Public Document Pack

Licensing Sub-Committee

Monday 16 May 2016 at 10.00 am

To be held at the Town Hall, Pinstone Street, Sheffield, S1 2HH

The Press and Public are Welcome to Attend

Membership

Councillors David Barker (Chair), Jack Clarkson and Dianne Hurst
Josie Paszek (Reserve)

Sheffield City Council

PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE MEETING

The Licensing Committee carries out a statutory licensing role, including licensing for taxis and public entertainment.

As a lot of the work of this Committee deals with individual cases, some meetings may not be open to members of the public.

Recording is allowed at Licensing Committee meetings under the direction of the Chair of the meeting. Please see the website or contact Democratic Services for details of the Council's protocol on audio/visual recording and photography at council meetings.

A copy of the agenda and reports is available on the Council's website at www.sheffield.gov.uk. You can also see the reports to be discussed at the meeting if you call at the First Point Reception, Town Hall, Pinstone Street entrance. The Reception is open between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm, Monday to Thursday and between 9.00 am and 4.45 pm. on Friday.

You may not be allowed to see some reports because they contain confidential information. These items are usually marked * on the agenda.

If you require any further information please contact Harry Clarke on 0114 273 6183 or email harry.clarke@sheffield.gov.uk.

FACILITIES

There are public toilets available, with wheelchair access, on the ground floor of the Town Hall. Induction loop facilities are available in meeting rooms.

Access for people with mobility difficulties can be obtained through the ramp on the side to the main Town Hall entrance.

LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE AGENDA
16 MAY 2016

Order of Business

1. **Welcome and Housekeeping Arrangements**

2. **Apologies for Absence**

3. **Exclusion of Public and Press**
   To identify items where resolutions may be moved to exclude the press and public

4. **Declarations of Interest**
   Members to declare any interests they have in the business to be considered at the meeting

5. **Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 (as amended) - Sexual Entertainment Venues - Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield S1 2BS**
   Report of the Chief Licensing Officer

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ADVICE TO MEMBERS ON DECLARING INTERESTS AT MEETINGS

If you are present at a meeting of the Council, of its executive or any committee of the executive, or of any committee, sub-committee, joint committee, or joint sub-committee of the authority, and you have a **Disclosable Pecuniary Interest** (DPI) relating to any business that will be considered at the meeting, you must not:

- participate in any discussion of the business at the meeting, or if you become aware of your Disclosable Pecuniary Interest during the meeting, participate further in any discussion of the business, or
- participate in any vote or further vote taken on the matter at the meeting.

These prohibitions apply to any form of participation, including speaking as a member of the public.

You **must**:

- leave the room (in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct)
- make a verbal declaration of the existence and nature of any DPI at any meeting at which you are present at which an item of business which affects or relates to the subject matter of that interest is under consideration, at or before the consideration of the item of business or as soon as the interest becomes apparent.
- declare it to the meeting and notify the Council's Monitoring Officer within 28 days, if the DPI is not already registered.

If you have any of the following pecuniary interests, they are your **disclosable pecuniary interests** under the new national rules. You have a pecuniary interest if you, or your spouse or civil partner, have a pecuniary interest.

- Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain, which you, or your spouse or civil partner undertakes.

- Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from your council or authority) made or provided within the relevant period* in respect of any expenses incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.

  *The relevant period is the 12 months ending on the day when you tell the Monitoring Officer about your disclosable pecuniary interests.

- Any contract which is made between you, or your spouse or your civil partner (or a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest) and your council or authority –

  - under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and
  - which has not been fully discharged.

- Any beneficial interest in land which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, have and which is within the area of your council or authority.

- Any licence (alone or jointly with others) which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, holds to occupy land in the area of your council or authority for a month or longer.

- Any tenancy where (to your knowledge) –
  - the landlord is your council or authority; and
  - the tenant is a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest.

- Any beneficial interest which you, or your spouse or your civil partner has in securities of a body where -

  (a) that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of your council or authority; and

  (b) either -
    - the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or
    - if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

If you attend a meeting at which any item of business is to be considered and you are aware that you have a **personal interest** in the matter which does not amount to a DPI, you must make verbal declaration of the existence and nature of that interest at or before the consideration of the item of business or as soon as the interest becomes apparent. You should leave the room if your continued presence is incompatible with the 7 Principles of Public Life (selflessness; integrity; objectivity; accountability; openness; honesty; and leadership).

You have a personal interest where –

- a decision in relation to that business might reasonably be regarded as affecting the well-being or financial standing (including interests in land and easements over land) of you or a member of your family or a person or an organisation with whom you have a close association to a greater extent than it would affect the majority of the Council Tax payers, ratepayers or inhabitants of the ward or electoral area for which you have been elected or otherwise of the Authority's administrative area, or

- it relates to or is likely to affect any of the interests that are defined as DPIs but are in respect of a member of your family (other than a partner) or a person with whom you have a close association.

Guidance on declarations of interest, incorporating regulations published by the Government in relation to Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, has been circulated to you previously.

You should identify any potential interest you may have relating to business to be considered at the meeting. This will help you and anyone that you ask for advice to fully consider all the circumstances before deciding what action you should take.

In certain circumstances the Council may grant a **dispensation** to permit a Member to take part in the business of the Authority even if the member has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest relating to that business.

To obtain a dispensation, you must write to the Monitoring Officer at least 48 hours before the meeting in question, explaining why a dispensation is sought and desirable, and specifying the period of time for which it is sought. The Monitoring Officer may consult with the Independent Person or the Council's Standards Committee in relation to a request for dispensation.

Further advice can be obtained from Gillian Duckworth, Director of Legal and Governance on 0114 2734018 or email gillian.duckworth@sheffield.gov.uk.

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SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL
Licensing Sub Committee Report

Report of:	Steve Lonnia Chief Licensing Officer, Head of Licensing
Date:	Monday 16th May 2016 at 10:00 a.m.
Subject:	**Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield**
Author of Report:	Matt Proctor – 273 4264
Summary:	To consider an application for the renewal of a sexual entertainment licence in accordance with Schedule 3 of the Local Government Miscellaneous Provisions Act 1982 (as amended)
Recommendations:	That Members note the content of the report, any further information supplied and make a renewal decision based on the evidence.
Background Papers:	Attached to this report.
Category of Report:	OPEN

REPORT OF THE CHIEF LICENSING OFFICER, HEAD OF LICENSING, TO THE LICENSING SUB COMMITTEE **Ref No 35 / 16**

Schedule 3 of the Local Government Miscellaneous Provisions Act 1982 (as amended) - Sexual Entertainment Venues

Premises – Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield, S1 2BS

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To consider an application for the renewal of a sexual entertainment venue licence made under Schedule 3, Section 10, of the Local Government Miscellaneous Provisions Act 1982.

2.0 THE APPLICATION

2.1 The applicant is Sonfield Developments Limited.

2.2 The application was received on 11th March 2016 and is attached to this report labelled Appendix 'A'. Copies of photographs of the venue submitted as part of the application are available for inspection at todays hearing.

3.0 REASONS FOR REFERRAL

3.1 Objections concerning the application have been received from the following:-

a)	Interested parties - Objectors (70)	Appendix 'B'
b)	Interested parties – Supporters (4)	Appendix 'C'

4.0 FURTHER INFORMATION

4.1 A copy of the current Sexual Entertainment Venue Licence for Spearmint Rhino is attached at Appendix 'D'. This includes any applicable conditions. The applicant has not requested to add any further conditions or to amend the conditions currently attached to the licence.

4.2 The hearing will be held in two parts in accordance with the hearing procedure;

4.3 Objections will be heard in part one of the hearing.

4.4 The applicant will be invited to present the application in part two of the hearing.

4.5 Copies of the invites sent to the applicant and interested parties are attached to this report labelled Appendix 'E'.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no specific financial implications arising from this application. However, additional costs may be incurred should the matter go to appeal. In such an eventuality it may not be possible to recover all these costs. The impact of these additional costs (if any) will be kept under review and may be subject of a further report during the year.

6.0 THE LEGAL POSITION

6.1 Section 27 of the Policing and Crime Act 2009 amends Paragraph 2A of Schedule 3 of the Local Government Miscellaneous Provision Act 1982 and introduces a new category of sex establishments called "sexual entertainment venues" which allows licensing authorities to regulate lap dancing clubs and similar venues.

6.2 Sheffield City Council has adopted the Sexual Entertainment Venue Provisions under Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provision) Act 1982 as amended by Section 27 of the Policing & Crime Act 2009 so as to have effect as from the 1st May, 2011, in relation to the whole of the Sheffield City Council area for the purposes of regulating premises deemed to be sexual entertainment venues.

6.3 Section 27 of the Policing and Crime Act 2009 amends Schedule 3 to the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 and reclassifies lap dancing clubs as sexual entertainment venues and gives local authorities in England and Wales the power to regulate such venues.

6.4 For the purposes of these new provisions "sexual entertainment venue" is defined as:

"any premises at which relevant entertainment is provided before a live audience for the financial gain of the organiser or the entertainer".

6.5 The meaning of "relevant entertainment" is defined as;

"any live performance or live display of nudity which is of such a nature that, ignoring financial gain, it must reasonably be assumed to be provided solely or principally for the purpose of sexually stimulating any member of an audience (whether by verbal or other means)".

6.6 The Licensing Authority will have regard to the Home Office Guidance when exercising its functions in order to promote best practice and consistency across England and Wales.

7.0 HEARINGS REGULATIONS

7.1 The hearing procedure is set out in Schedule 3 of the Local Government Miscellaneous Provisions Act 1982 at Section 10. A copy of the hearing procedure is attached at Appendix 'F'.

8.0 APPEALS

8.1 In the event that an application for the grant, renewal or transfer of a sexual entertainment venue licence is refused, the applicant may appeal to the Magistrates' Court within 21 days of receiving notification of the decision.

If the application is refused on paragraph (c) or (d) of the discretionary grounds specified in Appendix 'G', there is no right of appeal.

There is no statutory right of appeal for objectors where an application is granted.

9.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 That Members carefully consider the application and / or any objections made and take such steps as the Committee consider necessary for the promotion of the Council's Sexual Entertainment Venue Policy and with regard to the Home Office Guidance.

10.0 OPTIONS OPEN TO THE COMMITTEE

10.1 To renew the sexual entertainment venue licence in the terms requested.

10.2 To renew the sexual entertainment venue licence, with additional or amended conditions.

10.3 To defer the application.

10.4 To refuse the whole or part of the application.

Stephen Lonnia
Chief Licensing Officer
Head of Licensing
Business Strategy and Regulation
Place Portfolio
Block C, Staniforth Road Depot
Sheffield S9 3HD

16th May 2016

Appendix A

The Application

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 1982

SEXUAL ENTERTAINMENT VENUE APPLICATIONS

Application for the Renewal of a Sexual Entertainment Venue Licence

Licensing Service
Place Portfolio
Block C, Staniforth Road Depot
Staniforth Road
SHEFFIELD
S9 3HD

Telephone Number: 0114 273 4264
Fax Number: 0114 273 5410

Or visit our website: www.sheffield.gov.uk
Or email us at: general.licensing@sheffield.gov.uk

Opening Times

Monday to Friday 10:00am to 4:00pm

Sheffield *where everyone matters*

Sheffield City Council

SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL
Schedule 3, Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982

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Application for Renewal of a Sexual Entertainment Venue Licence

Notes to Applicant:
All questions must be answered unless otherwise stated.
If relevant questions are not answered, the application will be deemed incomplete and returned to the Applicant.

I / WE HEREBY APPLY to the Sheffield City Council for the renewal of a licence to use a premises as a Sexual Entertainment Venue.

A. THE APPLICANT

Q1	Is the Applicant:			
	a.	An individual?	[ ]	**Answer question 2**
	b.	A company or other corporate body?	[X]	**Answer question 3 & 4**
	c.	A partnership or other unincorporated body?	[ ]	**Answer question 5**

Q2	Answer only where the applicant is an individual.	
	Full Name of the Applicant	
	Applicants permanent private address	
	Occupation (during preceding six months).	
	Telephone No.	
		You need to complete Annex A. Now go to question 5

Q3	Answer only if the Applicant is a company or other corporate body.	
	Full Name of the Applicant	**SONFIELD DEVLEOPMENTS LIMITED**
	Applicant's trading address	**60 BROWN STREET, SHEFFIELD, S1 2BS**
	Applicant's registered address (if different)?	**C/O 161 TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD, LONDON W1T 7NN**

	What is the registered number of the Applicant?	04315210
	Has the Applicant previously been known by any other name, and if so, what?	NO

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	What are the full names of the Directors and Company Secretary?	**KATHY JoANN VERCHER** **JOHN ROBERT SPECHT** **SPEARMINT RHINO SECRETARIAL SERVICES LIMITED**
	Are any persons responsible for the management of the Applicant other than the Directors and Company Secretary? If so, state their names	Yes [ ] No [x]
	For all persons with a shareholding greater than 10% in the Applicant state the names, and registered address where it is a body corporate of all persons and their percentage shareholding at the date of application.	**SPEARMINT RHINO VENTURES (UK) LIMITED** **C/O 161 TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD, LONDON W1T 7NN**
	For any body corporate with a shareholding holding greater than 10% in the Applicant, state the names of its Directors and Company Secretary.	**KATHY JoANN VERCHER** **JOHN ROBERT SPECHT**
All individuals named above need to complete Annex A. Now go to question 5		

Q4	**Answer only if the Applicant is a partnership or other unincorporated body:**	
	Full Name of the Applicant	
	Applicants trading address	
	What are the names, of the Applicants Partners?	
	Are there persons responsible for the management of the Applicant other than the Partners? If so, state their names.	
	Has the Applicant previously been known by any other name, and if so, what?	
All individuals named above need to complete Annex A. Now go to question 6		

Q5	Will the business for which a licence is sought be managed by or carried on for the benefit of a person other than those already mentioned in answer to Q2 to Q4 above. This includes third parties such as funders and suppliers where the arrangements are not on normal arms length commercial terms or any persons who may share in the profits.	Yes [ ] No [x]

	If the answer is yes, state their name(s). If a body corporate body, state their place of registration and registered number, and the name(s), of all Directors, the Company Secretary and those with a greater than 10% shareholding.	

All individuals named above need to complete Annex A. Now go to question 6

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Q6	Has any body corporate or unincorporated named in Q3 to Q5 above:		
•	Ever been convicted of a criminal offence, issued with a caution, or bound over to be of good behavior?	Yes [ ]	No [x]
•	Ever had a grant or renewal application for a sex shop, sex cinema or sexual entertainment venue licence refused or such licence revoked?	Yes [ ]	No [x]
•	Ever been the subject of insolvency proceedings?	Yes [ ]	No [x]
•	If Yes please provide full details including dates (this can be done on a separate piece of paper).		

Note: Question 6 does not apply to individuals as they are required to answer similar questions in Annex A.

Q7	Does the Applicant have a trading name different from that given in answer 2, 3 or 4 above? If so, state the trading name.	**SPEARMINT RHINO**

Q8	Does the Applicant operate any other sex shop, sex cinema or sexual entertainment venue in Sheffield whether licensed or not?	Yes [ ]	No [X]
	If so, state the name, address and type(s) of sex establishment (e.g. sex shop, sex cinema, sexual entertainment venue).		

Notes to Applicant:

Each of the individuals named in Questions 2, 3, 4 and 5 must complete a copy of the form attached at Annex A to this application.

These form part of the application and must be submitted with this application. If not, the application will not be regarded as complete and will not be processed.
It will be rejected if not made complete within seven working days of receipt.

