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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

LICENSING SUB COMMITTEE – 1ST OCTOBER 2024

AGENDA ITEM 7 - Application for the grant of a premises licence for Blayds Bar 3 - 5
Blayds Yard, Leeds, LS1 4AD

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Petition details Comments



Grant a new Premises License to Save Blayds Bar from Closure

Started 25 September 2024


2,643
Signatures

5,000
Next Goal

 186 people signed today

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Why this petition matters

Started by 

[Media inquiries](#)

Blayds Bar, one of the oldest LGBT+ bars in Leeds, West Yorkshire, UK, is under significant threat of closure unless a new premises licence is granted by the council.

Currently, the council's licensing team has objected to the application from Blayds Bar, citing concerns over alcohol-related crime and disorder in the area despite Leeds City Council receiving 47 letters of support. The venue is within the council's "red zone" which is subject to tougher licensing rules.

In a letter to the applicant, the council said: "The area in which the site sits is recognised as an area suffering from the density of licensed premises.

In an economy already suffering from the effects of austerity and tightened purses, we don't believe restrictions placed on a venue generating income and aiding the night time economy are in any way beneficial. We do not feel that this venue - which has already been here for over 20 years - is causing any "suffering" as it is not adding to the density of venues. Patrons report there being a lack of trouble at the venue, and feeling safe there.

Its potential closure stands to adversely affect numerous stakeholders, including staff who face job loss, suppliers whose businesses depend on the bar's operation, and the local community that uses its space on the first floor for events and meetings (something that is very hard to find in Leeds for free).

As LGBT+ hate crime is on the rise, it is critical venues such as Blayds Bar continue to offer safe spaces for the community.

<https://www.statista.com/chart/30011/hate-crimes-against-lgbtq-people-in-england-and-wales/>

<https://www.stonewall.org.uk/about-us/news/new-data-rise-hate-crime-against-lgbtq-people-continues-stonewall-slams-uk-gov>

 **186 people** signed today

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...ing, supporting the local economy, and maintaining a diverse and inclusive community, where those of minority genders and sexualities feel safe. Sign this petition and show your

support for Blayds Bar, its employees, and the wider community it serves in West Yorkshire.

We think this quote from one of our community sums up why Blayds Bar is so important. "When I moved to Call Lane in 2008 and ventured out to Blayds on my own. Duncan and his partner made me feel so welcome there and I was always grateful to them for that."

Licence application Number: PREM/05387/001

Details in the press

<https://www.yorkshirepost.co.uk/business/blayds-bar-city-centre-bar-could-be-refused-licence-despite-almost-50-customers-in-support-of-application-4794058>

Important dates

01/10/24. Meeting with licensing sub-group, 10am Civic Hall, Leeds, LS1 1UR. MEETING IS PUBLIC. ANYONE CAN ATTEND



