Secretary of State under Section 182 Licensing Act 2003, West Yorkshire Police make representations based on the cumulative impact policy of the area concerned and highlighted above, where the licensing objectives and particularly the prevention of crime and disorder and prevention of public nuisance objectives, are being adversely affected.

The proposed premises are located in the current red zone in the cumulative impact area. The Council's policy states:

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7.20 “The council will seek to refuse all applications in these red areas on the basis that the impact on the licensing objectives are at such a level that the area cannot support any more premises opening or extending their hours no matter how impressive the concept or application is. The council will only grant applications in the red zone in exceptional cases”, and

7.24 “It is the council’s policy, on receipt of relevant representations, to

- Refuse new and variation applications in the red area
- To seek additional measures for new and variation applications in the amber area
- To seek good quality applications for application in the green area

7.25 “This applies to alcohol led premises such as bars, pubs, and nightclubs, and for premises seeking late night refreshment such as takeaways and late opening restaurants”.

The location of these premises is close to a multitude of licensed premises such as Space nightclub, The Duncan, Hirsts Yard, Mook, McDonalds, Veenoo, Distrikt, Pieminister, all the venues located on Call Lane and the lower end of Briggate, including the very large Mission Nightclub, Queens Court, The Hourglass, and Revolution . It is an alcohol related violent crime hotspot for robbery, assault and theft. The peak time for assaults occurring is from midnight until 05:00. The peak time for robberies is 02:00hrs until 04:30. The peak time for thefts in this area is 23:00 until 03:00. The extensive hours of operation already enjoyed by this venue therefore fall within both the theft and assault peak times.

Extra police resources are deployed to this area on Friday and Saturday evenings, and over Bank Holiday weekends, in an attempt to help reduce the crime and disorder associated with people frequenting the large amount of licensed premises in the immediate area. These crimes/incidents range from thefts and robberies to public order offences, assaults, serious disorder and also sexual offences. An ambulance is also regularly parked at the junction of Briggate/Boar Lane and Duncan Street to help deal with the amount of injuries sustained due to assaults and accidents caused by over intoxication in the Night Time Economy (NTE). This is in an attempt to help reduce the strain which the NTE puts on the Accident & Emergency Department of the NHS.

The saturation of the area is such that determining which venues may bear some responsibility for the issues is practically impossible, and means that they cannot be dealt with by way of review or enforcement meetings. A strong Cumulative Impact Policy is therefore imperative to prevent already existing venues extending their licensable hours, and to prevent further premises licences being granted in that area which would add to the considerable impact already being felt.

Amongst changes which do not appear too contentious, this variation application also seeks to relocate the large toilet area from the second floor to the basement. The basement has never been a licensed area. The second floor is licensed but approximately half of the floor area has been occupied by the toilets. With these gone the licensable area on this floor almost doubles in size, increasing the capacity and consumption area of this floor with the ability to host extra customers in an area of the city already saturated with people visiting the different venues. It should also be noted that there are conditions on the licence which were offered when the second floor was included in the licensed area (2010) which state:

17: The maximum number of persons allowed in the stated areas whilst the licence is in force:

Ground Floor-170

First Floor – 150

Second Floor - 50

141: All fixed seating and loose furniture shown on plan EM/10/001 on the second floor shall not be moved from the second floor without the consent of the Licensing Authority

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There has been no application to remove these conditions.

Having visited the premises today (23rd April 2015) it is obvious that all the alterations applied for have already been made, despite the variation not yet having been granted. Social media sites also suggest that the area on the second floor has been in use since the 2nd April. Three large booths have been added to the second floor (not shown on the plans submitted with this application) and are being marketed as each holding up to 9 people – an increase in capacity of at least twenty seven on this floor if that number is adhered to.

Therefore, in terms of location (RED ZONE) and in terms of applying to vary the premises licence to alter the plans, which increases the capacity of the second floor of the premises, West Yorkshire Police consider that this application implicates the current policy of cumulative impact for Leeds City Centre in the red area, and would rely on the relevant paragraphs of the current Section 182 guidance in making this representation.

West Yorkshire Police are also of the opinion that crime and disorder associated with the venue has reached an unacceptable level over the past six months, including seven offences of Actual Bodily Harm and one allegation of attempt rape amongst other incidents. Further details of the crime and incidents will be supplied prior to any future hearing.

