

Licensing Sub-Committee

Tuesday, 19th November, 2019

PRESENT: Councillor J Lennox in the Chair

Councillors P Drinkwater and P Wray

1 Election of the Chair

RESOLVED - That Councillor J Lennox be elected to the Chair for the duration of the meeting.

2 Appeals Against Refusal of Inspection of Documents

There were no appeals against refusal of inspection of documents.

3 Exempt Information - Possible Exclusion of the Press and Public

There were no exempt items.

4 Late Items

There were no formal late items.

5 Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests.

6 Application for the Renewal of a Sex Establishment Licence for Liberte, 10 York Place, Leeds, LS1 2DS

The report of the Chief Officer, Elections and Regulatory set out an application for the renewal of a sex establishment licence for Liberte, 10 York Place, Leeds, LS1 2DS.

The report outlined that:

- The application was made by TRL Promotions Limited to operate under the name Liberte;
- The hours of operation are:
22:00hrs until 04:00hrs Sunday to Thursday
22:00hrs until 05:00hrs Friday and Saturday;
- The ground floor and basement level are to be covered under the provisions of the licence;
- The application had not attracted any objections.

The following were in attendance for this item:

- Bianca Haruta, Proposed Licence Holder
- Luke Elford, Licence Holders Agent

The Licence Holder's Agent spoke to the Sub-Committee in regard to the renewal of the licence, informing the Members that there had been no changes to the layout of the premise nor in the way the establishment advertised. The Sub Committee were reminded that there had been no objections from responsible authorities and members of the public, and on that basis, Members were asked to grant the renewal of the licence.

The Sub Committee carefully considered all the information presented to them both within the agenda pack and information supplied at the hearing and

RESOLVED – To grant the renewal of the licence as applied for.

7 Application for the Renewal and Variation of a Sex Establishment Licence for Purple Door, 5 York Place, Leeds, LS1 2DR

The report of the Chief Officer Elections and Regulatory requested Members consideration on the renewal and variation of a sex establishment licence for the provision of sexual entertainment in the form of lap dancing. The variation aspect of the application proposed to extend the terminal opening times by an additional hour each day.

The report outlined that:

- The application was made by Ruby May (2) Limited to operate under the name Purple Door;
- The application was for the renewal of the sex establishment licence for the ground floor and basement level at the premises;
- The current hours of operation are:
22:00hrs until 04:00hrs Sunday to Thursday
22:00hrs until 05:00hrs Friday and Saturday;
- The proposed hours of operation:
22:00hrs until 05:00hrs Sunday to Thursday
22:00hrs until 06:00hrs Sunday to Thursday;
- The premises have held a licence for the provision of regulated entertainment and the sale of alcohol since 24th November 2005;
- No objections had been received from local authorities nor members of the public.

The following were in attendance for this item:

- Sarah Smith, Licence Holder's Agent
- Nicholas Quadrini, Managing Director
- Carl Copeland, Manager

The Licence Holder's Agent spoke to the Sub-Committee in regard to the renewal of the licence and the variation application, informing the Members of the following points:

- Purple Door is the longest established Sexual Entertainment venue having opened in 1998;
- The premises have successfully renewed its licence every year since 2012;
- There had been no change to the premises since the previous renewal, and the external appearance remained the same;
- The welfare and protecting the safety of the dancers remained a priority;
- There had been no changes to the locality of the area, being predominantly commercial use, with few residential buildings;
- There had been no objections raised by local authorities nor members of the public;

- Reduced hours had been accepted in 2012 as part of the review, and following this there had been an impact on profitability;
- The addition of the hour sought would not have a negative impact on the surrounding area, and with 14 years' trouble-free trading this was believed to provide historical evidence;
- The premises was a small venue, and the maximum capacity would hold approximately 40 people;
- Between the early hours of 4-5am, only a dozen or so people attended at this time;
- The VIP rooms had been used from 4.30am onwards by customers, but due to the current operating hours, this did not enable customers to fulfil a full hour – this resulted in a demand from customers for the later closing time.
- A dispersal policy ensures that the premises offer taxi services to its customers.

The Sub Committee carefully considered all of the information presented to them both within the agenda pack and information supplied at the hearing and

RESOLVED –

- a) To grant the renewal of the licence and;
- b) To refuse the addition of the extra terminal hour. Members were not persuaded to depart from the Council's Policy and acknowledged that within the locality, the streets would be increasingly used during early hours of the morning by members of the public. Therefore, the extra hour was not granted.

(The hearing concluded at 10:50)