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Media inquiries

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Reasons for signing



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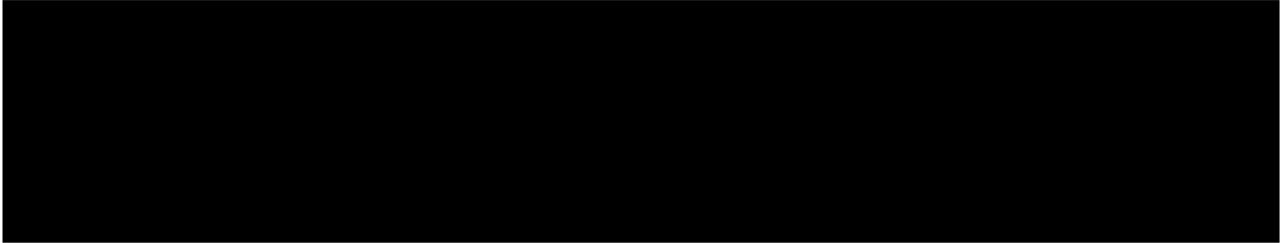
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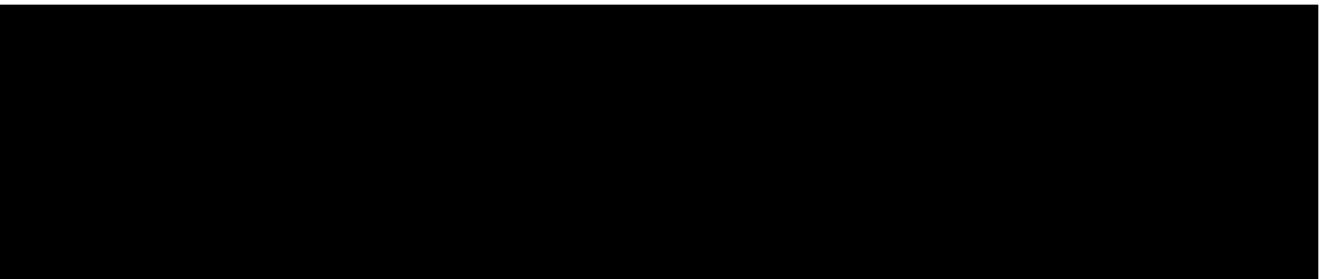
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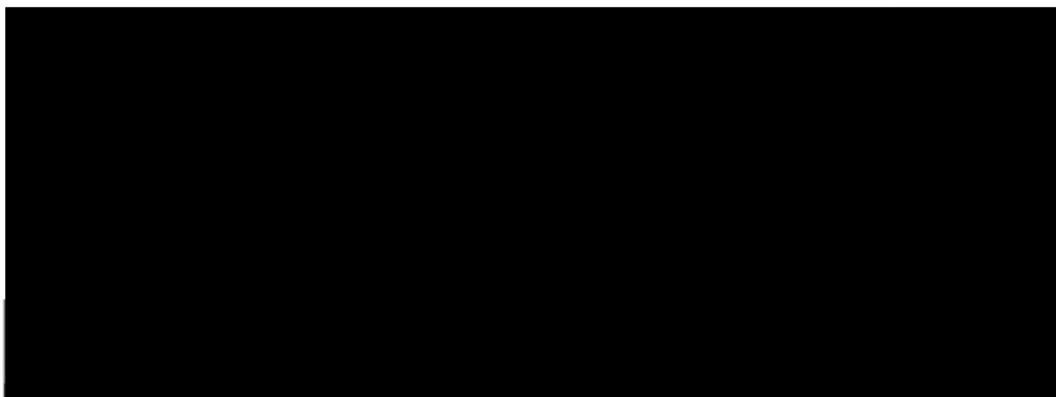