B. THE PREMISES, VEHICLE, VESSEL OR STALL

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Q9	Is this application in respect of:	Premises Vehicle Vessel Stall	[x] Go to Question 11 [ ] [ ] [ ]

Q10	**Answer only where the application is for a vehicle, vessel or stall**	
	Give a description and state all locations where the vehicle / vessel / stall is proposed to be located during use as a sexual entertainment venue. If moving please describe the route to be taken and any places where it will be stationary.	
		Now go to question 12

Q11	Postal address of premises: **SPEARMINT RHINO** **60 BROWN STREET**	
	Post Town: **SHEFFIELD**	Postcode: **S1 2BS**
	Telephone Number:	Email Address: **receptionuk@spearmintrhino.com**

For Q12 to Q17 reference to premises should be taken to include vehicle, vessel or stall as appropriate.

Q12	Is the whole of the premises to be used as a sexual entertainment venue?		Yes [X] No [ ]
	If not, state the use of the remainder of the premises		
	State the names of those who are responsible for the management of the remainder of the premises		

Q13	State the nature of the Applicant's interest in the premises.	a. b. c.	Owner Lessee Sub-lessee	[ ] [X] [ ]
	If the Applicant is a lessee or sub-lessee, state:			
	(i) the name and address of the landlord	**Keith Wilson** **Katsuri** **Location Petia Paphos, Cyprus**		

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	(ii) the name and address of the superior landlord (if any)	
	(iii) the amount of the annual rental	**£165,000**
	(iv) the length of the unexpired term	**10 years**
	(v) the length of notice required to terminate the tenancy	**Not less than 6 months**

Q14	State the current use of the premises	**SEXUAL ENTERTAINMENT VENUE**
	Is there planning permission for the premises (or any site where a vehicle, vessel or stall is to be placed) which covers use as a sexual entertainment venue?	Yes [X] No [ ]
	If so, state the date of the planning permission	**07/01/2002**
	If not, state whether and why the use as a sexual entertainment venue is lawful, e.g. because there is a certificate of lawful use, give full details.	

Q15	Are the premises licensed under any other Act, e.g. the Licensing Act 2003?	Yes [X] No [ ]
	Provide full details: (i) Legislation	Licensing Act 2003
	(ii) Premises Licence Holder	**SONFIELD DEVELOPMENTS LIMITED**
	(iii) Designated Premises Supervisor	**PETER MERCER**
	(iv) Licence number	**SY 0971 PR**
	Does the Applicant intend to obtain or vary a licence under any other Act?	Yes [ ] No [X]
	Provide full details: (i) Legislation	
	(ii) Type of application	
	(iii) Licence number	

Q16	Is customer access to the premises:	Directly from the street or a public thoroughfare? [X]
		From other premises? [ ] Please provide details:

	Is each customer access from the street to be supervised at all times the premises are open to the public?	Yes [X] No [ ] If the answer is No give full details of proposed door controls and supervision:

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Q17	Are the premises, so constructed or adapted and laid out as to permit access to, from and within the premises (including WC facilities) for members of the public who are disabled?	Yes [X] No [ ] If the answer is No give full details of proposals for affording such access:

Q18	Are the premises being used as a sex shop, sex cinema or sexual entertainment venue at the date of this application?	Yes [X] No [ ]
	If the answer is Yes, state the name and address of the body or person now operating the business.	Name: **SONFIELD DEVELOPMENTS LIMITED**
		Address: **C/O 161 TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD, LONDON W1T 7NN**

C. MANAGEMENT OF THE BUSINESS

Q19	State the identity of the person who will be primarily responsible for the day to day management of the business at the premises.	Name: **PETER MERCER – GENERAL MANAGER**
	Will that person be based at the premises and will the management of the business there will be his/her sole and exclusive occupation.	Yes X] No [ ]
	Which person(s) will be responsible for the day to day management of the business in the absence of the person named above.	Name: **MICHAEL DAVID GOODWIN (MANAGER)**

		Name: **ANDREW FOSTER (REGIONAL MANAGER)**
	Confirm that the relief manager(s) or one of them will be based at the premises full time in the absence of the Manager.	Yes [X] No [ ]
You should ensure that any person listed in this question is also included in Q2 to Q5 above as appropriate.		

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Q20	State all times at which the premises will be used as a Sexual Entertainment Venue			
	Day	Start	Finish	Please give further details here:
	Mon	00:00	24:00	
	Tue	00:00	24:00	
	Wed	00:00	24:00	State any seasonal variations:
	Thur	00:00	24:00	
	Fri	00:00	24:00	Non-standard timings. Where you intend to use the premises at different times from those listed in the column on the left:
	Sat	00:00	24:00	
	Sun	00:00	24:00	

Q21	State proposals in respect of: (A plan of the exterior must be submitted)		
	Exterior Signage	Nature:	**1. SIGN ABOVE THE FRONT DOOR.** **2. WINDOW SIGN, LOGO AND WEB ADDRESS** **3. SIGN AT SIDE OF BUILDING.**
		Size:	**1. 4FT BY 9FT** **2. 6FT BY 9FT** **3. 2FT BY 7FT**

		Images:	**PHOTOS PROVIDED**
		Copy Supplied:	Yes [X] No [ ]
	Advertising	Nature:	**EVENTS BOARD NEXT TO FRONT DOOR**
		Size:	**A1/A2**
		Images:	**PHOTO**
		Copy Supplied:	Yes [X] No [ ]
	Window Displays	Nature:	**SEE ABOVE**
		Size:	
		Images:	
		Copy Supplied:	Yes [X] No [ ]

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Q21	State any proposals for solicitation or advertisement of business in public areas (in doing so you should take account of the Council's Policy and the Standard Terms and Conditions that will apply to the licence if granted) :		
	Fliers	Images:	**FLYERS/VIP PASSES DISTRIBUTED WHERE LAWFUL AND ON DISPLAY IN HOTELS BY AGREEMENT**
		Copy Supplied:	Yes [X] No [ ]
	Business Cards	Images:	**SEE PHOTO**
		Copy Supplied:	Yes [X] No [ ]
	Other	Images:	
		Copy Supplied:	Yes [ ] No [ ]

Q22	What means are to be taken to prevent the interior of the premises being visible to passers-by?	**ENTRANCE FOYER IS VISABLE FROM THE OUTSIDE. NO AREAS WHERE RELEVANT ENTERTAINMENT IS PROVIDED ARE VISIBLE FROM THE**

		OUTSIDE DUE TO THE LOCATION OF THE ROOMS AND WINDOWS BEING BLACKED OUT/BOARDED.

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Q23	State what age restrictions are to be applied in respect of admissions, and how are these to be enforced. In answering, state what forms of identity will be accepted.	**NO- ONE UNDER 18 PERMITTED** **PASSPORT/ DRIVING LICENCE**

Q24	State the arrangements for CCTV and for retention of recordings. In answering, state whether all public areas are to be covered by CCTV at all times the business is open and whether the feed from all cameras will be recorded.	**ALL AREAS OF THE PREMSIES, INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL ARE COVERED BY CCTV, THERE HAVE BEEN NO CHANGES TO THE SYSTEM AND ALL CAMERAS RECORD WHILST THE PREMSIES IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS. RECORDINGS ARE GENERALLY KEPT FOR 70 DAYS, COPIES OF RECORDINGS CAN BE PROVIDED TO POLICE AND LOCAL AUTHORITY SUBJECT TO DATA PROTECTION ACT 1998.**

Q25	State whether the proposal is for full nudity (nudity is defined as per the Council's Policy).	Yes [X] No [ ]
	Give full details of the nature of the entertainment. Lap Dancing	**IN BOOTHS**
	Pole Dancing	**ON STAGE**
	Stage Strip-tease	**ON STAGE**
	Other	**ANYTHING OF A LIKE KIND**
	State whether arrangements are proposed for private booths or areas. If so, provide full details (highlighted on accompanying plans),	**SEE PLANS, AREAS COVERED BY DOOR SUPERVISORS.**

	including proposals for supervision of such areas.	

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Q26	**This question need not be answered in the case of renewals.**	
A	State proposals for preventing nuisance to residents and businesses in the vicinity: **RENEWAL**	
B	State proposals for promoting public safety: **RENEWAL**	
C	State proposals for preventing crime or disorder: **RENEWAL**	
D	State proposals for protecting children from harm: **RENEWAL**	
E	Set out the system for training all staff in the Code of Practice for performance, and enforcing compliance. *(Note: the Code of Practice must be attached to this form.)*	**RENEWAL**
F	Set out the system for notifying customers of the Rules for Customers, and for monitoring and enforcing compliance. *(Note: the Rules for Customers must be attached to this form.)*	**RENEWAL**
G	Set out the system for monitoring compliance with the venue's Policy for Welfare of Performers. *(Note: the Policy for Welfare of Performers must be attached to this form.)*	**RENEWAL**

Q27	Set out any further information which you wish the authority to take into account. Include here any proposed conditions (you may attach a schedule of such conditions) or any reason relied upon to provide an exception to the authority's Sexual Entertainment Venue Policy or Standard Conditions (any such application will be referred to Licensing Sub-Committee for determination). **THE PREMISES HAS OPERATED FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS AND THERE IS NO CHANGE TO THE CURRENT OPERATION OR TO THE PLANS. DETAILS OF WHICH HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED PREVIOUSLY.**

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Q28	Is there any information on this form which you do not wish to be seen by members of the public? If so, state which information and the reasons why you do not wish it to be seen. **ALL PERSONAL INFORMATION**

A/N

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Q29	Please use the checklist below to ensure you have completed all parts of the application. Tick to confirm you have enclosed all of the required information documents:	
	I have made or enclosed payment of the fee.	[X]
	I have enclosed plans of the premises (scale 1:100) that detail all the relevant information including the designated performance areas, access and egress, etc.	X]
	I have enclosed a site plan detailing the location of the premises (scale 1:1250) in relation to the surrounding area.	[X]
	I have enclosed drawings of the proposed front elevation as existing and as proposed (scale 1:50).	X]
	I have enclosed a copy of any other licences for the premises.	[X]
	I have enclosed the Code of Practice and Disciplinary Procedure for Performers.	X]
	I have enclosed the Rules for Customers.	X]
	I have enclosed the Policy for the Welfare of Performers.	X]
	I have enclosed a completed Annex A for all individuals named in questions 2 to 5.	[X]
	I understand and agree that I must send a copy of my complete application to the Chief Officer of Police no later than seven days after the date of the application.	X]
	I understand that I must now advertise my application on or near the Premises for 21 days starting with the date of the application.	X]
	I understand that I must advertise the application in a local newspaper within seven days after the date of the application and that a copy of the complete newspaper must be provided to the Licensing Authority in accordance with paragraph 10(8), Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982.	[X]
	Should the information provided in relation to this application form cease to be correct, or if there are any changes in the information provided in the application form between the date the application is submitted and the date it is determined, the Applicant must advise the Licensing Authority immediately. Failure to do so may result in any licence issued being revoked.	
	I/we agree to notify the Licensing Authority should any of the information given in this application change.	X]
	I declare that I have read and agree to abide by the standard conditions of a Sexual Entertainment Venue Licence made by Sheffield City Council in accordance with Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982.	X]

AHP

Applicants are informed that any person who, in connection with an application for the grant, renewal or transfer of a licence, makes a false statement which he knows to be false in any material respect or which he does not believe to be true, is guilty of an offence and liable, on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding £20,000.

I/we certify to the best of my/our knowledge and belief that the information given in this application is complete and correct in every respect.

Name: Angela Message

Position in Organisation: **Licensing Consultant for and on behalf of the applicant**

Date: 11TH March 2016

Signature:

Invalid signature

X Angela Message

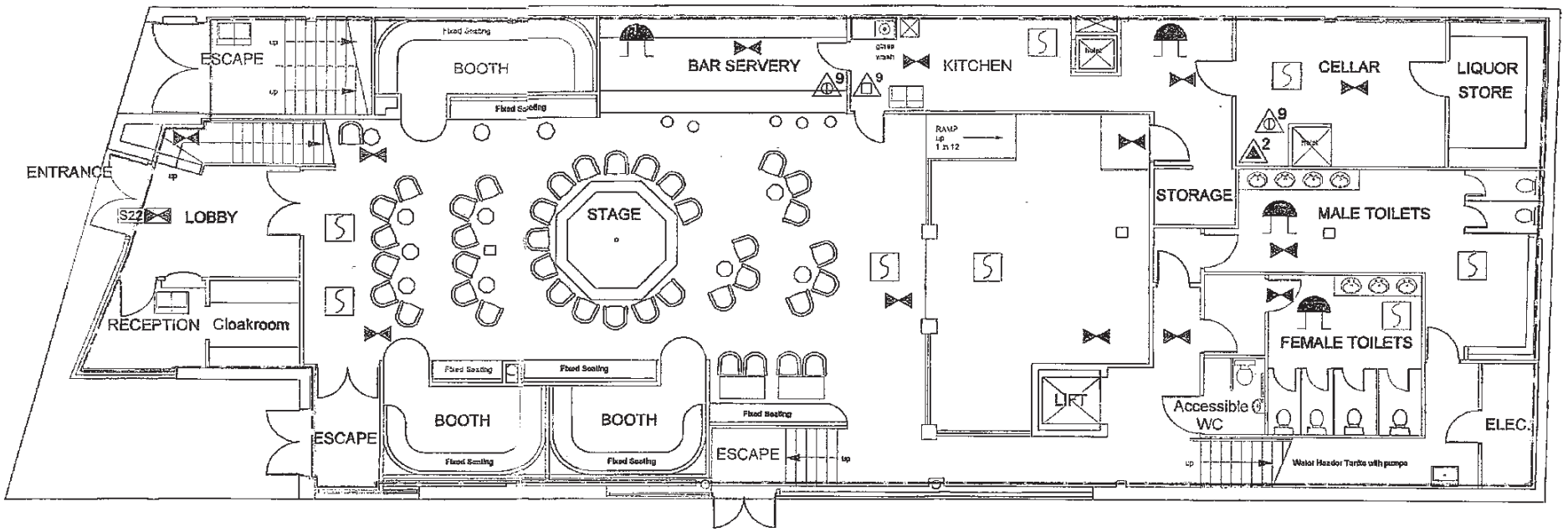
Angela Message

Signed by: angela.message@keystonelaw.co.uk

Q30	Contact name (where not previously given) and postal address for correspondence associated with this application:	
	Address: Angela Message Keystone Law Limited Audley House 13 Palace Street	
	Postal Town:London	Post Code: SW1E 5HX
	Telephone Number:	
	Mobile Number:07504 975 033	
	Email Address: angela.message@keystonelaw.co.uk	

