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11<sup>th</sup> April 2017

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

#### RE: 5, BRIGGATE, LEEDS, LS14AF APPLICATION FOR A NEW PREMISES LICENCE – LICENSING ACT 2003: <u>POLICE – LETTER OF REPRESENTATION – CUMULATIVE IMPACT POLICY:</u>

Thank you for submitting your application for the above premises, received at the address above on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

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 (CIP) 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 <u>red zone</u> in the cumulative impact area. The Council's policy states:

7.20 "The council will seek to refuse <u>all applications in these red areas</u> 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. <u>The council will only grant</u> <u>applications in the red zone in exceptional cases</u>", and

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7.24 "It is the council's policy, on receipt of relevant representations, to

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

7.25 "This applies to alcohol led premises such as bars, pubs, and nightclubs, <u>and for premises seeking</u> <u>late night refreshment such as takeaways</u> and late opening restaurants".

The location of these premises is in very close proximity to a multitude of other licensed premises in this area. It is an alcohol related violent crime hotspot for robbery, assault and theft. The peak time for crime is between midnight and 05:00 hrs. The majority of hours of operation applied for by the applicant, 23:00 until 04:00 Mon to Sat, and 23:00 until 02:00 on a Sunday, therefore fall right in to these peak times.

The latest analysis of crime data provided to Leeds City Council upon which the Cumulative Impact Policy is based shows that the Briggate/Call Lane area has experienced a 17% rise in reported crime since the last review of crime statistics a year ago. The peak times for crime in the Night Time Economy have also extended to 05:00hrs from 04:00hrs, and assaults and thefts have risen. The highest concentration of offences in the city remains in this area, and has slightly extended compared with the previous 12 months. The area is not improving – it is deteriorating – and this is the area where the applicant wishes to open a new business.

The measures offered to promote the licensing objectives are scant and suggest that the applicant has little or no idea of the issues in this area of the city after midnight. They certainly do not convince me that the granting of a premises licence would not undermine the licensing objectives.

Extra police resources have to be 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

Therefore, in terms of location (RED ZONE), and in terms of applying for a new premises licence to provide late night refreshment from 23:00 until 04:00, West Yorkshire Police consider that this application implicates the current policy of cumulative impact for Leeds City Centre in the red area, and advise that it be refused, unless the presiding Sub-Committee are convinced that the grant of this licence will not negatively impact on the cumulative impact of existing licensed premises in the area.

PC Cath Arkle Leeds District Licensing Officer West Yorkshire Police

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