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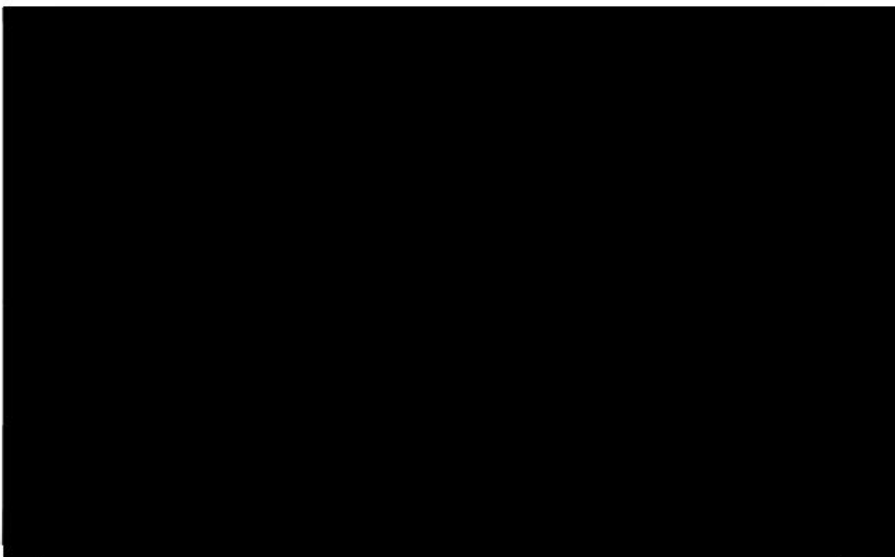
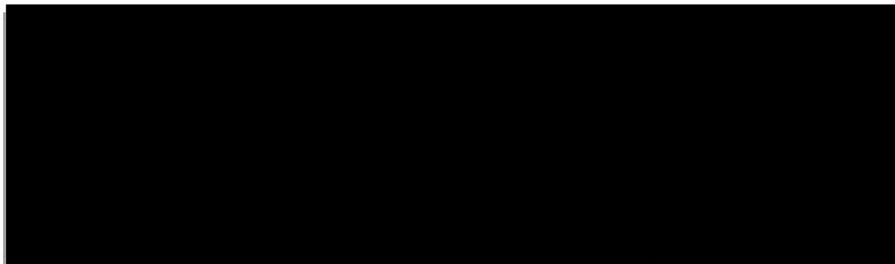
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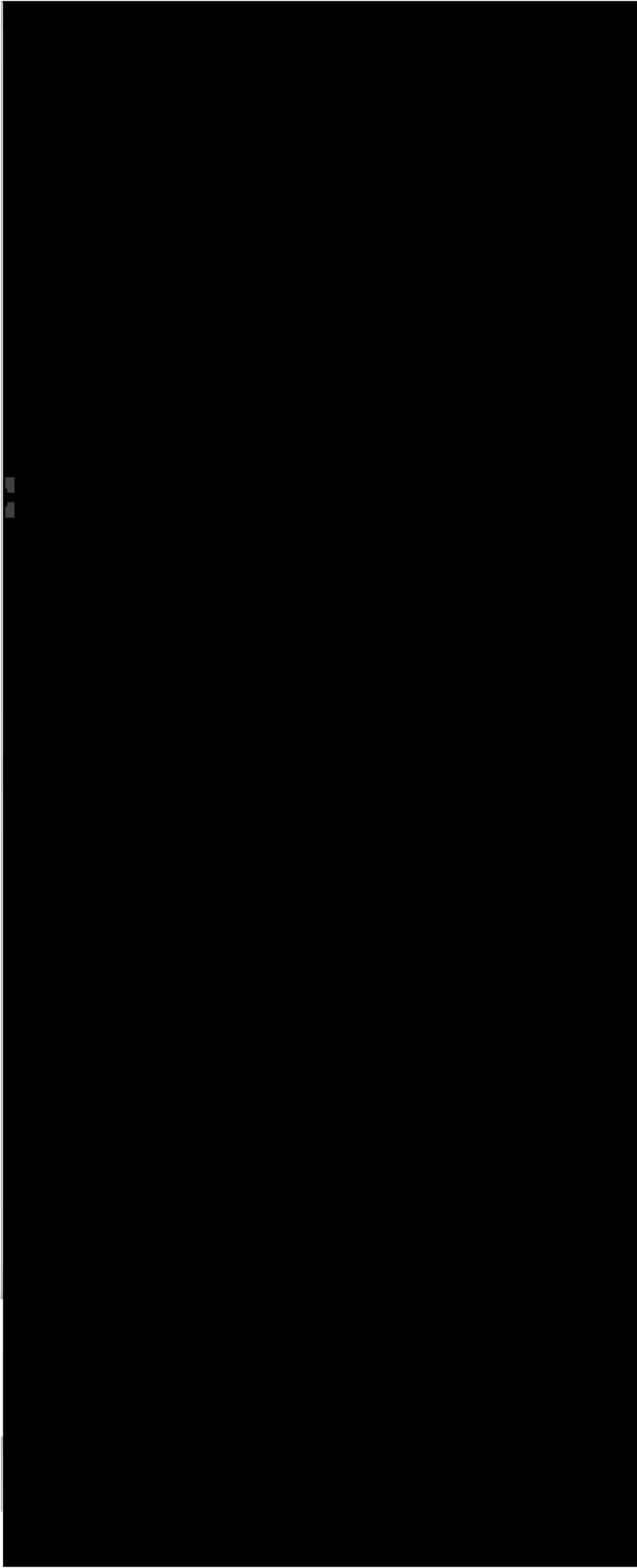
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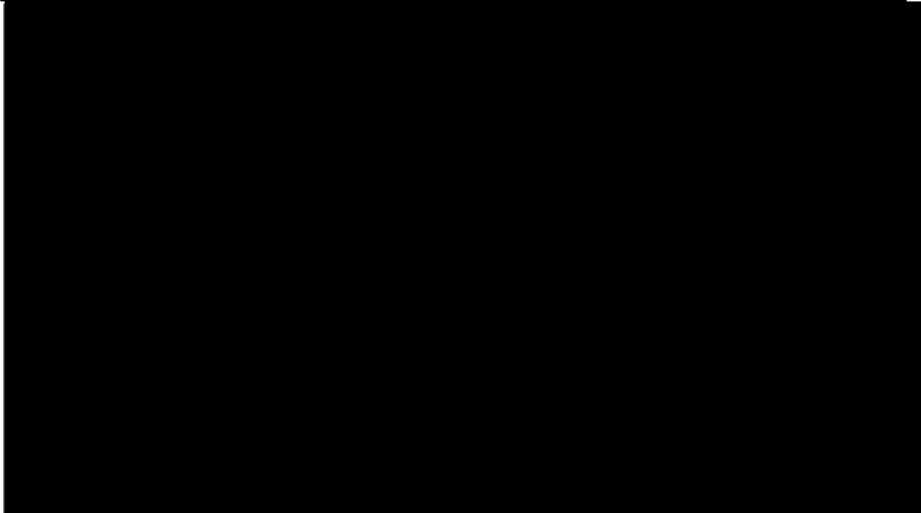
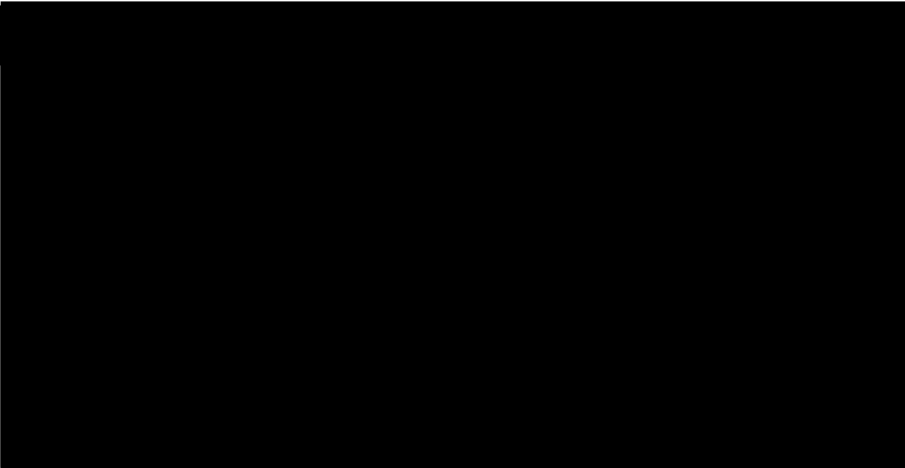