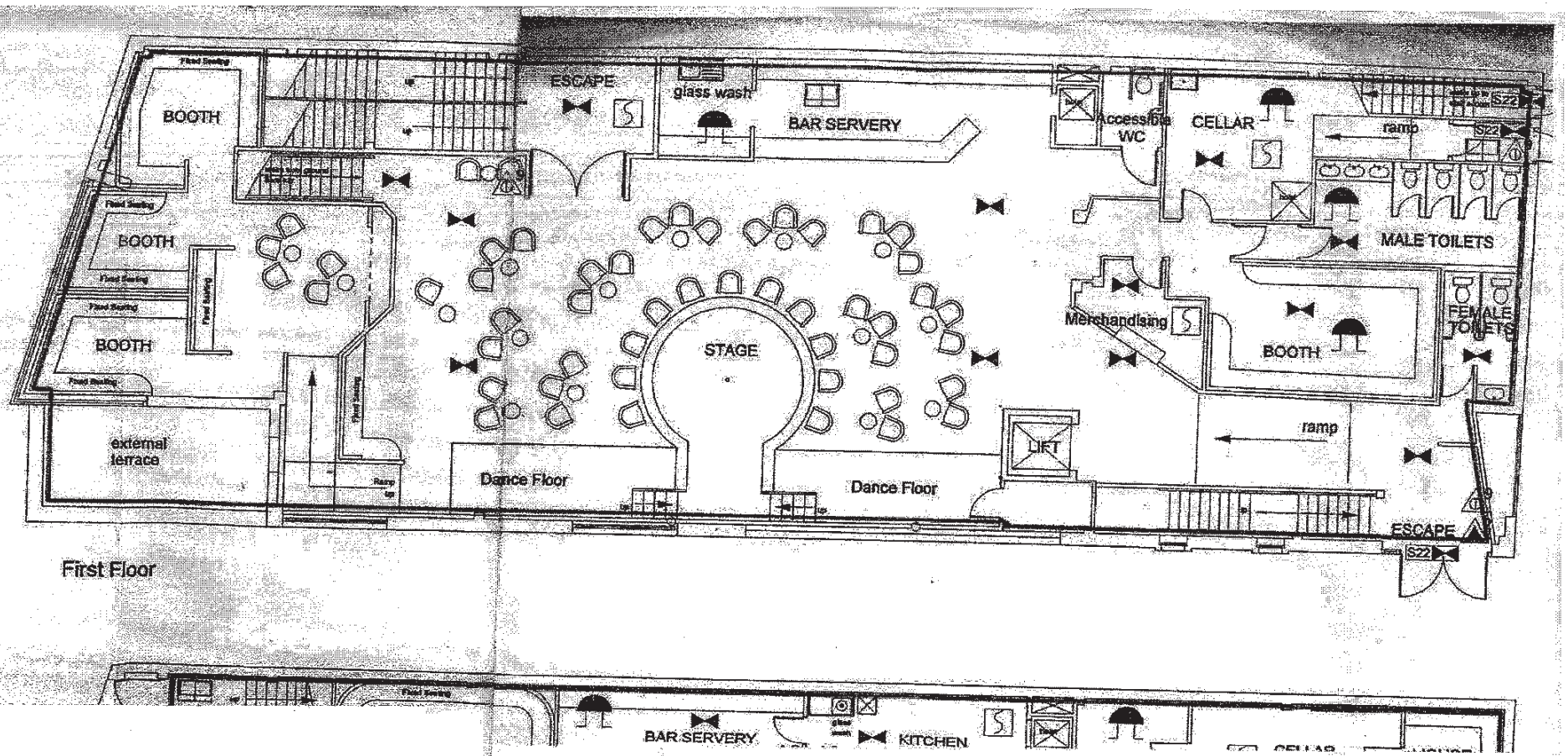
Please return the fully completed form and all attachments to:
Licensing Service,
Block C, Staniforth Road Depot
Staniforth Road
Sheffield
S9 3HD

~~First Floor~~



Ground Floor

A19



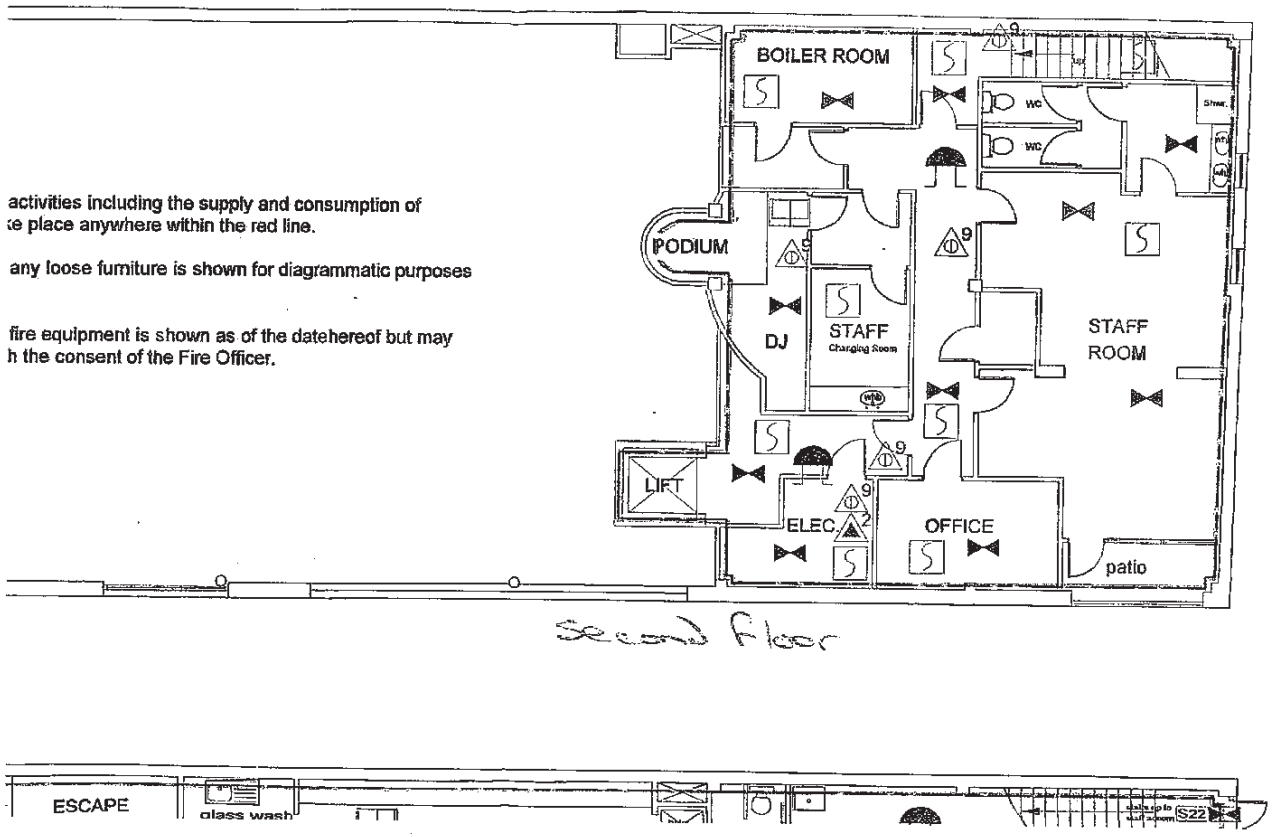
First Floor

A1r

activities including the supply and consumption of
te place anywhere within the red line.

any loose furniture is shown for diagrammatic purposes

fire equipment is shown as of the datehereof but may
h the consent of the Fire Officer.



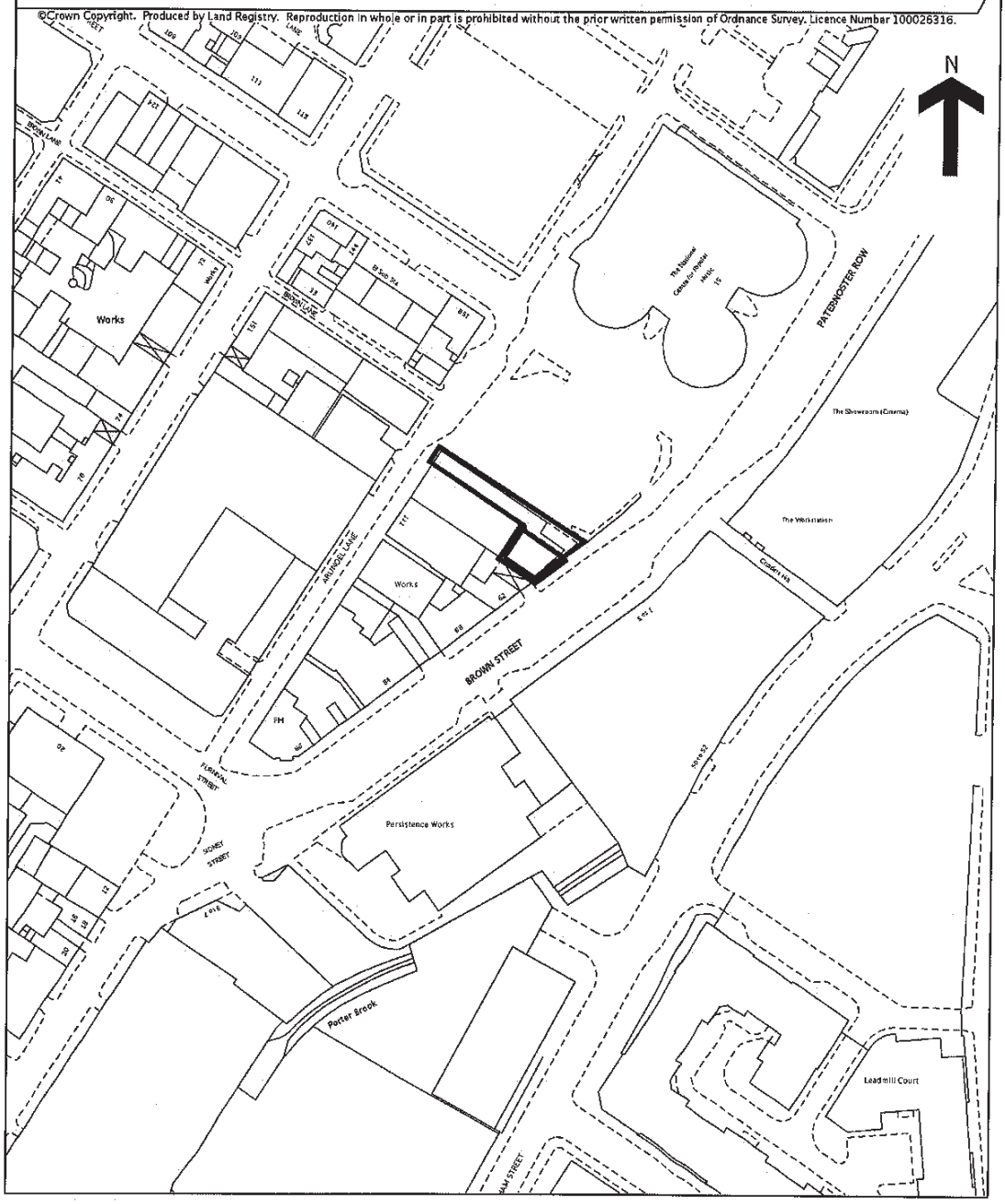
second floor

A1S

Alt

Land Registry Current title plan

Title number **SYK450303**
Ordnance Survey map reference **SK3586NE**
Scale **1:1250**
Administrative area **South Yorkshire : Sheffield**



This is a copy of the title plan on 30 APR 2015 at 09:50:41. This copy does not take account of any application made after that time even if still pending in the Land Registry when this copy was issued.

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This title is dealt with by Land Registry, Nottingham Office.

Appendix B

Representations – Objectors

Head of Licensing, Licensing Section
Block C, Staniforth Road Depot

Staniforth Road

Sheffield S9 3HD

Dear Mr Proctor,

I wish to submit this letter in response to the request made by Sonfield Developments on the 11th March 2016, for the relicensing of their sexual entertainment venue "Spearmint Rhino".

I wish to respectfully object to this request and will do so on the following grounds.

1) Public safety

The location of the premises on 60 Brown Street is adjacent to the Sheffield Hallam Students Union Hub. As a friend and associate of several Sheffield students, as well as a branch member of the Women's Equality Party, I must strongly object to the licence renewal of an establishment which presents women as the recipients of cash transactions following a form of dancing which is described as "'sexual entertainment" as I have been privy to reports of students feeling particularly unsafe, walking around the vicinity of the University premises during the evening. The results of a recent study by students into perceptions of public safety showed that many students were increasingly feeling unsafe, which represented a significant increase from the year before.

It is every student and citizen's right to move freely around a city, whatever time of the day or night, furthermore, establishments such as Spearmint Rhino, who advertise cheap promotional events and alcoholic beverage offers in order to entice custom from students which are displayed both outside the premises, and on their Twitter account - see link here https://twitter.com/rhinosheffield?lang=en-gb are actively encouraging their clientele to become inebriated within a sexually charged environment before returning to a public space where members of the public may be walking alone.

Brown Street has public transport links, and is situated within the Cultural Industries quarter. The Showroom Cinema across the road from Spearmint Rhino opens until 12 am, a time when clients of such an establishment will be in the vicinity- see link here:https://www.google.co.uk/search?q=showroom+cinema&rlz=1CCTAAA_enGB619GB619&oq=showroom+cinema&aqs=chrome..69i57j0l5&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8

This premise links into the further objection that I shall raise:

2) The prevention of public nuisance

As this establishment is open until 4.30 am on some evenings and from as early as 7.00 pm on others, with the ready supply of cheap alcohol combined with the long opening hours the potential for heightened disinhibited behaviour will increase as a result of this, and there is a very real danger that members of the public on the streets at these times including the workers themselves may be harassed by the patrons, as we are aware that stalking is an all too pervasive crime in our society under the protection from harassment act 1997.

After paying for the personal attentions of one of the dancers, the client may feel as though they have a special relationship with that person, and may well follow them home, or make inappropriate attempts to contact them via the medium of social media.

Please refer to paragraph four in particular of this extract from a dancer's information article to demonstrate this particular point http://www.dancersinfo.co.uk/personal-safety/being-stalked/

As any person who has experienced this type of behaviour is all too aware, stalking is an obsessive type of behaviour which can cause significant distress to the person on the receiving end of such treatment, and this may escalate into physical violence or threatening examples of verbal abuse.

I would therefore like to submit that it is my belief that on the grounds highlighted above that the licence for this establishment is revoked, not renewed, and to appeal for the number of sexual entertainment venues within Sheffield to be zero as depicted within Ground C of the City Council licensing Policy on sexual entertainment venues.

I look forward to hearing your response following the deadline date for submission of rejection letters of April 7th with regards to a hearing.

Yours faithfully,

Emma Sposato

B2A

Head of Licensing
Licensing Service
Block C, Staniforth Road Depot,
Staniforth Road
SHEFFIELD
S9 3HD

3 April 2016

Re: Application for a sexual entertainment venue licence by Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield, S1 2BS.

Dear Madam/ Sir

I am writing to object to the application for a sexual entertainment venue licence by Spearmint Rhino, and I call for the council to refuse it.

I believe that the Council should refuse the licence application under the Discretionary Grounds for Refusal of Sheffield City Council's Sexual Entertainment Venues Licensing Policy on two grounds:

Ground c):

"the number of sex establishments in the relevant locality at the time the application is made is equal to or exceeds the number which the authority consider is appropriate for that locality."

The grounds go on to state that "Nil may be an appropriate number for the purposes of (c)"

Ground d):

"the grant or renewal of a licence would be inappropriate, having regard –

(i) to the character of the relevant locality: or

(ii) to the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put: or

(iii) to the layout, character or condition of the premises; vehicle; vessel or stall in respect of which the application is made."

Sheffield City Council also has "statutory obligations in relation to disability race and gender" ensuring that these factors are not used to discriminate against anyone. I believe

that a sexual entertainment venue directly discriminates against women by normalising the sexualisation and objectification of women, and that this contributes to their sexualisation and objectification in other areas of society.

Furthermore Schedule 3 1982 Act provides specific grounds to refuse/renew license:

e) "cultural hub of city"

f) "central gateway to the city....or tourist attraction"

Our general terms of objection are as follows:

1. The club is situated next to Sheffield Hallam Students Union and actively targets students, offering a 'student' night with cheap dances and cheap alcohol. The Students Union is a hub of young people, sometimes vulnerable and often away from home for the first time.