*PC Cath Arkle
Leeds District Licensing Officer
West Yorkshire Police*

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FIBRE GETS A PENTHOUSE

Fibre, on Lower Briggate, has always been one of the top dogs in the city when it comes to nightlife, it has stood the test of time by offering decent music, drinks, atmosphere, and of course its infamous Courtyard parties.

Well Fibre is now literally taking things to the next level with the launch of its exclusive VIP bar, Penthouse. As we here at Leeds City Magazine can often be found propping up the bar at Fibre, we met with owner Terry George and manager Matt Covell to find out more.

As suggested Penthouse is situated on the top floor of Fibre and can be accessed by its grand staircase, with its wrought iron banisters and theatrical draped curtains, it drops a hint of the decadence that awaits upstairs.

The interior of Penthouse wouldn't be out of place in a high-class gentleman's club complimented with a twist, the red brick walls and beamed ceiling add a New York loft feel, and the velvet drapes and dark, sultry, tones bring the luxury. The windowed bookcase that scales to height of the whole building offers views of all levels, and enables the natural light to travel around the floors whilst also being a rather impressive centre piece. Penthouse covers the whole floor space of the Fibre bar and therefore has ample room for its private booths, seating areas, peephole balcony, and the 'head of the table' bar.

What Penthouse will offer is bar away from the Fibre dancefloor but with equally as strong music such as dance, funk, electro and disco, that attracts both a mature, and select, crowd, a place to drink with friends whilst soaking up the lavish, party vibes.

With the exclusivity of Penthouse comes an impressive membership scheme, as well as VIP packages and private booths for up to 9 people, not only will the booth hire cater to your personal needs they also come equipped with USB ports, meaning your phone will avoid running out of battery just as you're taking that perfected night out selfie. Penthouse is also available to hire for private events throughout the week, it can cater for all of your special occasion needs by providing food, drink, and entertainment at your request.

Another appealing element to Penthouse is that you have the freedom to get involved with Fibre, go have a dance, pop into the courtyard party, reapply your lippy in the impressive cellar toilets, and then head back upstairs at your wish.

Penthouse's exclusive VIP launch will be on Thursday 2nd April, and it will be taking bookings for private booth hire from the 3rd April, so get your enquiries in now for our first bank holiday of the year.

For more information or to book a booth go to www.barfibre.com/penthouse.

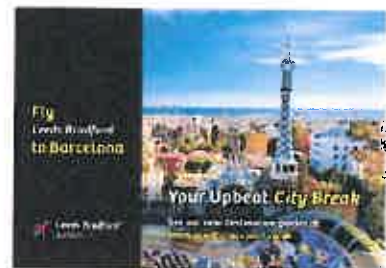
We look forward to seeing you up there!

SHARE! [Tweet 6](#) [Like 46](#) [+1 0](#)

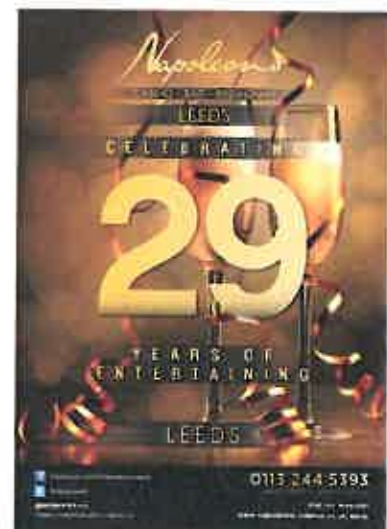
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TRENDING ON THE WEB