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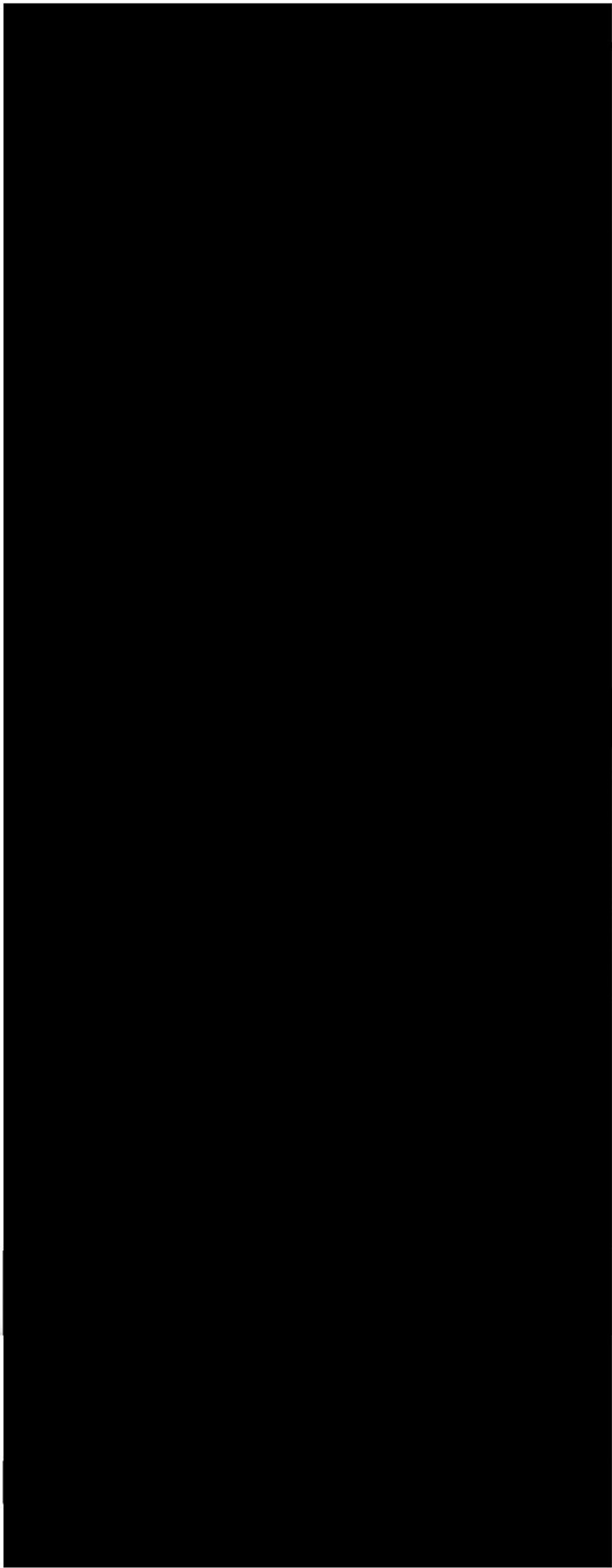