2. The part of the city that the club is situated is unsuitable because it is in the "cultural heart" of the city. The Sexual Entertainment Venue is situated in the cultural centre of Sheffield, and close to the railway station – the main gateway and welcome point to the city, encompassing the pedestrianised walk way up to town centre.

3. When walking around this area, which as a Council you encourage people to do due to the other businesses and services in the area, women feel nervous because of the SEV and have to change their behaviour because of it being there, for example having to look around to see if there are people coming out of the SEV, take a different route walking to the centre of town so that they do not have to go past the SEV. Women should not have to feel like this in their city.

4. The Council's own promotion of the city is "Sheffield – where everyone matters" – this includes the female citizens of the city who should not be subjected to their city promoting and normalising the sexualisation and objectification of them

5. This image or a high-end establishment portrayed by this SEV goes in some way to normalising this type of venue in a very active part of the city, and as such giving the impression that Sheffield as a city condones both the sexualisation and objectification of women, which is in complete contradiction to the Council's equality policies and Sheffield's own widely publicised belief of Sheffield being a city "where everyone matters."

6. The licence would be granted in contradiction to other work that the Council funds and promotes, for example the recent SheFest Festival for International Women's Day and the Equalities Hub within the community bringing Communities of Identity together to tackle equalities issues within the council and the city,

7. The council has a duty under the Equality Act to work to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimization.

A sexual entertainment venue in the heart of the city is contradictory to everything that the council says it stands for, everything that the council should stand for, and has a duty to work towards.

I also wish to enquire about the actions or discussions that the council has taken in order to consider how many sexual entertainment venues should be in Sheffield, as stated in the policy and legislation? Has the Council for example, as per their own policy, carried out an Equality Impact Assessment?

I will fully and actively support the Council in the face of any challenge to the Council by giving a refusal.

The Council is asked to note that in the last few years Leeds City Council successfully defended a refusal to renew two SEV licenses at judicial review:

R (Bean Trading A Ltd) v Leeds City Council (2014)

It was held that a Council can "take a fresh look" despite no changes to the character of locality.

The case of Thompson v Oxford City Council (2014) was also supported at court of appeal, and the Council told they could "take a fresh look" at any application for renewal.

If the panel feel that they cannot make a refusal decision without further discussion, I would ask that a hearing is held so that the application can be discussed in more detail.

Thank you for your time in considering this letter. I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours Sincerely

Dr Rachel Bower

B3A

From: Women's Equality Party - Sheffield
Sent: 03 April 2016 17:14
To: licensingservice
Subject: Objection to the Licence Application by Spearmint Rhino

Dear Sir/Madam,

We refer to the application for a sexual entertainment venue licence by Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield. S1 2BS.

This is an objection letter to the application for this licence and we call for the council to refuse it.

We believe that the Council should refuse the licence application under the Discretionary Grounds for Refusal of Sheffield City Council's Sexual Entertainment Venues Licensing Policy on two grounds:

Ground c):

"the number of sex establishments in the relevant locality at the time the application is made is equal to or exceeds the number which the authority consider is appropriate for that locality."

The grounds go on to state that "Nil may be an appropriate number for the purposes of (c)"

Ground d):

"the grant or renewal of a licence would be inappropriate, having regard -

(i) to the character of the relevant locality: or

(ii) to the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put: or

(iii) to the layout, character or condition of the premises; vehicle; vessel or stall in respect of which the application is made."

Sheffield City Council also has "statutory obligations in relation to disability race and gender" ensuring that these factors are not used to discriminate against anyone. We believe that a sexual entertainment venue directly discriminates against women by normalising sexualisation and objectification of women, and that this contributes to their sexualisation and objectification in other areas

of society.

Furthermore Schedule 3 1982 Act provides specific grounds to refuse/renew license:

e) "cultural hub of city"

f) "central gateway to the city....or tourist attraction"

Our general terms of objection are as follows:

- the part of the city that the club is situated is unsuitable due to it being in the "cultural heart" of the city. The Sexual Entertainment Venue is situated in the cultural heart of Sheffield, and within the area of the railway station, the main gateway and welcome point to the city, encompassing the pedestrianised walk way up to town centre.

- the club is situated directly next to the Hallam Students Union, a hub of young impressionable people, sometimes vulnerable and often away from home for the first time.

- when walking around this area, which as a Council you encourage people to do due to the other businesses and services in the area, women feel nervous because of the SEV and have to change their behaviour because of it being there, for example having to look around to see if there are people coming out of the SEV, take a different route walking to the centre of town so that they do not have to go past the SEV. Women should not have to feel like this in their city.

- the Council's own promotion of the city is "Sheffield - where everyone matters" - this includes the female citizens of the city who should not be subjected to their city promoting and normalising the sexualisation and objectification of them

- this image of a high-end establishment portrayed by this SEV goes in some way to normalising this type of venue in a very active part of the city, and as such giving the impression that Sheffield as a city condones both the sexualisation and objectification of women, which is in complete contradiction to the Council's equality policies and Sheffield's own widely publicised belief of Sheffield being a city "where everyone matters."

- granting a licence would be contradictory to other work that the Council does, funds and promotes, for example the recent SheFest, the Equalities Hub within the community bringing Communities of Identity together to tackle equalities issues within the council and the city,

- the council has a duty under the Equality Act to work to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation

A sexual entertainment venue in the heart of the city, or anywhere in the city, is simply completely contradictory to everything that the council says it stands for, everything that the council should stand for, and has a duty to work towards.

We also ask what actions or discussions the council has taken in order to consider what number of sexual entertainment venues is appropriate for Sheffield, as stated in the policy and legislation? Has the Council for example, as per their own policy, carried out an Equality Impact Assessment?

We will fully and actively support the council in the face of any challenge to the council by giving a refusal.

The Council is asked to note that in the last few years Leeds City Council successfully defended a refusal to renew two SEV licenses at judicial review:

R (Bean Trading A Ltd) v Leeds City Council (2014)

It was held that a council can "take a fresh look" despite no changes to the character of locality.

The case of Thompson v Oxford City Council (2014) was also supported at court of appeal, and the Council told they could "take a fresh look" at any application for renewal.

If the panel feel that they cannot make a refusal decision without further discussion, We would ask that a hearing is held so that the application can be discussed in more detail.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Women's Equality Party Sheffield

https://www.facebook.com/WomensEqualityPartySheffield

@WEPSheffield

B4a

Dear Sir/Madam,

I refer to the application for a sexual entertainment venue licence by Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield. S1 2BS.

This is an objection letter to the application for this licence and I call for the council to refuse it.

I believe that the Council should refuse the licence application under the Discretionary

Grounds for Refusal of Sheffield City Council's Sexual Entertainment Venues Licensing Policy on two grounds:

Ground c):
"the number of sex establishments in the relevant locality at the time the application is made is equal to or exceeds the number which the authority consider is appropriate for that locality."
The grounds go on to state that "Nil may be an appropriate number for the purposes of (c)"

Ground d):
"the grant or renewal of a licence would be inappropriate, having regard -
(i) to the character of the relevant locality: or
(ii) to the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put: or
(iii) to the layout, character or condition of the premises; vehicle; vessel or stall in respect of which the application is made."

Sheffield City Council also has "statutory obligations in relation to disability race and

gender" ensuring that these factors are not used to discriminate against anyone. I believe that a sexual entertainment venue directly discriminates against women by normalising the sexualisation and objectification of women, and that this contributes to their sexualisation and objectification in other areas of society.

Furthermore Schedule 3 1982 Act provides specific grounds to refuse/renew license:

e) "cultural hub of city"

f) "central gateway to the city....or tourist attraction"

Our general terms of objection are as follows:

- the part of the city that the club is situated is unsuitable due to it being in the "cultural heart" of the city. The Sexual Entertainment Venue is situated in the cultural heart of Sheffield, and within the area of the railway station, the main gateway and welcome point to the city, encompassing the pedestrianised walk way up to town centre.

- the club is situated directly next to the Hallam Students Union, a hub of young

impressionable people, sometimes vulnerable and often away from home for the first time.

- Strip clubs are accepted to be a major influence on 'lad culture' in universities which, in this report by the NUS, has been described as misogynistic and homophobic. Lad culture has been acknowledged as responsible for incidents of verbal and physical harrassment of female students including sexual molestation. http://www.nus.org.uk/en/nus-calls-for-summit-on-lad-culture/

- when walking around this area, which as a Council you encourage people to do due to the other businesses and services in the area, women feel nervous because of the SEV and have to change their behaviour because of it being there, for example having to look around to see if there are people coming out of the SEV, take a different route walking to the centre of town so that they do not have to go past the SEV. Women should not have to feel like this in their city.

- the Council's own promotion of the city is "Sheffield - where everyone matters" - this includes the female citizens of the city who should not be subjected to their city promoting and normalising the sexualisation and objectification of them

- this image of a high-end establishment portrayed by this SEV goes in some way to

normalising this type of venue in a very active part of the city, and as such giving the impression that Sheffield as a city condones both the sexualisation and objectification of women, which is in complete contradiction to the Council's equality policies and Sheffield's own widely publicised belief of Sheffield being a city "where everyone matters."

- granting a licence would be contradictory to other work that the Council does, funds and promotes, for example the recent SheFest, the Equalities Hub within the community

the city,

- the council has a duty under the Equality Act to work to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation

- As one of the organisers of the 2015 South Yorkshire Poetry Festival I felt somewhat embarrassed about the presence of Spearmint Rhino when welcoming readers and audiences to our venue at the Showroom Workstation. It is a shame that this venue with its antiquated values is present in an otherwise modern and forward-looking cultural quarter of a city that prides itself on promoting equality.

A sexual entertainment venue in the heart of the city, or anywhere in the city, is simply completely contradictory to everything that the council says it stands for, everything that the council should stand for, and has a duty to work towards.

I also ask what actions or discussions the council has taken in order to consider what number of sexual entertainment venues is appropriate for Sheffield, as stated in the policy and legislation? Has the Council for example, as per their own policy, carried out an Equality Impact Assessment?

The Council is asked to note that in the last few years Leeds City Council successfully

defended a refusal to renew two SEV licenses at judicial review:

B4c

R (Bean Trading A Ltd) v Leeds City Council (2014)

It was held that a council can "take a fresh look" despite no changes to the character of locality.

The case of Thompson v Oxford City Council (2014) was also supported at court of appeal, and the Council told they could "take a fresh look" at any application for renewal.

If the panel feel that they cannot make a refusal decision without further discussion, I would ask that a hearing is held so that the application can be discussed in more detail.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours Sincerely

Suzannah Evans

B5a

From: Aletheia Gentle
Sent: 03 April 2016 16:02
To: licensingservice
Subject: Spearmint Rhino License Renewal Objection

Dear Sheffield City Council,

I refer to the application for a sexual entertainment venue licence by Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield. S1 2BS.
This is an objection letter to the application for this licence and I call for the council to refuse it.
I believe that the Council should refuse the licence application under the Discretionary Grounds for Refusal of Sheffield City Council's Sexual Entertainment Venues Licensing Policy on two grounds:
Ground c):
"the number of sex establishments in the relevant locality at the time the application is made is equal to or exceeds the number which the authority consider is appropriate for that locality."
The grounds go on to state that "Nil may be an appropriate number for the purposes of (c)"
Ground d):
"the grant or renewal of a licence would be inappropriate, having regard -
(i) to the character of the relevant locality: or
(ii) to the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put: or
(iii) to the layout, character or condition of the premises; vehicle; vessel or stall in respect of which the application is made."
Sheffield City Council also has "statutory obligations in relation to disability race and gender" ensuring that these factors are not used to discriminate against anyone. I believe that a sexual entertainment venue directly discriminates against women by normalising the sexualisation and objectification of women, and that this contributes to their sexualisation and objectification in other areas of society.
Furthermore Schedule 3 1982 Act provides specific grounds to refuse/renew license:
e) "cultural hub of city"
f) "central gateway to the city....or tourist attraction"
Our general terms of objection are as follows:
- the part of the city that the club is situated is unsuitable due to it being in the "cultural heart" of the city. The Sexual Entertainment Venue is situated in the cultural heart of Sheffield, and within the area of the railway station, the main gateway and welcome point to the city, encompassing the pedestrianised walk way up to town centre.
- the club is situated directly next to the Hallam Students Union, a hub of young impressionable people, sometimes vulnerable and often away from home for the first time.
- when walking around this area, which as a Council you encourage people to do due to the other businesses and services in the area, women feel nervous because of the SEV and have to change their behaviour because of it being there, for example having to look around to see if there are people coming out of the SEV, take a different route walking to the centre of town so that they do not have to go past the SEV. Women should not have to feel like this in their city.
- the Council's own promotion of the city is "Sheffield - where everyone matters" - this includes the female citizens of the city who should not be subjected to their city promoting and normalising the sexualisation and objectification of them
- this image or a high-end establishment portrayed by this SEV goes in some way to normalising this type of venue in a very active part of the city, and as such giving the impression that Sheffield as a city condones both the sexualisation and objectification of women, which is in complete contradiction to the Council's equality policies and Sheffield's own widely publicised belief of Sheffield being a city "where everyone matters."
- granting a licence would be contradictory to other work that the Council does, funds

B5b

and promotes, for example the recent SheFest, the Equalities Hub within the community bringing Communities of Identity together to tackle equalities issues within the council and the city,
- the council has a duty under the Equality Act to work to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation

ADD IN ANYTHING ELSE THAT YOU WANT TO THE LIST ABOVE – IT WOULD BE MUCH BETTER IF EVERYONE ADDED THEIR OWN OBJECTIONS SO THAT ALL THE LETTERS ARE SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT

A sexual entertainment venue in the heart of the city, or anywhere in the city, is simply completely contradictory to everything that the council says it stands for, everything that the council should stand for, and has a duty to work towards.
I also ask what actions or discussions the council has taken in order to consider what number of sexual entertainment venues is appropriate for Sheffield, as stated in the policy and legislation? Has the Council for example, as per their own policy, carried out an Equality Impact Assessment?
I will fully and actively support the council in the face of any challenge to the council by giving a refusal.

DEPENDING ON WHETHER YOU ARE AN INDIVIDUAL OR A BUSINESS IN THE AREA YOU MAY WANT TO DELETE THE SENTENCE ABOVE

The Council is asked to note that in the last few years Leeds City Council successfully defended a refusal to renew two SEV licenses at judicial review:
R (Bean Trading A Ltd) v Leeds City Council (2014)
It was held that a council can "take a fresh look" despite no changes to the character of locality.
The case of Thompson v Oxford City Council (2014) was also supported at court of appeal, and the Council told they could "take a fresh look" at any application for renewal.
If the panel feel that they cannot make a refusal decision without further discussion, I would ask that a hearing is held so that the application can be discussed in more detail.
I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,

Aletheia Gentle

B6

-----Original Message-----
From: vivvi
Sent: 03 April 2016 15:33
To: licensingservice
Subject: Spearmint Rhino

Dear Council

I would like to raise my objection to the renewal of this license.

I am very concerned because young people are in close proximity to this venue: vulnerable youngsters in nearby streets, and young university students: the student union is so near that they can't help but be aware of it.

Students are cash-strapped, so the temptation to 'work' there is worrying. Also, there is a problem within universities which you may, or may not be aware of: students sexually assaulting students as a right of passage.