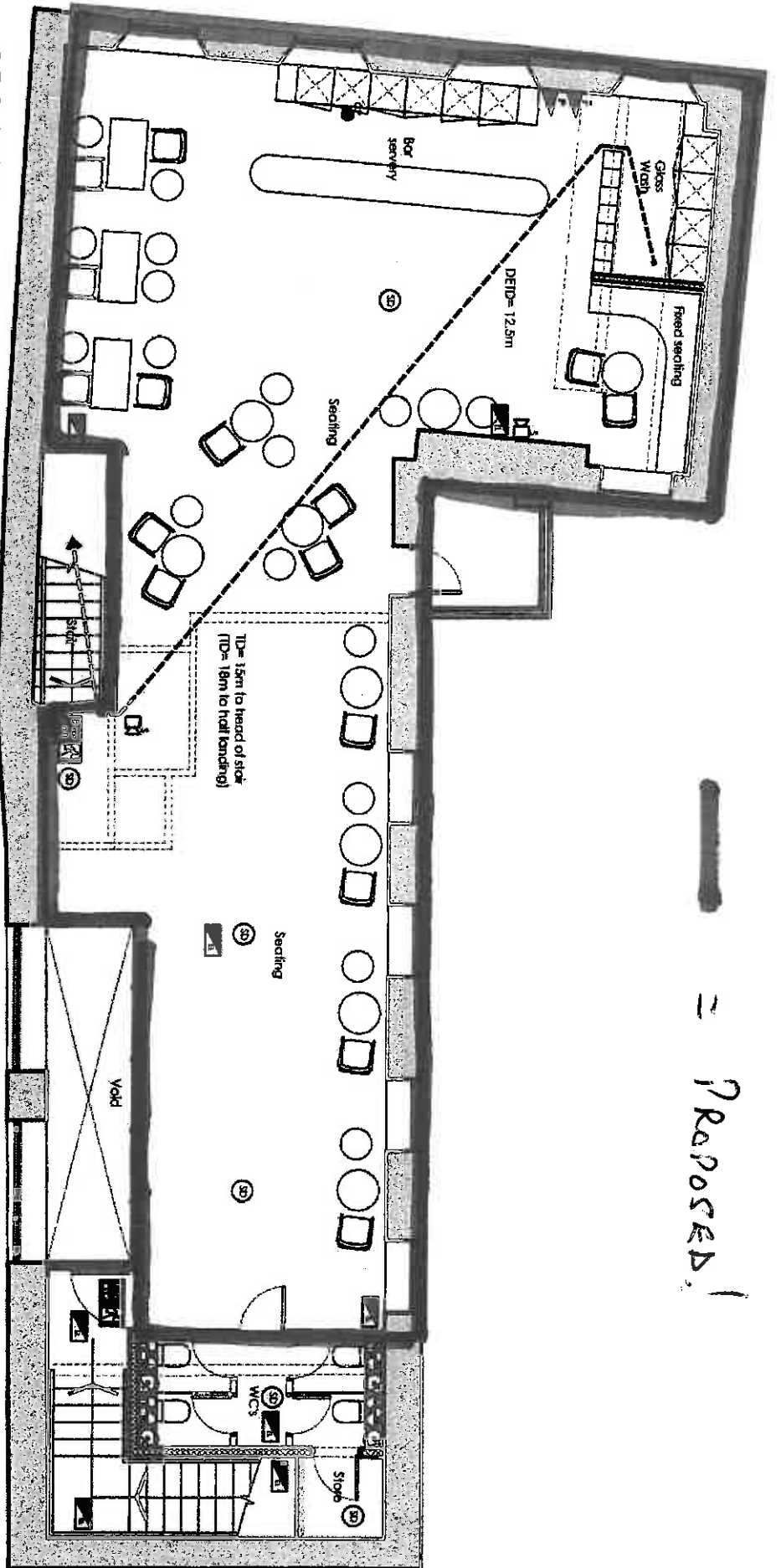
LEEDS BRADFORD AIRPORT



NAPOLEONS LEEDS

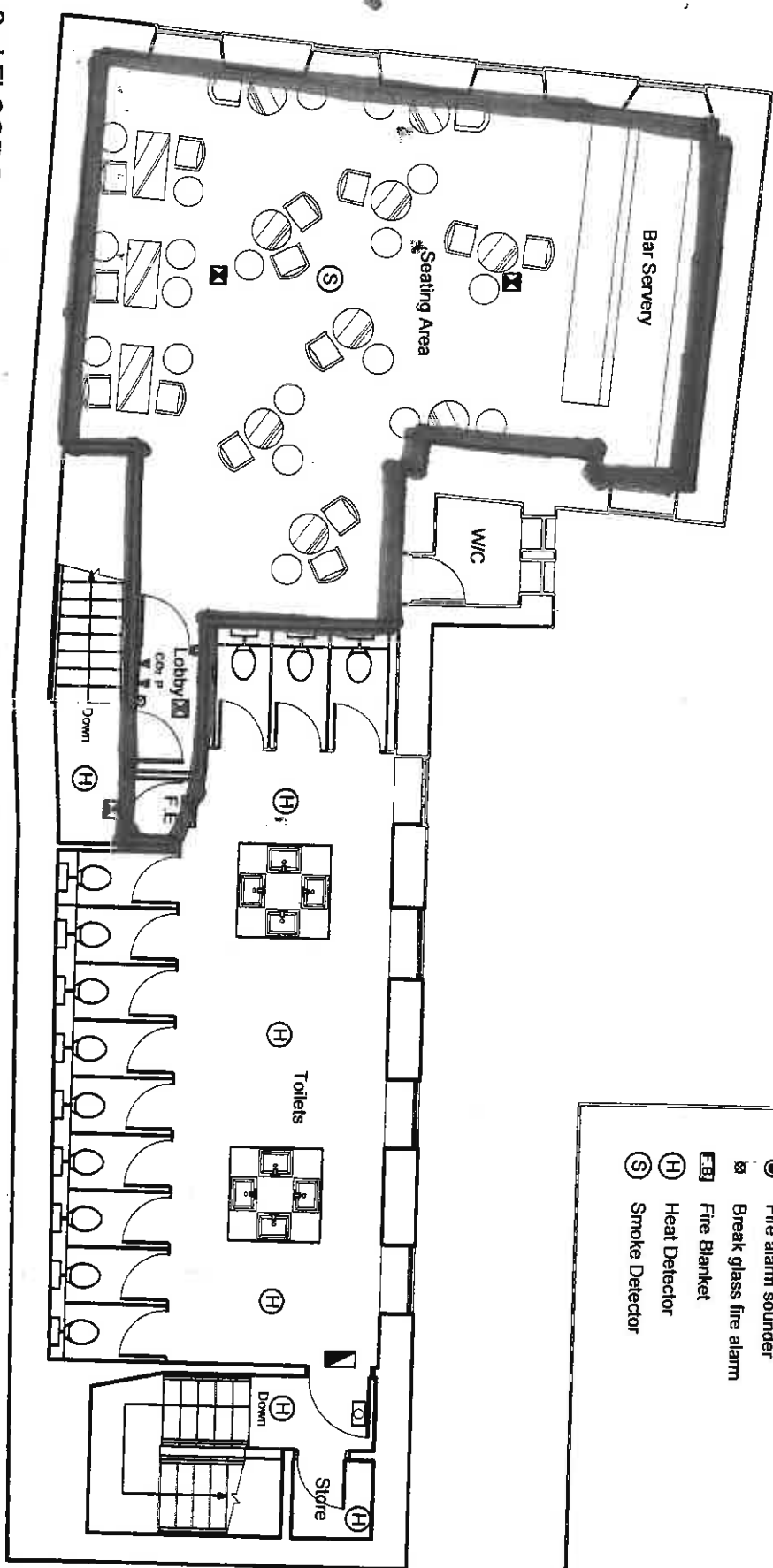


SECOND FLOOR
PLAN



— = Proposed!

2nd FLOOR PLAN @ 1:100



— = Existing

FIRE PRECAUTION LEGENDS

- ▴ Illuminated Emergency Exit Light
- ☒ Emergency Light
- ◻ Wall Mounted Emergency Light
- ◻ CO₂ Carbon Dioxide Fire Extinguisher
- ◻ H₂O Water Fire Extinguisher
- ◻ P 2kg Powder Fire Extinguisher
- ◻ F Foam Fire Extinguisher
- Fire alarm sounder
- ⊠ Break glass fire alarm
- ◻ FB Fire Blanket
- H Heat Detector
- S Smoke Detector

REVISIONS

BAR FIBRE, 168/169 BRIGGATE

Chronology for VARIATION HEARING.