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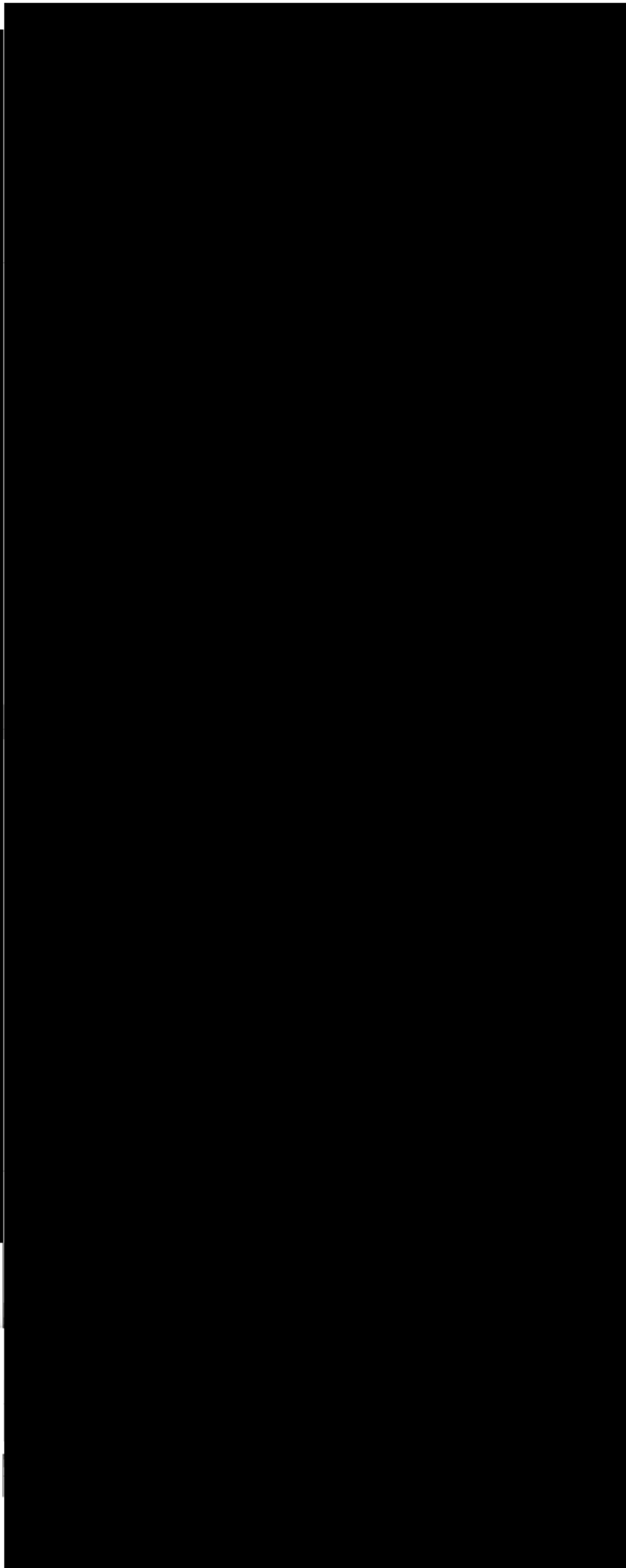