Spearmint Rhino can only reinforce this idea of female objectification, and foster further this unhealthy trend, a trend familiar in both Oxford and Cambridge, and many other learned institutions.

Spearmint Rhino is not a gentle-men's club, but a place to go where men ejaculate and that is its only purpose. If they could not ejaculate, they would not go.

Few may make money, yet many females make little and are treated unkindly. It is a meat-market for men, and nothing more.

It demeans all of us: I used to go to the Showroom, but don't any more as I can't stand that club; I don't feel safe: I'm a wheelchair-user.

Please do not renew this license.

Yours faithfully

Vivien Ratcliffe

B7a

From: Sheena
Sent: 03 April 2016 13:12
To: licensingservice
Subject: Spearmint Rhino

Dear Sir or Madam,

I refer to the application for a sexual entertainment venue licence by Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield. S1 2BS.

This is an objection letter to the application for this licence and I call for the council to refuse it.

I believe that the Council should refuse the licence application under the Discretionary Grounds for Refusal of Sheffield City Council's Sexual Entertainment Venues Licensing Policy on this ground:

Ground d):

"the grant or renewal of a licence would be inappropriate, having regard -

(i) to the character of the relevant locality: or

(ii) to the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put: or

(iii) to the layout, character or condition of the premises; vehicle; vessel or stall in respect of which the application is made."

Sheffield City Council also has "statutory obligations in relation to disability race and gender" ensuring that these factors are not used to discriminate against anyone.

I believe that a sexual entertainment venue directly discriminates against women by normalising the sexualisation and objectification of women, and that this contributes to their sexualisation and objectification in other areas of society.

Furthermore Schedule 3 1982 Act provides specific grounds to refuse/renew license:

e) "cultural hub of city"

f) "central gateway to the city....or tourist attraction"

The Sexual Entertainment Venue is situated in the cultural heart of Sheffield, and within the area of the railway station, the main gateway and welcome point to the city, encompassing the pedestrianised walk way up to town centre.

B76

The SEV is directly next to the Hallam Students Union, a hub of young impressionable people, sometimes vulnerable and often away from home for the first time.

The Council's own promotion of the city is "Sheffield - where everyone matters" This includes the female citizens of the city who should not be subjected to their city promoting and normalising the sexualisation and objectification of them.

The council has a duty under the Equality Act to work to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and therefore I ask what actions or discussions the council has taken in order to consider what number of sexual entertainment venues is appropriate for Sheffield, as stated in the policy and legislation? Has the Council for example, as per their own policy, carried out an Equality Impact Assessment?

If the panel feel that they cannot make a refusal decision without further discussion, I would ask that a hearing is held so that the application can be discussed in more detail.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,

Sheena Clark

B8a

From: Carol Keen
Sent: 03 April 2016 10:58
To: licensingservice
Subject: Objection to Spearmint Rhino License Renewal Application

Dear Sir/Madam,

I refer to the application for a sexual entertainment venue licence by Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield. S1 2BS.

This is an objection letter to the application for this licence and I call for the council to refuse it.

I recently walked from the Sydney Street car park to Sheffield Hubs on a Saturday afternoon. I was struck by the changes in the area, and how it is beginning to evolve into somewhere that people might want to spend time. I walked up to the Hubs where I as attending Shefest, a festival supported by the council which was an amazing celebration of women in the city, and a marker of how much more needs to be done to achieve equality in Sheffield. Also at the Hubs that day, new students and their parents were attending to look around the Universty. But in the middle of all this brilliance of Sheffield, I walked past Spearmint Rhino, and noted its license renewal application, and I was struck by how profoundly incongruous its presence is.

It is this viewpoint that has prompted me to object to the license renewal.

I believe that the Council should refuse the licence application under the Discretionary Grounds for Refusal of Sheffield City Council's Sexual Entertainment Venues Licensing Policy on two grounds:

Ground c):

"the number of sex establishments in the relevant locality at the time the application is made is equal to or exceeds the number which the authority consider is appropriate for that locality."

The grounds go on to state that "Nil may be an appropriate number for the purposes of (c)"

Ground d):

"the grant or renewal of a licence would be inappropriate, having regard -

(i) to the character of the relevant locality: or

(ii) to the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put: or

(iii) to the layout, character or condition of the premises; vehicle; vessel or stall in respect of which the application is made."

Sheffield City Council also has "statutory obligations in relation to disability race and gender" ensuring that these factors are not used to discriminate against anyone. I believe that a sexual entertainment venue directly discriminates against women by normalising the sexualisation and objectification of women, and that this contributes to their sexualisation and objectification in other areas of society.

Furthermore Schedule 3 1982 Act provides specific grounds to refuse/renew license: B8b

e) "cultural hub of city"

f) "central gateway to the city....or tourist attraction"

My general terms of objection are as follows:

- the part of the city that the club is situated is unsuitable due to it being in the "cultural heart" of the city. The Sexual Entertainment Venue is situated in the cultural heart of Sheffield, and within the area of the railway station, the main gateway and welcome point to the city, encompassing the pedestrianised walk way up to town centre.

- the club is situated directly next to the Hallam Students Union, a hub of young impressionable people, sometimes vulnerable and often away from home for the first time.

- when walking around this area, which as a Council you encourage people to do due to the other businesses and services in the area, women feel nervous because of the SEV and have to change their behaviour because of it being there, for example having to look around to see if there are people coming out of the SEV, take a different route walking to the centre of town so that they do not have to go past the SEV. Women should not have to feel like this in their city.

- the Council's own promotion of the city is "Sheffield - where everyone matters" - this includes the female citizens of the city who should not be subjected to their city promoting and normalising the sexualisation and objectification of them

- this image or a high-end establishment portrayed by this SEV goes in some way to normalising this type of venue in a very active part of the city, and as such giving the impression that Sheffield as a city condones both the sexualisation and objectification of women, which is in complete contradiction to the Council's equality policies and Sheffield's own widely publicised belief of Sheffield being a city "where everyone matters."

- granting a licence would be contradictory to other work that the Council does, funds and promotes, for example the recent SheFest, the Equalities Hub within the community bringing Communities of Identity together to tackle equalities issues within the council and the city,

- the council has a duty under the Equality Act to work to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation

A sexual entertainment venue in the heart of the city, or anywhere in the city, is simply completely contradictory to everything that the council says it stands for, everything that the council should stand for, and has a duty to work towards.

I also ask what actions or discussions the council has taken in order to consider what number of sexual entertainment venues is appropriate for Sheffield, as stated in the policy and legislation? Has the Council for example, as per their own policy, carried out an Equality Impact Assessment?

I also ask the Council to note that in the last few years Leeds City Council successfully defended a refusal to renew two SEV licenses at judicial review: B8c

R (Bean Trading A Ltd) v Leeds City Council (2014)

It was held that a council can "take a fresh look" despite no changes to the character of locality.

The case of Thompson v Oxford City Council (2014) was also supported at court of appeal, and the Council told they could "take a fresh look" at any application for renewal.

If the panel feel that they cannot make a refusal decision without further discussion, I would ask that a hearing is held so that the application can be discussed in more detail.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Carol Keen

--

Carol Keen

B9

-----Original Message-----
From: Caroline Parry
Sent: 02 April 2016 22:50
To: licensingservice
Subject: Spearmint Rhino

I would like to register my objection to the location of this venue, at a key position in Sheffield which is entirely inappropriate.

Thank you.

Caroline Parry
Sent from my iPhone

B10a

From: Rhianna Camsell
Sent: 02 April 2016 15:51
To: licensingservice
Subject: Objection to the renewal of Spearmint Rhino's operational license

To whom it may concern,

I am a student at Sheffield University and am writing to express my objection to the renewal of Spearmint Rhino's operational license.

I refer to the application for a sexual entertainment venue licence by Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield. S12BS.

This is an objection letter to the application for this licence and I call for the council to refuse it.

I believe that the Council should refuse the licence application under the Discretionary Grounds for Refusal of Sheffield City Council's Sexual Entertainment Venues Licensing Policy on two grounds:

Ground c):

"the number of sex establishments in the relevant locality at the time the application is made is equal to or exceeds the number which the authority consider is appropriate for that locality."

The grounds go on to state that "Nil may be an appropriate number for the purposes of (c)"

Ground d):

"the grant or renewal of a licence would be inappropriate, having regard -

(i) to the character of the relevant locality: or

(ii) to the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put: or

(iii) to the layout, character or condition of the premises; vehicle; vessel or stall in respect of which the application is made."

Sheffield City Council also has "statutory obligations in relation to disability race and gender" ensuring that these factors are not used to discriminate against anyone. I believe that a sexual entertainment venue directly discriminates against women by normalising the sexualisation and objectification of women, and that this contributes to their sexualisation and objectification in other areas of society.

Furthermore Schedule 3 1982 Act provides specific grounds to refuse/renew license:

e) "cultural hub of city"

f) "central gateway to the city....or tourist attraction"

B10b

My general terms of objection are as follows:

- the part of the city that the club is situated is unsuitable due to it being in the "cultural heart" of the city. The Sexual Entertainment Venue is situated in the cultural heart of Sheffield, and within the area of the railway station, the main gateway and welcome point to the city, encompassing the pedestrianised walk way up to town centre.

- the club is situated directly next to the Hallam Students Union, a hub of young impressionable people, sometimes vulnerable and often away from home for the first time.

- when walking around this area, which as a Council you encourage people to do due to the other businesses and services in the area, women feel nervous because of the SEV and have to change their behaviour because of it being there, for example having to look around to see if there are people coming out of the SEV, take a different route walking to the centre of town so that they do not have to go past the SEV. Women should not have to feel like this in their city.

- the Council's own promotion of the city is "Sheffield - where everyone matters" - this includes the female citizens of the city who should not be subjected to their city promoting and normalising the sexualisation and objectification of them.

- this image or a high-end establishment portrayed by this SEV goes in some way to normalising this type of venue in a very active part of the city, and as such giving the impression that Sheffield as a city condones both the sexualisation and objectification of women, which is in complete contradiction to the Council's equality policies and Sheffield's own widely publicised belief of Sheffield being a city "where everyone matters."

- granting a licence would be contradictory to other work that the Council does, funds and promotes, for example the recent SheFest, the Equalities Hub within the community bringing Communities of Identity together to tackle equalities issues within the council and the city,

- the council has a duty under the Equality Act to work to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation

A sexual entertainment venue in the heart of the city, or anywhere in the city, is simply completely contradictory to everything that the council says it stands for, everything that the council should stand for, and has a duty to work towards.

I also ask what actions or discussions the council has taken in order to consider what number of sexual entertainment venues is appropriate for Sheffield, as stated in the policy and legislation? Has the Council for example, as per their own policy, carried out an Equality Impact Assessment?

I will fully and actively support the council in the face of any challenge to the council by giving a refusal.

The Council is asked to note that in the last few years Leeds City Council successfully defended a refusal to renew two SEV licenses at judicial review:

R (Bean Trading A Ltd) v Leeds City Council (2014)

It was held that a council can "take a fresh look" despite no changes to the character of locality.

The case of Thompson v Oxford City Council (2014) was also supported at court of appeal, and the Council told they could "take a fresh look" at any application for renewal.

If the panel feel that they cannot make a refusal decision without further discussion, I would ask that a hearing is held so that the application can be discussed in more detail.

Places like Spearmint Rhino perpetuate this society where girls and women are taught that their appearance and sexuality are the most important elements of their worth. Sheffield Council have a duty to the women and girls of Sheffield to give them the ability to finally be equal to their male counterparts. Any efforts for equality are pointless unless the council upholds a decent and consistent attitude towards gender equality.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Rhianna Camsell

B11a

From: Rw Smith
Sent: 02 April 2016 14:03
To: licensingservice
Subject: Objection to application for a sexual entertainment license by Spearmint Rhino

Draft objection text for you to amend and send

I refer to the application for a sexual entertainment venue licence by Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield. S1 2BS.

This is an objection letter to the application for this licence and I call for the council to refuse it.

I believe that the Council should refuse the licence application under the Discretionary Grounds for Refusal of Sheffield City Council's Sexual Entertainment Venues Licensing Policy on two grounds:

Ground c):

"the number of sex establishments in the relevant locality at the time the application is made is equal to or exceeds the number which the authority consider is appropriate for that locality."

The grounds go on to state that "Nil may be an appropriate number for the purposes of (c)"

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(i) to the character of the relevant locality: or

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(iii) to the layout, character or condition of the premises; vehicle; vessel or stall in respect of which the application is made."

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Furthermore Schedule 3 1982 Act provides specific grounds to refuse/renew license:

e) "cultural hub of city"

f) "central gateway to the city....or tourist attraction"

Our general terms of objection are as follows:

- the part of the city that the club is situated is unsuitable due to it being in the "cultural heart" of the city. The Sexual Entertainment Venue is situated in the cultural heart of Sheffield, and within the area of the railway station, the main gateway and welcome point to the city, encompassing the pedestrianised walk way up to town centre.

- the club is situated directly next to the Hallam Students Union, a hub of young impressionable people, sometimes vulnerable and often away from home for the first time.

- when walking around this area, which as a Council you encourage people to do due to the other businesses and services in the area, women feel nervous because of the SEV and have to change their behaviour because of it being there, for example having to look around to see if there are people coming out of the SEV, take a different route walking to the centre of town so that they do not have to go past the SEV. Women should not have to feel like this in their city.

- the Council's own promotion of the city is "Sheffield - where everyone matters" - this includes the female citizens of the city who should not be subjected to their city promoting and normalising the sexualisation and objectification of them

- this image or a high-end establishment portrayed by this SEV goes in some way to normalising this type of venue in a very active part of the city, and as such giving the impression that Sheffield as a city condones both the sexualisation and objectification of women, which is in complete contradiction to the Council's equality policies and Sheffield's own widely publicised belief of Sheffield being a city "where everyone matters."

- granting a licence would be contradictory to other work that the Council does, funds and promotes, for example the recent SheFest, the Equalities Hub within the community bringing Communities of Identity together to tackle equalities issues within the council and the city,

- the council has a duty under the Equality Act to work to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation

A sexual entertainment venue in the heart of the city, or anywhere in the city, is simply completely contradictory to everything that the council says it stands for, everything that the council should stand for, and has a duty to work towards.

I also ask what actions or discussions the council has taken in order to consider what number of sexual entertainment venues is appropriate for Sheffield, as stated in the policy and legislation? Has the Council for example, as per their own policy, carried out an Equality Impact Assessment?

I will fully and actively support the council in the face of any challenge to the council by giving a refusal.

B11c

The Council is asked to note that in the last few years Leeds City Council successfully defended a refusal to renew two SEV licenses at judicial review:

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It was held that a council can "take a fresh look" despite no changes to the character of locality.

The case of Thompson v Oxford City Council (2014) was also supported at court of appeal, and the Council told they could "take a fresh look" at any application for renewal.

If the panel feel that they cannot make a refusal decision without further discussion, I would ask that a hearing is held so that the application can be discussed in more detail.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Rachel Warner

B12

From: Linda Lee Welch
Sent: 02 April 2016 12:34
To: licensingservice
Subject: Spearmint Rhino

Dear Madam/Sir,

I would like to register my objection to the renewal of Spearmint Rhino's license. The club is in a dreadful location, being in the heart of our Cultural Industries Quarter and on the doorstep of Sheffield Hallam University, where I teach. I believe issues such as the prevention of crime and disorder, and public safety, should be taken into consideration. People's perceptions of Sheffield's Art and Culture ethos are negatively affected by the club's sitting squat in the middle of it!

