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Leeds District Licensing Dept.

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27th August 2024

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

cc. [REDACTED], Eri Red Sea, 97 Roundhay Road, Leeds, LS8 5AQ

RE: Eri Red Sea, 97 Roundhay Road, Leeds, LS8 5AQ

**APPLICATION FOR A VARIATION TO A PREMISES LICENCE – LICENSING ACT 2003:
POLICE – LETTER OF REPRESENTATION – “FULL” OBJECTION – HAREHILLS CIA**

West Yorkshire Police received an application for a variation to the existing premises licence for the above premises on the 1st August 2024.

The application relates to a premises which falls within an area of Leeds currently subject to an assessment of cumulative impact, as detailed in the present Statement of Licensing Policy 2023-2025, issued by Leeds City Council as the licensing authority.

West Yorkshire Police make representations to the application based on the cumulative impact assessment (CIA) for Harehills.

The full details of the Harehills CIA can be found within the current ‘2023-2025 Statement of Licensing Policy’ of Leeds City Council. Harehills is an area suffering from anti social behaviour and alcohol related crime perpetrated by people purchasing alcohol in the CIA zone and then remaining in the area to drink it. The policy states it would be inconsistent with the council’s duty to promote the licensing objectives to grant new and variation applications for any premises licence which seeks off sales of alcohol.

Leeds City Council’s Statement of Licensing Policy 2023-2027 states;

***“The council has assessed crime statistics for the area known as Harehills and has determined that there is an area that is suffering from the cumulative impact of off-licensed premises and consequently this is leading to problems which are undermining the licensing objectives.*”**

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Specifically the area around Harehills Road and Harehills Lane is particularly suffering from the cumulative impact of too many off licences.”

Harehills is being blighted by alcohol related ASB, crime and street drinking. Many street drinkers attend this area of Harehills due to the high concentration of off-licences where alcohol is readily available.

The associated ASB and crime related to street drinking alone is public urination/defecation, littering, arguments and fights breaking out between groups, loitering down side-streets causing intimidation and foul language. Not all of these incidents are reported to the Police.

This application wishes to amend the existing licence to supply alcohol for consumption ‘off’ the premises from 7am up to 3am on Monday to Thursday, and for 7am to 5am Friday to Sunday. It cannot be envisaged how these hours of trading would not add to the issues of alcohol related crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour. I have concerns about the type of client and target market the premises will be serving to during the periods when the new hours will be in operation.

In the decision notice for the original application (which West Yorkshire Police objected to), the committee granted the application with significantly reduced hours of operation which the committee commented was a way to maintain the licensing objectives and alleviate concerns about its proximity to the Archway Centre. These concerns are still valid and applicable.

To quote again from the Statement of Licensing Policy 2023-2027;

“It would be inconsistent with the council’s duty to promote the licensing objectives to grant new and variation application for any premises licence which seeks off sales and late night refreshment to operate during the peak hours described in the cumulative impact assessment for Harehills.”

The applicant has failed to show how the increased hours applied for would not add to the cumulative impact of this type of premises on the area.

West Yorkshire Police are in agreement with Leeds City Council that to grant a variation to an existing premises licence for increased hours, would not be consistent with the licensing objectives and would contribute negatively to the cumulative impact of similar businesses in the area.

Therefore, West Yorkshire Police consider that this application would not be appropriate due to the current policy of cumulative impact for Harehills and make this representation to promote the licensing objectives.

PC [REDACTED] Neil Haywood

Leeds District Licensing Officer
East and Outer South

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