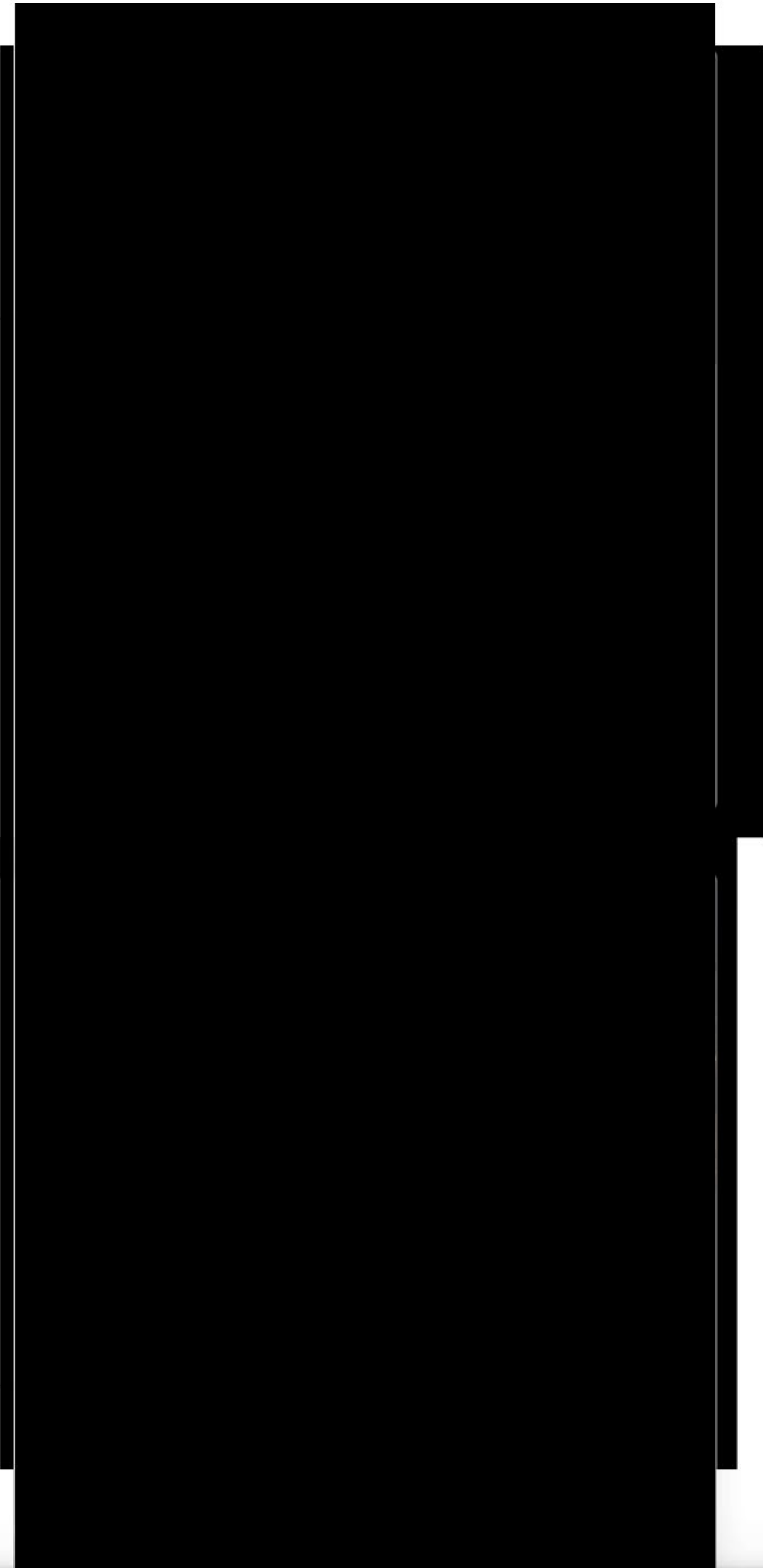
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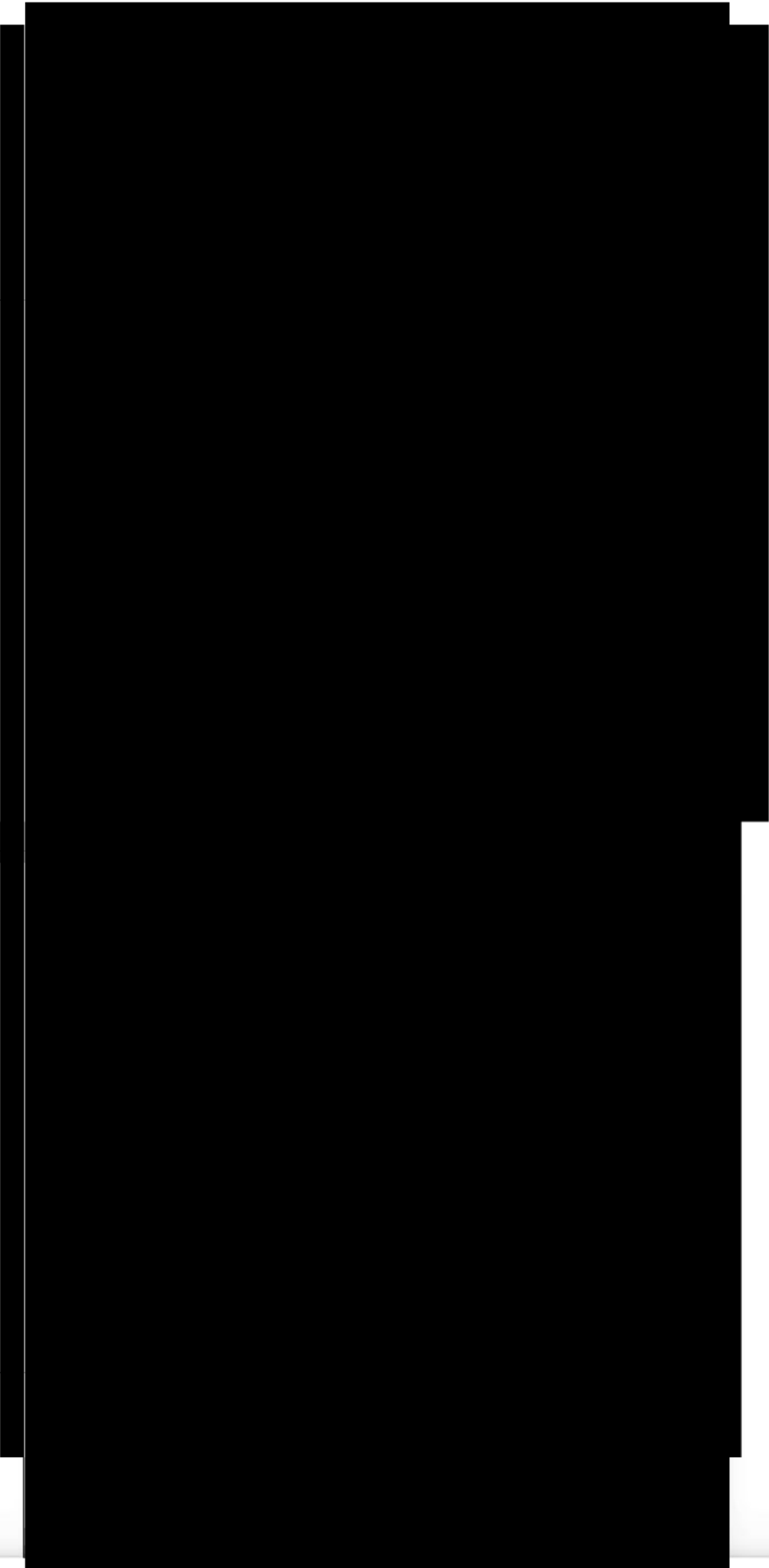
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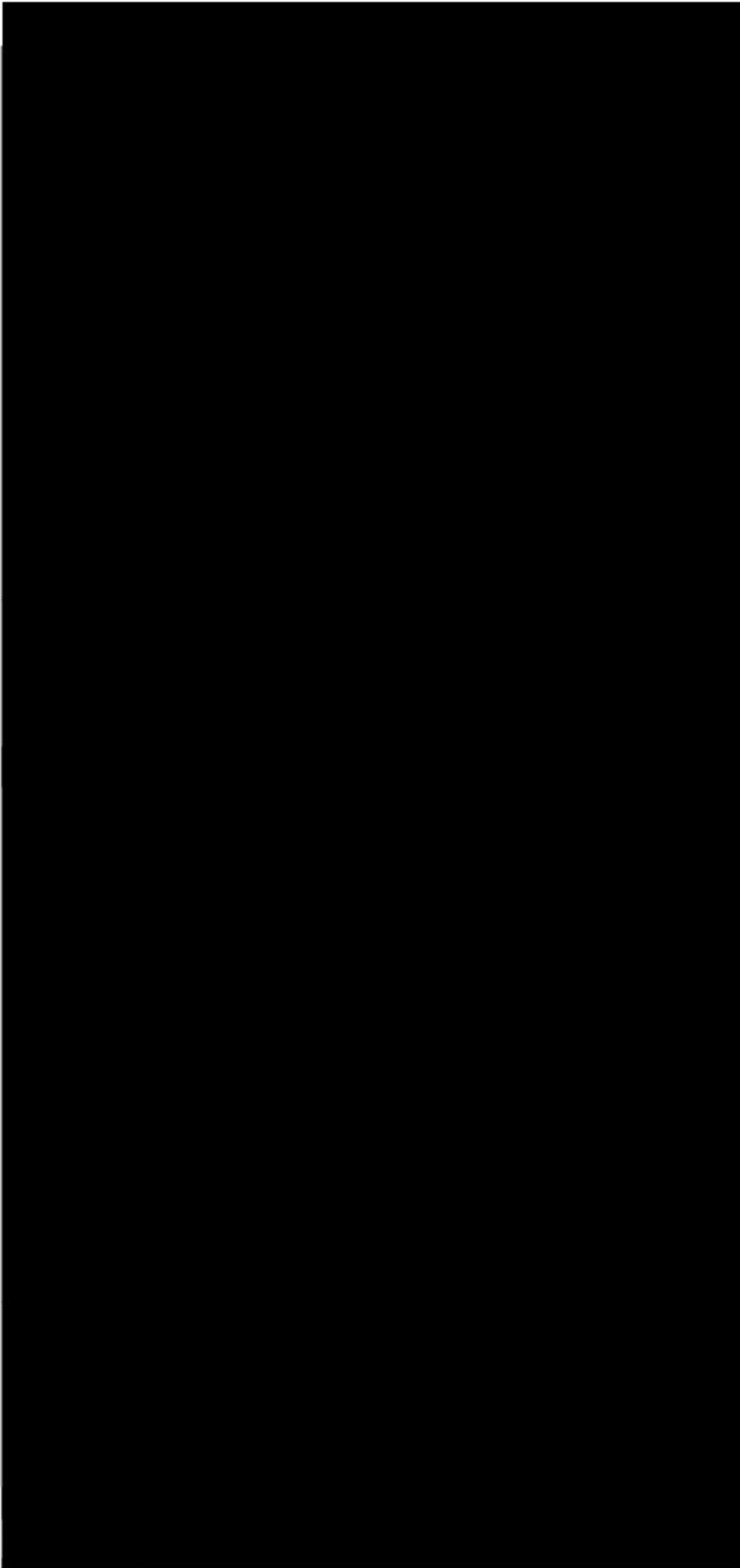