I hope you will consider these points.

Thanks,

Linda Lee Welch

B13

-----Original Message-----
From: Jane Turley
Sent: 02 April 2016 10:18
To: licensingservice
Subject: Spearmint rhino licence renewal: objection

As a professional woman based in Sheffield I would like to register my strong objection to the proposed renewal of the licence for this business.

It beggars belief that as responsible, elected, public officials you could hesitate to reject this application.

Is it even necessary to point out that this is 2016, not 1916?

There is simply no excuse for our Council to facilitate profiteering from the exploitation of women and exploiting the ill- advised and/or underdeveloped 'taste' of men to 'consume' us.

The location of this venue is also spectacularly inappropriate - what message do you want to send to the young people of our City?

Please look to your moral compass and conscience and exercise your power to say no.

Jane Turley

Sent from my iPad

B14a

From: HQ LQ
Sent: 02 April 2016 09:51
To: licensingservice
Subject: Objection to the renewal of sexual entertainment venue licence by Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield. S1 2BS.

To Whom It May Concern,

I refer to the application for a sexual entertainment venue licence by Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield. S1 2BS.

This is an objection letter to the application for this licence and I call for the council to refuse it.

I believe that the Council should refuse the licence application under the Discretionary Grounds for Refusal of Sheffield City Council's Sexual Entertainment Venues Licensing Policy on two grounds:

Ground c):

"the number of sex establishments in the relevant locality at the time the application is made is equal to or exceeds the number which the authority consider is appropriate for that locality."

The grounds go on to state that "Nil may be an appropriate number for the purposes of (c)"

Ground d):

"the grant or renewal of a licence would be inappropriate, having regard -

(i) to the character of the relevant locality: or

(ii) to the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put: or

(iii) to the layout, character or condition of the premises; vehicle; vessel or stall in respect of which the application is made."

Sheffield City Council also has "statutory obligations in relation to disability race and gender" ensuring that these factors are not used to discriminate against anyone. I believe that a sexual entertainment venue directly discriminates against women by normalising the sexualisation and objectification of women, and that this contributes to their sexualisation and objectification in other areas of society.

Furthermore Schedule 3 1982 Act provides specific grounds to refuse/renew license:

e) "cultural hub of city"

f) "central gateway to the city....or tourist attraction"

B14b

Our general terms of objection are as follows:

- the part of the city that the club is situated is unsuitable due to it being in the "cultural heart" of the city. The Sexual Entertainment Venue is situated in the cultural heart of Sheffield, and within the area of the railway station, the main gateway and welcome point to the city, encompassing the pedestrianised walk way up to town centre.

- the club is situated directly next to the Hallam Students Union, a hub of young impressionable people, sometimes vulnerable and often away from home for the first time.

- when walking around this area, which as a Council you encourage people to do due to the other businesses and services in the area, women feel nervous because of the SEV and have to change their behaviour because of it being there, for example having to look around to see if there are people coming out of the SEV, take a different route walking to the centre of town so that they do not have to go past the SEV. Women should not have to feel like this in their city.

- the Council's own promotion of the city is "Sheffield - where everyone matters" - this includes the female citizens of the city who should not be subjected to their city promoting and normalising the sexualisation and objectification of them

- this image or a high-end establishment portrayed by this SEV goes in some way to normalising this type of venue in a very active part of the city, and as such giving the impression that Sheffield as a city condones both the sexualisation and objectification of women, which is in complete contradiction to the Council's equality policies and Sheffield's own widely publicised belief of Sheffield being a city "where everyone matters."

- granting a licence would be contradictory to other work that the Council does, funds and promotes, for example the recent SheFest, the Equalities Hub within the community bringing Communities of Identity together to tackle equalities issues within the council and the city,

- the council has a duty under the Equality Act to work to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation

As a longtime Sheffield resident, I feel the existence of such premises in city centre locations does not reflect the correct image of the city.

A sexual entertainment venue in the heart of the city, or anywhere in the city, is simply completely contradictory to everything that the council says it stands for, everything that the council should stand for, and has a duty to work towards.

I also ask what actions or discussions the council has taken in order to consider what number of sexual entertainment venues is appropriate for Sheffield, as stated in the policy and legislation? Has the Council for example, as per their own policy, carried out an Equality Impact Assessment?

The Council is asked to note that in the last few years Leeds City Council successfully defended a refusal to renew two SEV licenses at judicial review:

R (Bean Trading A Ltd) v Leeds City Council (2014)

It was held that a council can "take a fresh look" despite no changes to the character of locality.

The case of Thompson v Oxford City Council (2014) was also supported at court of appeal, and the Council told they could "take a fresh look" at any application for renewal.

B14c

If the panel feel that they cannot make a refusal decision without further discussion, I would ask that a hearing is held so that the application can be discussed in more detail.

I look forward to hearing from you.

B15a

From: Roche-Jacques, Shelley
Sent: 02 April 2016 09:23
To: licensingservice
Subject: Objection to the Renewal of the SEV Licence of Spearmint Rhino

Dear Sir or Madam

I am writing to object to the renewal of the Sexual Entertainment Venue License for Spearmint Rhino, Brown Street, Sheffield.

My objections are relevant to the following objectives:

§ The prevention of crime and disorder
§ Public safety (including 'fear of crime')

I also suggest that you should refuse the renewal of the license using ' Discretionary Grounds for Refusal'.

I work as a lecturer at Sheffield Hallam University and often attend events in The Hubs, our Student Union building. I know that a number of our students feel uncomfortable about the presence of Spearmint Rhino so close to the student union. They (and I) also feel unhappy about the way in which Spearmint Rhino attempts to promote itself as part of the normal, mainstream night-life of Sheffield. Spearmint Rhino has two weekly 'Student Nights': free entry with an NUS card, discounted drinks and 'dances'. In this way Spearmint Rhino seeks to affiliate and integrate itself with Sheffield Hallam University, even though the university's policies on Gender Equality and the NUS's stand on the harmful effects of university 'lad culture' run completely counter to the ethos of such an establishment.

I, and it seems a growing number of students, feel that the normalisation and mainstream promotion of such venues is very harmful to women. They create a dehumanised view of women, sending out the message that women's bodies are for male consumption. **In the context of a society in which there is widespread violence against women, and in the light of the NUS research findings regarding 'lad culture' in universities*, I think this is something Sheffield Council should be taking very seriously.**

I would also suggest this is an issue of equality. Your Statement of Licensing Policy says:

'As a Council we want to ensure that everyone can fully participate in the social, cultural, political and economic life of the city'.

In allowing Spearmint Rhino to play a part in Sheffield city life, I would question whether you are doing everything in your power to fulfil this objective.

B15 b

I know the young women I teach feel the presence of The Spearmint Rhino impacts in various ways on their social and cultural participation. My own social and cultural participation in city life is also affected. I attend events at The Showroom and Workstation in the evenings, and often feel anxious and unsafe due to their proximity to the Spearmint Rhino.

I also feel embarrassed when bringing visitors to Sheffield's galleries and art spaces. I can't believe this club forms part of the 'gateway to the city'. I have been in the position of escorting writers and artists from Sheffield Train Station to The Workstation and Sheffield Hallam University buildings, and find it staggeringly inappropriate that such a venue should be located in the heart of Sheffield's Cultural Industries Quarter. When the club was first granted a licence, a number of the charities and businesses were not there. Now that the immediate area is packed with artistic and cultural institutions, charities supporting vulnerable young people and victims of domestic violence, and the Sheffield Hallam Student Union Hubs, it is high time that the club was closed.

Yours faithfully

Shelley Roche-Jacques

* Summary of their research findings here: http://www.nus.org.uk/en/nus-calls-for-summit-on-lad-culture/

Dr Shelley Roche-Jacques FHEA

Associate Lecturer in English and Creative Writing

Room 1130, Owen Building

Sheffield Hallam University

B16 a

From: Rosemary Crockett
Sent: 04 April 2016 13:43
To: licensingservice
Subject: Spear mint Rhino application for licence

Dear Sir/Madam

I refer to the application for a sexual entertainment venue licence by Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield. S1 2BS.

This is an objection letter to the application for this licence and I call for the council to refuse it.

I believe that the Council should refuse the licence application under the Discretionary Grounds for Refusal of Sheffield City Council's Sexual Entertainment Venues Licensing Policy on two grounds:

Ground c):

"the number of sex establishments in the relevant locality at the time the application is made is equal to or exceeds the number which the authority consider is appropriate for that locality."

The grounds go on to state that "Nil may be an appropriate number for the purposes of (c)"

Ground d):

"the grant or renewal of a licence would be inappropriate, having regard -

(i) to the character of the relevant locality: or

(ii) to the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put: or

(iii) to the layout, character or condition of the premises; vehicle; vessel or stall in respect of which the application is made."

Sheffield City Council also has "statutory obligations in relation to disability race and gender" ensuring that these factors are not used to discriminate against anyone. I believe that a sexual entertainment venue directly discriminates against women by normalising the sexualisation and objectification of women, and that this contributes to their sexualisation and objectification in other areas of society.

Furthermore Schedule 3 1982 Act provides specific grounds to refuse/renew license:

e) "cultural hub of city"

f) "central gateway to the city....or tourist attraction"

Our general terms of objection are as follows:

B16b

- the part of the city that the club is situated is unsuitable due to it being in the "cultural heart" of the city. The Sexual Entertainment Venue is situated in the cultural heart of Sheffield, and within the area of the railway station, the main gateway and welcome point to the city, encompassing the pedestrianised walk way up to town centre.

- the club is situated directly next to the Hallam Students Union, a hub of young impressionable people, sometimes vulnerable and often away from home for the first time.

- when walking around this area, which as a Council you encourage people to do due to the other businesses and services in the area, women feel nervous because of the SEV and have to change their behaviour because of it being there, for example having to look around to see if there are people coming out of the SEV, take a different route walking to the centre of town so that they do not have to go past the SEV. Women should not have to feel like this in their city.

- the Council's own promotion of the city is "Sheffield - where everyone matters" - this includes the female citizens of the city who should not be subjected to their city promoting and normalising the sexualisation and objectification of them

- this image or a high-end establishment portrayed by this SEV goes in some way to normalising this type of venue in a very active part of the city, and as such giving the impression that Sheffield as a city condones both the sexualisation and objectification of women, which is in complete contradiction to the Council's equality policies and Sheffield's own widely publicised belief of Sheffield being a city "where everyone matters."

- granting a licence would be contradictory to other work that the Council does, funds and promotes, for example the recent SheFest, the Equalities Hub within the community bringing Communities of Identity together to tackle equalities issues within the council and the city,

- the council has a duty under the Equality Act to work to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation

A sexual entertainment venue in the heart of the city, or anywhere in the city, is simply completely contradictory to everything that the council says it stands for, everything that the council should stand for, and has a duty to work towards.

I also ask what actions or discussions the council has taken in order to consider what number of sexual entertainment venues is appropriate for Sheffield, as stated in the policy and legislation? Has the Council for example, as per their own policy, carried out an Equality Impact Assessment?

I will fully and actively support the council in the face of any challenge to the council by giving a refusal.

B16c

The Council is asked to note that in the last few years Leeds City Council successfully defended a refusal to renew two SEV licenses at judicial review:

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It was held that a council can "take a fresh look" despite no changes to the character of locality.

The case of Thompson v Oxford City Council (2014) was also supported at court of appeal, and the Council told they could "take a fresh look" at any application for renewal.

If the panel feel that they cannot make a refusal decision without further discussion, I would ask that a hearing is held so that the application can be discussed in more detail.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours,

Rosemary Crockett

B17a

From: Chris Hood
Sent: 04 April 2016 13:48
To: licensingservice
Subject: objection

Dear Sir/madam

I refer to the application for a sexual entertainment venue licence by Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield. S1 2BS.

This is an objection letter to the application for this licence and I call for the council to refuse it.

I believe that the Council should refuse the licence application under the Discretionary Grounds for Refusal of Sheffield City Council's Sexual Entertainment Venues Licensing Policy on two grounds:

Ground c):
"the number of sex establishments in the relevant locality at the time the application is made is equal to or exceeds the number which the authority consider is appropriate for that locality."
The grounds go on to state that "Nil may be an appropriate number for the purposes of (c)"

Ground d):
"the grant or renewal of a licence would be inappropriate, having regard -
(i) to the character of the relevant locality: or
(ii) to the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put: or
(iii) to the layout, character or condition of the premises; vehicle; vessel or stall in respect of which the application is made."

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Furthermore Schedule 3 1982 Act provides specific grounds to refuse/renew license:
e) "cultural hub of city"
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Our general terms of objection are as follows:

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Sheffield, and within the area of the railway station, the main gateway and welcome point to the city, encompassing the pedestrianised walk way up to town centre.

- the club is situated directly next to the Hallam Students Union, a hub of young impressionable people, sometimes vulnerable and often away from home for the first time.

- when walking around this area, which as a Council you encourage people to do due to the other businesses and services in the area, women feel nervous because of the SEV and have to change their behaviour because of it being there, for example having to look around to see if there are people coming out of the SEV, take a different route walking to the centre of town so that they do not have to go past the SEV. Women should not have to feel like this in their city.

- the Council's own promotion of the city is "Sheffield - where everyone matters" - this includes the female citizens of the city who should not be subjected to their city promoting and normalising the sexualisation and objectification of them

- this image or a high-end establishment portrayed by this SEV goes in some way to normalising this type of venue in a very active part of the city, and as such giving the impression that Sheffield as a city condones both the sexualisation and objectification of women, which is in complete contradiction to the Council's equality policies and Sheffield's own widely publicised belief of Sheffield being a city "where everyone matters."

- granting a licence would be contradictory to other work that the Council does, funds and promotes, for example the recent SheFest, the Equalities Hub within the community bringing Communities of Identity together to tackle equalities issues within the council and the city,

- the council has a duty under the Equality Act to work to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation

A sexual entertainment venue in the heart of the city, or anywhere in the city, is simply completely contradictory to everything that the council says it stands for, everything that the council should stand for, and has a duty to work towards.

I also ask what actions or discussions the council has taken in order to consider what number of sexual entertainment venues is appropriate for Sheffield, as stated in the policy and legislation? Has the Council for example, as per their own policy, carried out an Equality Impact Assessment?

I will fully and actively support the council in the face of any challenge to the council by giving a refusal.

B17c

The Council is asked to note that in the last few years Leeds City Council successfully defended a refusal to renew two SEV licenses at judicial review:

R (Bean Trading A Ltd) v Leeds City Council (2014)
It was held that a council can "take a fresh look" despite no changes to the character of locality.

The case of Thompson v Oxford City Council (2014) was also supported at court of appeal, and the Council told they could "take a fresh look" at any application for renewal.

If the panel feel that they cannot make a refusal decision without further discussion, I would ask that a hearing is held so that the application can be discussed in more detail. I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards

Chris Hood

Chief Executive Officer

SYEDA

south yorkshire eating disorders association

26-28 Bedford street

Sheffield

S6 3BT

0114 2728822

Web: www.syeda.org.uk

Follow us on facebook and twitter

www.facebook.com/syeda2628

Twitter: @syeda2628

Syeda is a Registered Charity No: 1114451 and a Company Limited by Guarantee No: 5689222

B18a

Dear Sir/Madam,

I refer to the application for a sexual entertainment venue licence by Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield. S1 2BS.

This is an objection letter to the application for this licence and I call for the council to refuse it.

