

## Licensing Sub-Committee

Tuesday, 13th June, 2023

**PRESENT:** Councillor A Hutchison in the Chair

Councillors L Farley and D Seary

### **1 Election of the Chair**

**RESOLVED** – That Councillor A Hutchison be elected as Chair for the meeting.

### **2 Appeals Against Refusal of Inspection of Documents**

There were no appeals.

### **3 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public**

There was no exempt information.

### **4 Late Items**

There were no late items.

### **5 Declaration of Interests**

There were no declarations.

### **6 Certification of Films – African Arts Festival 2023, Cinema Africa**

The report of the Chief Officer, Elections and Regulatory presented an application for the certification of three films to be shown at Hyde Park Picture House as part of the Leeds International African Arts Festival 2023, Cinema Africa between 11 and 14 July 2023.

A synopsis of each of the films was outlined in an appendix to the report along with comments from the licensing officer. Members of the Sub-Committee had viewed the films prior to the meeting.

The following certifications were proposed:

- Air Conditioner – 12
- Money, Freedom, A Story of CFA Franc – PG
- This is Not a Burial, It's a Resurrection – 15

**RESOLVED** – That the following films be classified as follows:

- Air Conditioner – 12
- Money, Freedom, A Story of CFA Franc – PG
- This is Not a Burial, It's a Resurrection – 15

### **7 Application for the Renewal of a Sex Establishment Licence for Whiskey Down, First & Second Floors, 25 Crown Street, Leeds, LS2 7DA**

The report of the Chief Officer Elections and Regulatory requested Member's consideration for the renewal of a sex establishment licence for the provision of sexual entertainment in the form of lap dancing. The application was made by Tokyo

Industries Ultimate Limited for a premises to operate under the name of Whiskey Down, First and Second Floors, 25 Crown Street, Leeds, LS2 7DA.

Marcus Bentley, General Manager of Whiskey Down was in attendance.

The Legal Officer outlined the procedure for the meeting. It was noted that there had been no objections to the application.

The Licensing Officer provided the following information:

- A copy of the licence was appended to the submitted report at Appendix A
- The hours of operation are:
  - 22.00hrs until 04.00hrs Sunday to Thursday
  - 22.00hrs until 05.00hrs Friday and Saturday
- A copy of the redacted application was attached at Appendix B
- Additional documents supplied with the application were appended at Appendix C and included:
  - Dancers Welfare Policy
  - Dancers Code of Conduct
  - Customers Code of Conduct
  - Pricing Policy
- Members were also requested to consider the external appearance and all methods of advertising. Attached at Appendix D were images showing the external appearance of the premises.
- A map showing the location of the premises was attached at Appendix E.
- Standard Conditions as set out in the current policy were appended to the submitted report at Appendix G

Mr Bentley was invited to address the Sub-Committee. He informed them that this was the fourth renewal and there had not been any objections. Tokyo Industries operated at 55 venues worldwide. There had not been any issues relating to the operation of the premises or welfare of performers since the last renewal. The performers were considered to be the most important part of the premises operation and there had been additional work with them to provide further support in their welfare pack.

In response to questions from the Sub-Committee, the following was discussed:

- Additions to the welfare pack included further information with regards to support, insurance and trade union representation. This had been done following comments from the Police and the Council. Copies of the welfare pack were available to view at the premises and also sent to performers by e-mail.
- There had only been routine visits by the Police. CCTV footage had been checked. There had been no further feedback.
- There had not been a need to report any incidents at the premises though there had been a need to eject customers on occasion. Full accident and incident records were maintained.

Members of the Sub-Committee were pleased to hear that amendments had been made to the welfare pack.

**RESOLVED** – That the application for renewal be granted.