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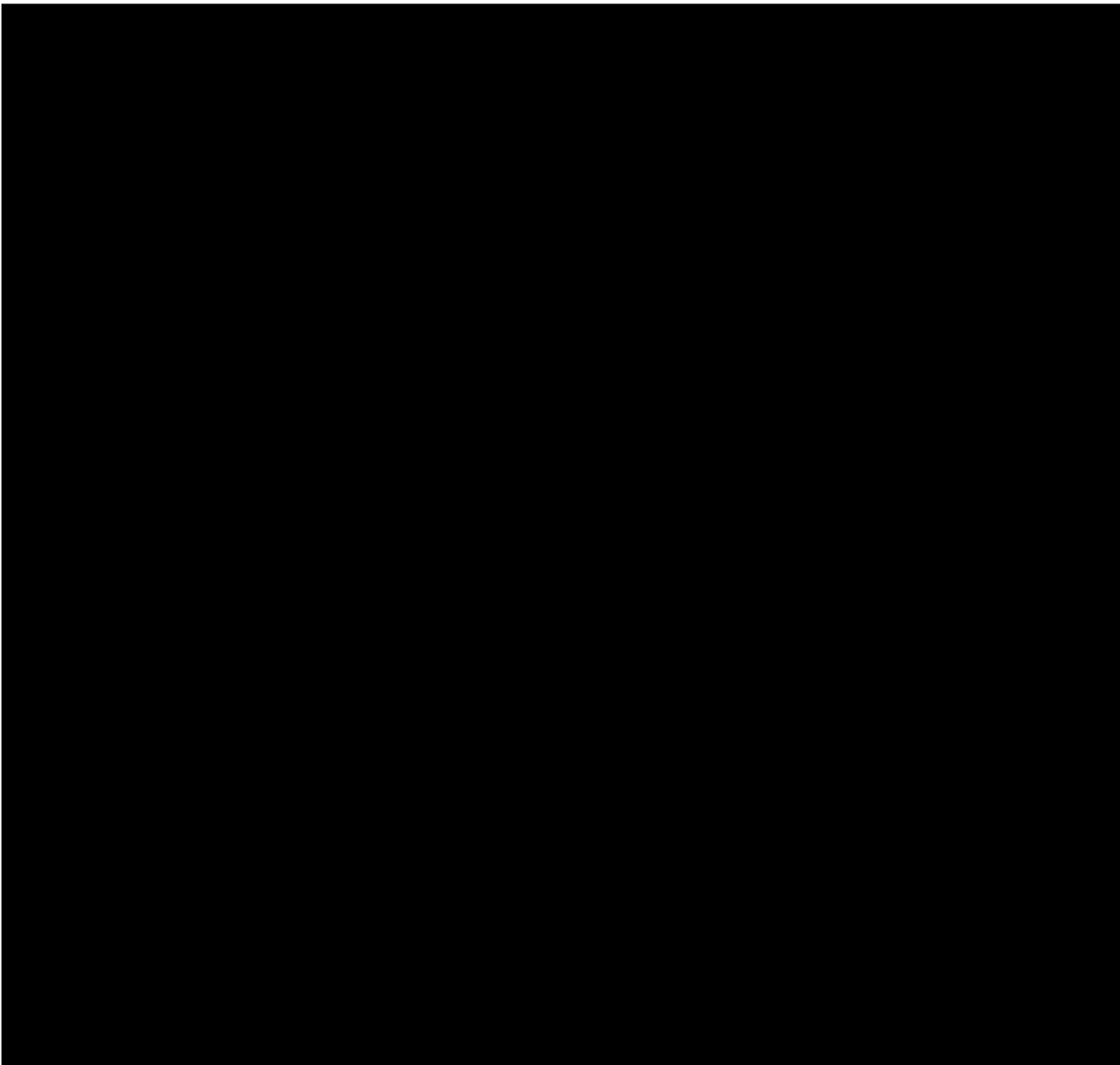
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**BAGGED TRADE
FINANCE**