I believe that the Council should refuse the licence application under the Discretionary Grounds for Refusal of Sheffield City Council's Sexual Entertainment Venues Licensing Policy on two grounds:

Ground c):
"the number of sex establishments in the relevant locality at the time the application is made is equal to or exceeds the number which the authority consider is appropriate for that locality."
The grounds go on to state that "Nil may be an appropriate number for the purposes of (c)"

Ground d):
"the grant or renewal of a licence would be inappropriate, having regard -
(i) to the character of the relevant locality: or
(ii) to the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put: or
(iii) to the layout, character or condition of the premises; vehicle; vessel or stall in respect of which the application is made."

Sheffield City Council also has "statutory obligations in relation to disability race and gender" ensuring that these factors are not used to discriminate against anyone. I believe that a sexual entertainment venue directly discriminates against women by normalising the sexualisation and objectification of women, and that this contributes to their sexualisation and objectification in other areas of society.

Furthermore Schedule 3 1982 Act provides specific grounds to refuse/renew license:

e) "cultural hub of city"

f) "central gateway to the city....or tourist attraction"

Our general terms of objection are as follows:

- the part of the city that the club is situated is unsuitable due to it being in the "cultural heart" of the city. The Sexual Entertainment Venue is situated in the cultural heart of Sheffield, and within the area of the railway station, the main gateway and welcome point to the city, encompassing the pedestrianised walk way up to town centre.

- I especially object that the club is situated directly next to the Hallam Students Union, a hub of young impressionable people, sometimes vulnerable and often away from home for the first time. Our city should be a safe place for students.

- when walking around this area, which as a Council you encourage people to do due to the other businesses and services in the area, women feel nervous because of the SEV and have to change their behaviour because of it being there, for example having to look around to see if there are people coming out of the SEV, take a different route walking to the centre of town so that they do not have to go past the SEV. Women should not have to feel like this in their city.

- the Council's own promotion of the city is "Sheffield - where everyone matters" - this includes the female citizens of the city who should not be subjected to their city promoting and normalising the sexualisation and objectification of them

- this image or a high-end establishment portrayed by this SEV goes in some way to normalising this type of venue in a very active part of the city, and as such giving the impression that Sheffield as a city condones both the sexualisation and objectification of women, which is in complete contradiction to the Council's equality policies and Sheffield's own widely publicised belief of Sheffield being a city "where everyone matters."

- granting a licence would be contradictory to other work that the Council does, funds and promotes, for example the recent SheFest, the Equalities Hub within the community bringing Communities of Identity together to tackle equalities issues within the council and the city,

- the council has a duty under the Equality Act to work to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation

A sexual entertainment venue in the heart of the city, or anywhere in the city, is simply completely contradictory to everything that the council says it stands for, everything that the council should stand for, and has a duty to work towards.

I also ask what actions or discussions the council has taken in order to consider what number of sexual entertainment venues is appropriate for Sheffield, as stated in the policy and legislation? Has the Council for example, as per their own policy, carried out an Equality Impact Assessment?

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It was held that a council can "take a fresh look" despite no changes to the character of locality.

B18c

The case of Thompson v Oxford City Council (2014) was also supported at court of appeal, and the Council told they could "take a fresh look" at any application for renewal.

If the panel feel that they cannot make a refusal decision without further discussion, I would ask that a hearing is held so that the application can be discussed in more detail.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Regards

Virginia Lowes

B19

To: Head of Licensing

Licensing Service

Block C

Staniforth Road Depot

Staniforth Road

SHEFFIELD S9 3HD

From: DR DEBJANI CHATTERJEE, MBE

4.4.16

Dear Madam / Sir

I wish to object to the application for renewal of a Sexual Entertainment Venue license for premises at 60 Brown Street, Sheffield S1 2BS, premises known as Spearmint Rhino.

I object because its activities are sexist and demeaning to women. Having such an establishment, especially in Sheffield's cultural industries quarter, gives entirely the wrong message about Sheffield. I hope we are a cultural city and a city where we value equality and respect women. Women are *not* sexual objects. So places like Spearmint Rhino are a disgrace and have no place in our city. Please reject their application for license renewal now and in the future.

Yours faithfully

Debjani Chatterjee

DR DEBJANI CHATTERJEE, MBE

Poet, Writer & Storyteller

B20a

From: PhilipG
Sent: 04 April 2016 17:42
To: licensingservice
Subject: Objection to Spearmint Rhino.

Dear Licensing

I refer to the application for a sexual entertainment venue licence by Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield. S1 2BS.

This is an objection letter to the application for this licence and I call for the council to refuse it.

I believe that the Council should refuse the licence application under the Discretionary Grounds for Refusal of Sheffield City Council's Sexual Entertainment Venues Licensing Policy on two grounds:

Ground c):

"the number of sex establishments in the relevant locality at the time the application is made is equal to or exceeds the number which the authority consider is appropriate for that locality."

The grounds go on to state that "Nil may be an appropriate number for the purposes of (c)"

Ground d):

"the grant or renewal of a licence would be inappropriate, having regard –

(i) to the character of the relevant locality: or

(ii) to the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put: or

(iii) to the layout, character or condition of the premises; vehicle; vessel or stall in respect of which the application is made."

Sheffield City Council also has "statutory obligations in relation to disability race and gender" ensuring that these factors are not used to discriminate against anyone. I believe that a sexual entertainment venue directly discriminates against women by normalising the sexualisation and objectification of women, and that this contributes to their sexualisation and objectification in other areas of society.

Furthermore Schedule 3 1982 Act provides specific grounds to refuse/renew license:

e) "cultural hub of city"

f) "central gateway to the city....or tourist attraction"

Our general terms of objection are as follows:

– the part of the city that the club is situated is unsuitable due to it being in the "cultural heart" of the city. The Sexual Entertainment Venue is situated in the cultural heart of Sheffield, and within the area of the railway station, the main gateway and welcome point to the city, encompassing the pedestrianised walk way up to town centre.

– the club is situated directly next to the Hallam Students Union, a hub of young impressionable people, sometimes vulnerable and often away from home for the first time.

– when walking around this area, which as a Council you encourage people to do due to the other businesses and services in the area, women feel nervous because of the SEV and have to change their behaviour because of it being there, for example having to look around to see if there are people coming out of the SEV, take a different route walking to the centre of town so that they do not have to go past the SEV. Women should not have to feel like this in their city.

– the Council's own promotion of the city is "Sheffield – where everyone matters" – this includes the female citizens of the city who should not be subjected to their city promoting and normalising the sexualisation and objectification of them

– this image or a high-end establishment portrayed by this SEV goes in some way to normalising this type of venue in a very active part of the city, and as such giving the impression that Sheffield as a city condones both the sexualisation and objectification of women, which is in complete contradiction to the Council's equality policies and Sheffield's own widely publicised belief of Sheffield being a city "where everyone matters."

– granting a licence would be contradictory to other work that the Council does, funds and promotes, for example the recent SheFest, the Equalities Hub within the community bringing Communities of Identity together to tackle equalities issues within the council and the city,

– the council has a duty under the Equality Act to work to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation

A sexual entertainment venue in the heart of the city, or anywhere in the city, is simply completely contradictory to everything that the council says it stands for, everything that the council should stand for, and has a duty to work towards.

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It was held that a council can "take a fresh look" despite no changes to the character of locality.

The case of Thompson v Oxford City Council (2014) was also supported at court of appeal, and the Council told they could "take a fresh look" at any application for renewal.

If the panel feel that they cannot make a refusal decision without further discussion, I would ask that a hearing is held so that the application can be discussed in more detail.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Philip Gilbert

B21a

4th April 2016

Dear Sir/Madam,

I refer to the application for a sexual entertainment venue licence by Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield. S1 2BS.

This is an objection letter to the application for this licence and I call for the council to refuse it.

I believe that the Council should refuse the licence application under the Discretionary Grounds for Refusal of Sheffield City Council's Sexual Entertainment Venues Licensing Policy on two grounds:

Ground c):
"the number of sex establishments in the relevant locality at the time the application is made is equal to or exceeds the number which the authority consider is appropriate for that locality."
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- the club is situated directly next to the Hallam Students Union, a hub of young impressionable people, sometimes vulnerable and often away from home for the first time.

- when walking around this area, which as a Council you encourage people to do due to the other businesses and services in the area, women feel nervous because of the SEV and have to change their behaviour because of it being there, for example having to look around to see if there are people coming out of the SEV, take a different route walking to the centre of town so that they do not have to go past the SEV. Women should not have to feel like this in their city.

- the club is situated in close proximity to the Together Women's centre, a centre which is there to support vulnerable women.

- the Council's own promotion of the city is "Sheffield - where everyone matters" - this includes the female citizens of the city who should not be subjected to their city promoting and normalising the sexualisation and objectification of them

- this image or a high-end establishment portrayed by this SEV goes in some way to normalising this type of venue in a very active part of the city, and as such giving the impression that Sheffield as a city condones both the sexualisation and objectification of women, which is in complete contradiction to the Council's equality policies and Sheffield's own widely publicised belief of Sheffield being a city "where everyone matters."

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The case of Thompson v Oxford City Council (2014) was also supported at court of appeal, and the Council told they could "take a fresh look" at any application for renewal.

If the panel feel that they cannot make a refusal decision without further discussion, I would ask that a hearing is held so that the application can be discussed in more detail.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully

Kate Parry and Lee Waghorn

B22a

7th April 2016

Dear Sir or Madam

I refer to the application for a sexual entertainment venue licence by Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield. S1 2BS.

This is an objection letter to the application for this licence and I call for the council to refuse it.

I believe that the Council should refuse the licence application under the Discretionary Grounds for Refusal of Sheffield City Council's Sexual Entertainment Venues Licensing Policy on two grounds:

Ground c):

"the number of sex establishments in the relevant locality at the time the application is made is equal to or exceeds the number which the authority consider is appropriate for that locality."

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Ground d):

"the grant or renewal of a licence would be inappropriate, having regard –

(i) to the character of the relevant locality: or

(ii) to the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put: or

(iii) to the layout, character or condition of the premises; vehicle; vessel or stall in respect of which the application is made."

Sheffield City Council also has "statutory obligations in relation to disability race and gender" ensuring that these factors are not used to discriminate against anyone. I believe that a sexual entertainment venue directly discriminates against women by normalising the sexualisation and

objectification of women, and that this contributes to their sexualisation and objectification in other areas of society.

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Our general terms of objection are as follows:

– the part of the city that the club is situated is unsuitable due to it being in the "cultural heart" of the city. The Sexual Entertainment Venue is situated in the cultural heart of Sheffield, and within the area of the railway station, the main gateway and welcome point to the city, encompassing the pedestrianised walk way up to town centre.

– the club is situated directly next to the Hallam Students Union, a hub of young impressionable people, sometimes vulnerable and often away from home for the first time.

– when walking around this area, which as a Council you encourage people to do due to the other businesses and services in the area, women feel nervous because of the SEV and have to change their behaviour because of it being there, for example having to look around to see if there are people coming out of the SEV, take a different route walking to the centre of town so that they do not have to go past the SEV. Women should not have to feel like this in their city.

– the Council's own promotion of the city is "Sheffield – where everyone matters" – this includes the female citizens of the city who should not be subjected to their city promoting and normalising the sexualisation and objectification of them

– this image or a high-end establishment portrayed by this SEV goes in some way to normalising this type of venue in a very active part of the city, and as such giving the impression that Sheffield as a city condones both the sexualisation and objectification of women, which is in complete contradiction to the Council's equality policies and Sheffield's own widely publicised belief of Sheffield being a city "where everyone matters."

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– the council has a duty under the Equality Act to work to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation

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I also ask what actions or discussions the council has taken in order to consider what number of sexual entertainment venues is appropriate for Sheffield, as stated in the policy and legislation? Has the Council for example, as per their own policy, carried out an Equality Impact Assessment?

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It was held that a council can "take a fresh look" despite no changes to the character of locality.

The case of Thompson v Oxford City Council (2014) was also supported at court of appeal, and the Council told they could "take a fresh look" at any application for renewal.

If the panel feel that they cannot make a refusal decision without further discussion, I would ask that a hearing is held so that the application can be discussed in more detail.

Your sincerely
Rosalind Wollen

ROSALIND WOLLEN

B24

From Pat Moreton (Chair person)

Women in Engineering , Science and Technology (WEST)

To Head of Licensing

Licensing Service

Block C

Staniforth Road Depot

Staniforth Road

SHEFFIELD

S9 3HD

5th April 2016

Dear Madam or Sir

I wish to object to the application for renewal of a Sexual Entertainment Venue license for premises at 60 Brown Street, Sheffield S1 2BS, premises known as Spearmint Rhino.

As an organisation that works with young women from the UTC , Sheffield College and students at the Sheffield Hallam University we see this as not an acceptable place for such an explicit sexual entertainments venue .

We urge the licensing committee to refuse this application

Yours sincerely

Pat Moreton

PAT MORETON

B25

From: Bo Meson
Sent: 05 April 2016 13:05
To: licensingservice
Subject: Spearmint Rhino - Sexual Entertainment Venue

Dear Madam/Sir,

I wish to object, in the strongest terms, to the application for the renewal of the licence to the premise on Brown Street known as the 'Spearmint Rhino' strip club.

I believe that the council should refuse the application since Schedule 3 of the 1982 Act allows refusal due to it being at the:

"cultural hub of city" (e), or,

"central gateway to the city" (f).

These premises are clearly in both areas as identified by the Council.

The Council has "statutory obligations in relation to disability race and gender", a 'Gentleman's Club' - by self-definition as well as practice - discriminates against women by promoting their objectification.

'Sheffield - where everyone matters' should be more than a slogan and I urge you to live up to your stated ideals.

Yours sincerely,

BO MESON

B26

From: Wilkes, Emily
Sent: 05 April 2016 14:42
To: licensingservice
Subject: Spearmint Rhino Gentleman's Club License

To Whom This May Concern,

Sheffield Hallam Students' Union prides itself on providing an open and welcoming environment for all Sheffield Hallam students where they can feel free and safe. Furthermore we pride ourselves on the fact that we listen and represent the views of all our students to the best of our ability.

We note that the continuous objectification of women in today's society has an adverse effect of our students. While we fully respect the right of women to work in venues such as Spearmint Rhino Gentleman's Club, we feel that the location of this establishment, is very unwelcome amongst the student population, more specifically the advertising of the 'NUS' night by this establishment seeks to incorporate itself under the umbrella of the Students' Union and therefore the Hallam culture and way of life. As an organisation we feel this represents a direct contradiction of a number of our key principles.

As the Officer team of 2015-2016 and representatives of the students' Union, we would like to state our strong opposition Spearmint Rhino's attempts to incorporate itself into the student experience due to the negative impact that it has on our effort to create a safe environment for all students.

Signed: Emily Wilkes (Acting President & Sport & Physical activities Officer), Hassun El Zafar (Education Officer), James Manson (Welfare and Community Officer) and Peter Neild (Activities Officer).

Kind Regards

Emily Wilkes

Sports & Physical Activities Officer

Sheffield Hallam Students' Union | The Hubs | Paternoster Row | Sheffield | S1 2QQ

uusew@exchange.shu.ac.uk | 0114 225 4532

TEAM HALLAM

SHEFFIELD HALLAM STUDENTS' UNION | BEING THE DIFFERENCE IN STUDENTS' LIVES

Gold Excellence
NUS Green Impact Students' Unions

B27

Paul Blomfield MP

Member of Parliament for Sheffield Central

Unit 4, Edmund Road Business Centre, 135 Edmund Road, Sheffield S2 4ED
t: 0114 272 2882 e: paul.blomfield.mp@parliament.uk
www.paulblomfield.co.uk twitter: @paulblomfieldmp

Mick Crofts
Director of Business Strategy and Regulation
Sheffield City Council
Block C, Staniforth Road Depot
Staniforth Road
Sheffield
S9 3HD

5 April 2016

Dear Mick

Re: Objection to Spearmint Rhino Sexual Entertainment License

I am writing to register my objection to the renewal of Spearmint Rhino's license.