Date	Action/Offence/Intelligence	Outcome/Involved
05/10/2014 03:18hrs	Call from staff requiring assistance with a drunken male who is trying to fight with staff and customers. They have detained him. He has been ejected once but has come back in again. General disorder/drunkenness.	Police attend and transport suspect to hospital for old injury. Suspect in drink. No further action/contact.
19/10/2014 03:38hrs	Male thief detained by door staff. Theft.	Police attend and 2 males arrested.
24/10/2014 02:30hrs	Female complainant is grabbed by neck and thrown to the floor inside the bar by male suspect. Common Assault.	Male arrested at a later date for common assault.
21/11/2014 23:00hrs	Manager finds discarded handbag so checks CCTV and identifies a male and female suspect emptying the bag. He then sees they are still on the premises so calls security to detain them. Male detained and police called. Theft.	Police attend and arrest male suspect. Female arrested later.
30/11/2014 01:00hrs	Female throws water over male suspect after argument. He then throws a glass at her which hits her in the face causing injuries to her eye and the surrounding area. AOABH	Door staff detain male and police attend. Male later arrested, reported for summons and pleaded guilty to assault.
07/12/2014 00:35hrs	Male suspect ejected from premises due to his behaviour. Door staff alert passing police patrol. Drunkenness.	Suspect arrested for drunk and disorderly after refusing to leave the area.

12/12/2014 22:30hrs	2 females attack another female, pulling her to the ground by her hair and kicking her. Fight broken up by door staff, and female and friends ejected. AOABH	Reported to the police but complainants later refuse to co-operate
13/12/2014 00:30hrs	Verbal altercation in smoking area between two different groups. Later, inside both groups clash again and fighting breaks out on the dance floor between some of the women. Door staff eject some of the party. AOABH	Police called and details taken after the event. CCTV does not show enough to attribute criminal responsibility to either party.
13/12/2014 01:42hrs	Male from queue aggressive with door staff. Throws punch which connects with a door man's face. 5 door staff take male to floor and he complains that he has been kicked and punched to the face whilst being detained. AOABH.	Police attend and arrest male being detained for being drunk and disorderly. CCTV from Leeds Watch viewed but due to sheer volume of people cannot see the alleged assault by door staff. Injuries to male's face are consistent with allegation.
14/12/2014 03:36hrs	Call from witness to say that door staff and 8 persons are fighting down a side street.	No persons making any allegations on police attendance.
01/01/2015 02:00hrs	Police officers witness male throwing punches at door staff outside the bar. Male has been ejected for earlier argument inside. Public Order.	Arrested and received community resolution for public order offence.
14/01/2015 03:00hrs	Attempt rape by a male on a male in toilets. Sexual Offence.	Still under investigation.

18/01/2015 01:40hrs	Officers note altercation with door staff outside. Manager states that 2 males have been found in a toilet cubicle together and have been ejected. Drunkenness.	1 male continues to behave in disorderly manner and is arrested for drunk and disorderly.
31/01/2015 04:30hrs	Fight spills out of Bar Fibre and complainant who is walking by is knocked unconscious by 2 suspects. Bar's CCTV shows rear of suspect's head. AOABH	Suspect cannot be identified.
31/01/2015 18:38hrs	Report of female being hit by door staff. People have been ejected from bar and are in the road. Drunkenness.	Police attend and find heavily intoxicated woman who has been ejected.
22/02/2015 23:00hrs	Female assaulted by another female who has thrown a drink at her and spat at her. She has dragged her to the floor by her hair. Ejected by door staff. Common Assault.	Police contacted the next day. No CCTV covering incident and no names of door staff involved.
04/04/2015 00:00hrs	Work colleagues have argument and one punches the other in the face. Suspect is ejected. AOABH	Suspect given conditional caution after being traced by police at later date.
05/04/15 01:48hrs	Female calls police stating drugs are being dealt in the bar. Drunkenness.	Police attend. Door staff state they have just ejected very drunk female. Suspected to be false report re drugs.
06/04/2015 20:00hrs	Verbal argument ensues in bar between 2 males. Suspect picks up glass and strikes victim over the head with it – possibly male partners. Suspect detained. AOABH	Suspect arrested. CCTV shows full offence. Offence still being investigated.
11/04/2015 20:10	Drink thrown by a female on to another female after argument over a chair. This started a physical fight inside the premises between 4 people. All parties ejected. AOABH	Incident still being investigated.

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