Business

Blayds Bar: City centre bar could be refused licence despite almost 50 customers in support of application

By Don Mort



Comment

Published 23rd Sep 2024, 17:40 BST



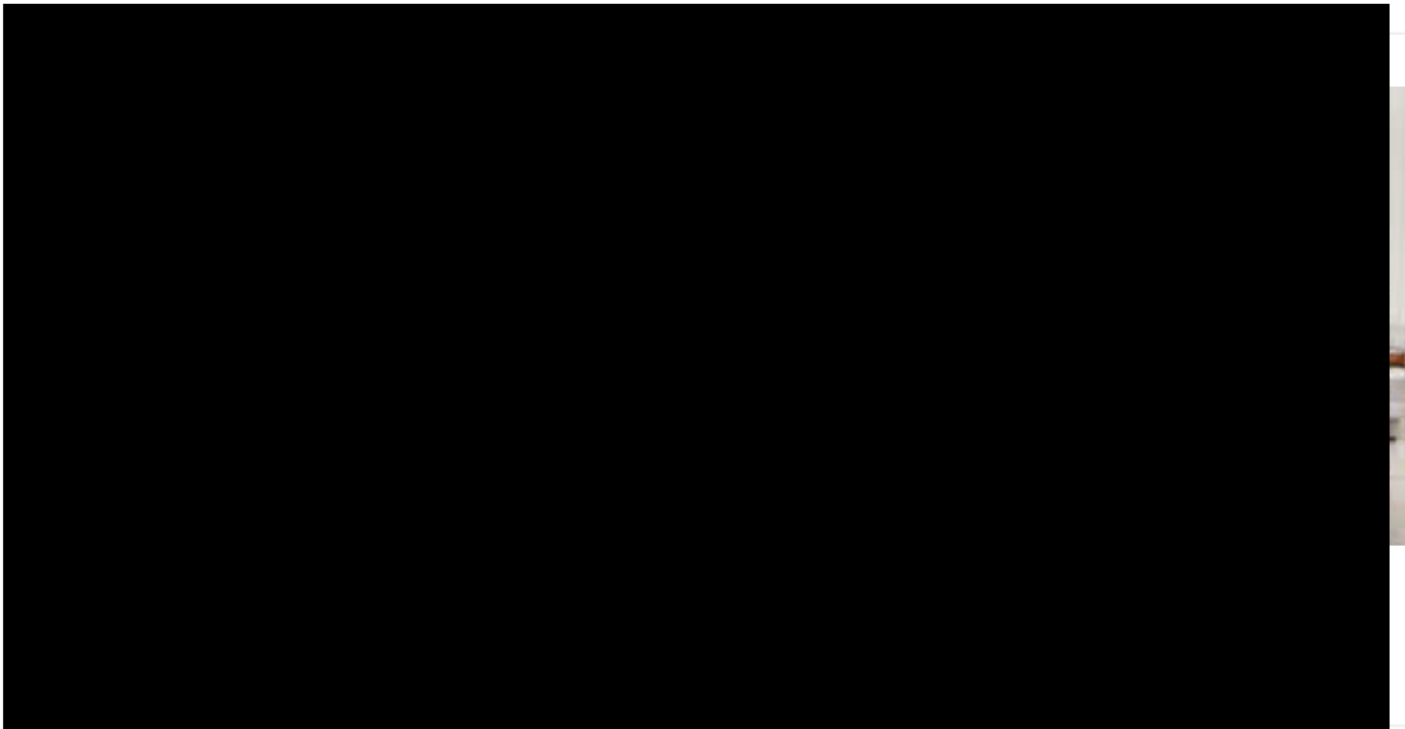
A city centre bar could be refused a new premises licence despite dozens of customers voicing their support.

The council's licensing team has objected to an application from Blayds Bar, citing concerns over alcohol-related crime and disorder in the area.

The premises, in Blayds Yard off Lower Briggate, held a licence which lapsed when the company running it was wound up.

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Leeds City Council has received 47 letters of support for a new premises licence application from Duncan McCallum.





Blayds Bar is a community centre, Pilsbury, London.

But it could be turned down because the bar is in a council-designated "red zone" which is subject to tough licensing rules.

In a letter to the applicant, the council said: "The area in which the premises sits is recognised as an area suffering from the density of licensed premises.

"These issues are generally related to the high levels of people, in drink, who use this area late at night.

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"These problems cannot be attributed to one specific premises."

The licence would allow alcohol sales until 1am, Monday to Saturday, and 12.30am on Sundays.

A separate public objection letter said people living nearby would suffer noise and mess caused by outside drinkers.

It said: "The tenants pay their council taxes and expect a peaceful life without such disturbance, and they have a human right to expect this."

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