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Our reference: PREM/01574/005
7 September 2012

Dear Sir/Madam

Licensing Act 2003

Name of Premises: Smokestack

Address: First, Second And Third Floors, 159A, Lower Briggate, Leeds, LS1 6LY

Thank you for submitting your application for the above premises.

The application premises are located on Lower Briggate in Leeds city centre. It is in an area of mixed use with many other bars, restaurants and offices in the nearby vicinity but is also in close proximity to residential accommodation with Regents Court to the rear. The premises are located in Cumulative Impact Policy area.

There is a long history of noise complaints from loud music concerning this premises that date back to 2005 affecting residents at Regents Court. In 2008 there were 7 complaints and it was identified that there was noise breakout through the roof. A sound insulation scheme was then carried out which appeared to address those complaints. Although complaints were still received in 2009, 2011 and two complaints this year we have been unable to witness any noise nuisance from this premises since 2008.

This application proposes to vary their licence on three issues: -

1. To remove conditions 118, 220 and 221 and replace it with an alternative. This is not relevant to public nuisance so I have no comments to make.
2. To alter the layout of the first and second floors in accordance with the plans submitted. I have examined the plans and do not feel there will be any adverse impact to public nuisance from the proposed change of layout.
3. To permit licensable activities (including late night refreshment) until 3am Sunday to Thursday.

The extra hours applied for Sunday to Thursday allowing licensable activities until 03:00 hours and the club to open until 03:30 hours are likely to give rise to public nuisance from loud music and the noise of large numbers of patrons all leaving at a later closing time having a cumulative impact on the area at that time.

Therefore, in view of the above circumstances and that the premise is in a Cumulative Impact Area, this Department fully objects to the application being granted.

Yours faithfully

Mrs. Vanessa Holroyd
Senior Environmental Health Officer