Brown Street is at the heart of the Cultural Industries Quarter and the presence of the Spearmint Rhino is clearly undesirable in this area (or indeed any location) and is detrimental to the area's further cultural development.

Many of the cultural institutions in the CIQ work closely with children under the age of 16, as does Sheffield Hallam University which is also in the vicinity. Having a sexual entertainment venue in such close proximity is inappropriate and unwelcome.

The site is also close to a major gateway to the city, on the popular Charles Street pedestrian route to the city centre, and adjacent to the HUBS (former NCPM) building which is a significant city landmark. It therefore appears to fail the Council's own licensing criteria regarding the siting of such venues in the city's cultural hub, by a major gateway and close to a landmark.

I hope that the Licensing Committee will look extremely carefully at this application and take into account all of the representations made when they are making their decision.

Yours sincerely

Paul Blomfield MP
Sheffield Central

B28a

From: Samuel Burton
Sent: 06 April 2016 09:41
To: licensingservice
Subject: SPEARMINT RHINO

Dear Madam or Sir,

I refer to the application for a sexual entertainment venue licence by Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield. S1 2BS.

This is an objection letter to the application for this licence and I call for the council to refuse it.

I believe that the Council should refuse the licence application under the Discretionary Grounds for Refusal of Sheffield City Council's Sexual Entertainment Venues Licensing Policy on two grounds:

Ground c):

"the number of sex establishments in the relevant locality at the time the application is made is equal to or exceeds the number which the authority consider is appropriate for that locality."

The grounds go on to state that "Nil may be an appropriate number for the purposes of (c)"

Ground d):

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Furthermore Schedule 3 1982 Act provides specific grounds to refuse/renew license:

e) "cultural hub of city"

f) "central gateway to the city….or tourist attraction"

Our general terms of objection are as follows:

– the part of the city that the club is situated is unsuitable due to it being in the "cultural heart" of the city. The Sexual Entertainment Venue is situated in the cultural heart of Sheffield, and within the area of the railway station, the main gateway and welcome point to the city, encompassing the pedestrianised walk way up to town centre.

– the club is situated directly next to the Hallam Students Union, a hub of young impressionable people, sometimes vulnerable and often away from home for the first time.

– when walking around this area, which as a Council you encourage people to do due to the other businesses and services in the area, women feel nervous because of the SEV and have to change their behaviour because of it being there, for example having to look around to see if there are people coming out of the SEV, take a different route walking to the centre of town so that they do not have to go past the SEV. Women should not have to feel like this in their city.

– the Council's own promotion of the city is "Sheffield – where everyone matters" – this includes the female citizens of the city who should not be subjected to their city promoting and normalising the sexualisation and objectification of them

– this image or a high-end establishment portrayed by this SEV goes in some way to normalising this type of venue in a very active part of the city, and as such giving the impression that Sheffield as a city condones both the sexualisation and objectification of women, which is in complete contradiction to the Council's equality policies and Sheffield's own widely publicised belief of Sheffield being a city "where everyone matters."

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I also ask what actions or discussions the council has taken in order to consider what number of sexual entertainment venues is appropriate for Sheffield, as stated in the policy and legislation? Has the Council for example, as per their own policy, carried out an Equality Impact Assessment?

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It was held that a council can "take a fresh look" despite no changes to the character of locality.

The case of Thompson v Oxford City Council (2014) was also supported at court of appeal, and the Council told they could "take a fresh look" at any application for renewal.

If the panel feel that they cannot make a refusal decision without further discussion, I would ask that a hearing is held so that the application can be discussed in more detail.

Samuel Burton

B29a

From: Andy Healey
Sent: 06 April 2016 10:36
To: licensingservice
Subject: Spearmint rhino

Dear friends

Apologies for sending pre- written letter, but only just found out about application, am on holiday & haven't got time to explain all my own views before deadline. I agree with all these points, and presence of the club in our great city has long been a source of deep shame for me. Not least when the International Film Festival happens across the street!

Hoping you give this issue deep consideration, and feel longer inquiry needed as I know many friends who would object if they had known about it before deadline

Thanks

Andy Healey

I refer to the application for a sexual entertainment venue licence by Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield. S1 2BS.

This is an objection letter to the application for this licence and I call for the council to refuse it.

I believe that the Council should refuse the licence application under the Discretionary Grounds for Refusal of Sheffield City Council's Sexual Entertainment Venues Licensing Policy on two grounds:

Ground c):

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(i) to the character of the relevant locality: or

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(iii) to the layout, character or condition of the premises; vehicle; vessel or stall in respect of which the application is made."

Sheffield City Council also has "statutory obligations in relation to disability race and gender" ensuring that these factors are not used to discriminate against anyone. I believe that a sexual entertainment venue directly discriminates against women by normalising the sexualisation and objectification of women, and that this contributes to their sexualisation and objectification in other areas of society.

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– the part of the city that the club is situated is unsuitable due to it being in the "cultural heart" of the city. The Sexual Entertainment Venue is situated in the cultural heart of Sheffield, and within the area of the railway station, the main gateway and welcome point to the city, encompassing the pedestrianised walk way up to town centre.

– the club is situated directly next to the Hallam Students Union, a hub of young impressionable people, sometimes vulnerable and often away from home for the first time.

– when walking around this area, which as a Council you encourage people to do due to the other businesses and services in the area, women feel nervous because of the SEV and have to change their behaviour because of it being there, for example having to look around to see if there are people coming out of the SEV, take a different route walking to the centre of town so that they do not have to go past the SEV. Women should not have to feel like this in their city.

– the Council's own promotion of the city is "Sheffield – where everyone matters" – this includes the female citizens of the city who should not be subjected to their city promoting and normalising the sexualisation and objectification of them

– this image or a high-end establishment portrayed by this SEV goes in some way to normalising this type of venue in a very active part of the city, and as such giving the impression that Sheffield as a city condones both the sexualisation and objectification of women, which is in complete contradiction to the Council's equality policies and Sheffield's own widely publicised belief of Sheffield being a city "where everyone matters."

– granting a licence would be contradictory to other work that the Council does, funds and promotes, for example the recent SheFest, the Equalities Hub within the community bringing Communities of Identity together to tackle equalities issues within the council and the city,

– the council has a duty under the Equality Act to work to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation

ADD IN ANYTHING ELSE THAT YOU WANT TO THE LIST ABOVE – IT WOULD BE MUCH BETTER IF EVERYONE ADDED THEIR OWN OBJECTIONS SO THAT ALL THE LETTERS ARE SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT

A sexual entertainment venue in the heart of the city, or anywhere in the city, is simply completely contradictory to everything that the council says it stands for, everything that the council should stand for, and has a duty to work towards.

I also ask what actions or discussions the council has taken in order to consider what number of sexual entertainment venues is appropriate for Sheffield, as stated in the policy and legislation? Has the Council for example, as per their own policy, carried out an Equality Impact Assessment?

I will fully and actively support the council in the face of any challenge to the council by giving a refusal.

B29c

DEPENDING ON WHETHER YOU ARE AN INDIVIDUAL OR A BUSINESS IN THE AREA YOU MAY WANT TO DELETE THE SENTENCE ABOVE

The Council is asked to note that in the last few years Leeds City Council successfully defended a refusal to renew two SEV licenses at judicial review:

R (Bean Trading A Ltd) v Leeds City Council (2014)

It was held that a council can "take a fresh look" despite no changes to the character of locality.

The case of Thompson v Oxford City Council (2014) was also supported at court of appeal, and the Council told they could "take a fresh look" at any application for renewal.

If the panel feel that they cannot make a refusal decision without further discussion, I would ask that a hearing is held so that the application can be discussed in more detail.

I look forward to hearing from you.

B30

From: Lizz Tuckerman
Sent: 06 April 2016 10:45
To: licensingservice
Subject: Renewal of sexual Entertainment Licence by Spearmint Rhino.

Re :- Application for renewal of Sexual Entertainment Venue License by Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield. S1 2BS.

This is an objection letter to the application for this license and I call for the council to refuse it on the following grounds.

The renewal is inappropriate, in regard to all the points listed below.

(i) Character of the locality

I am very familiar with this area as for a couple of years I occupied a studio in Persistence Works. I have both exhibited my own work and organized exhibitions, some of which were funded by the Arts Council, in surrounding galleries. (Persistence Works, Sheffield Institute of Arts Gallery, Workstation, Butcher Works Gallery,). I can remember when Spearmint Rhino was open and it does not fit well in a designated Cultural Industries Quarter. Sheffield has an increasingly successful and vibrant cultural community. As witnessed by the funding obtained by S1 artists for the development of a new contemporary gallery in Park Hill.

Furthermore Schedule 3 of the 1982 Act provides specific grounds to refuse/renew license on the basis of "cultural hub of city".

The site is also close to the main pedestrian route from the train station to the city, and therefore gives a rather tacky first impression to visitors.

(ii) Use to which premises in the vicinity are put.

The site is in close proximity to organisations populated by large numbers of young people. Freeman College caters for young people with learning disabilities and special educational needs (Autism, ADHD, SEN), the the University Technical College takes students from 16-19 a young and impressionable age, in addition Hallam Students Union is directly next door to the Spearmint Rhino building.

The site is also very near to the main Sheffield Hallam University site, and the streets around this area are frequented by large numbers of students both during the day and in the evening.

This area is busy at night, there are a number of popular bars and restaurants plus the Showroom Independent cinema. Venues such as Spearmint Rhino can make women feel uneasy, and women in our city should not be subjected to an acceptance of sexualisation and objectification, especially in a city that promotes and supports equality in all other respects.

Yours sincerely,

Lizz Tuckerman

B31

From: gina clayton
Sent: 06 April 2016 10:52
To: licensingservice
Subject: Spearmint Rhino - 60 Brown Street, Sheffield S1 2BS

Dear Madam or Sir,

60 Brown Street, Sheffield S1 2BS

I wish to object to the application for renewal of a Sexual Entertainment Venue license for premises at 60 Brown Street, Sheffield S1 2BS, known as Spearmint Rhino.

The building is directly opposite the Hallam University Students Union. Students are often away from home for the first time and are at a time of their lives when they are particularly vulnerable to influence. If a venue of this kind is directly opposite their union premises, the message that Sheffield is giving to them is that exploitation of women is a legitimate and even preferred kind of entertainment.

As a woman, I feel mildly depressed as walk past Spearmint Rhino. It is on a main pedestrian thoroughfare from the city centre to the railway station. I live close to the city centre and walk through frequently. It disturbs me that my home city considers exploitation of women to be something to be shown off and located centrally. While some may consider this entertainment harmless, it does in fact contribute to a culture in which women are used for exploitation. This is part of the culture that allows high levels of violence against women and girls. This part of the city is a growing cultural centre which in general I very much appreciate and enjoy. It would be to the benefit of the city to continue to attract people to this area, not deter them, nor promote exploitation as part of that growing culture.

Withholding one licence will not stop violence and exploitation, but it will contribute to changing what is socially accepted. A different use of the building could contribute to making a more inclusive, positive and enjoyable culture in the city centre. A sexual entertainment venue excludes most people, disturbs others and contributes to violence and harm.

I hope that this licence will be withheld.

Yours sincerely,

Georgina Clayton

B32a

-----Original Message-----
From: Stansfield, Chrissie
Sent: 06 April 2016 10:53
To: licensingservice
Subject: Objection to Spearmint Rhino Licence renewal

Dear Sir/Madam,
I refer to the application for a sexual entertainment venue licence by Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield. S1 2BS.

This is an objection letter to the application for this licence and I call for the council to refuse it.

I believe that the Council should refuse the licence application under the Discretionary Grounds for Refusal of Sheffield City Council's Sexual Entertainment Venues Licensing Policy on two grounds:

Ground c):
"the number of sex establishments in the relevant locality at the time the application is made is equal to or exceeds the number which the authority consider is appropriate for that locality."
The grounds go on to state that "Nil may be an appropriate number for the purposes of (c)"

Ground d):
"the grant or renewal of a licence would be inappropriate, having regard -
(i) to the character of the relevant locality: or
(ii) to the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put: or
(iii) to the layout, character or condition of the premises; vehicle; vessel or stall in respect of which the application is made."

Sheffield City Council also has "statutory obligations in relation to disability race and gender" ensuring that these factors are not used to discriminate against anyone. I believe that a sexual entertainment venue directly discriminates against women by normalising the sexualisation and objectification of women, and that this contributes to their sexualisation and objectification in other areas of society.

Furthermore Schedule 3 1982 Act provides specific grounds to refuse/renew license:
e) "cultural hub of city"
f) "central gateway to the city....or tourist attraction"

My general terms of objection as a senior lecturer at Sheffield Hallam University and a trustee of SHIFT (Sheffield Independent Film and Television) are as follows:
- the part of the city that the club is situated is unsuitable due to it being in the "cultural heart" of the city. The Sexual Entertainment Venue is situated in the cultural heart of Sheffield, and within the area of the railway station, the main gateway and welcome point to the city, encompassing the pedestrianised walk way up to town centre.

- the club is situated directly next to the Hallam Students Union, a hub of young impressionable people, sometimes vulnerable and often away from home for the first time.

- in the Workstation building opposite the club SHIFT (Sheffield Independent Film and Television) provides training for extremely vulnerable young men and women

B32b

- when walking around this area, which as a Council you encourage people to do due to the other businesses and services in the area, women feel nervous because of the SEV and have to change their behaviour because of it being there, for example having to look around to see if there are people coming out of the SEV, take a different route walking to the centre of town so that they do not have to go past the SEV. Women should not have to feel like this in their city.

- the Council's own promotion of the city is "Sheffield - where everyone matters" - this includes the female citizens of the city who should not be subjected to their city promoting and normalising the sexualisation and objectification of them

- this image or a high-end establishment portrayed by this SEV goes in some way to normalising this type of venue in a very active part of the city, and as such giving the impression that Sheffield as a city condones both the sexualisation and objectification of women, which is in complete contradiction to the Council's equality policies and Sheffield's own widely publicised belief of Sheffield being a city "where everyone matters."

- granting a licence would be contradictory to other work that the Council does, funds and promotes, for example the recent SheFest, the Equalities Hub within the community bringing Communities of Identity together to tackle equalities issues within the council and the city,

- the council has a duty under the Equality Act to work to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation A sexual entertainment venue in the heart of the city, or anywhere in the city, is simply completely contradictory to everything that the council says it stands for, everything that the council should stand for, and has a duty to work towards.

I also ask what actions or discussions the council has taken in order to consider what number of sexual entertainment venues is appropriate for Sheffield, as stated in the policy and legislation? Has the Council for example, as per their own policy, carried out an Equality Impact Assessment?

The Council is asked to note that in the last few years Leeds City Council successfully defended a refusal to renew two SEV licenses at judicial review: R (Bean Trading A Ltd) v Leeds City Council (2014) It was held that a council can "take a fresh look" despite no changes to the character of locality.

The case of Thompson v Oxford City Council (2014) was also supported at court of appeal, and the Council told they could "take a fresh look" at any application for renewal.

If the panel feel that they cannot make a refusal decision without further discussion, I would ask that a hearing is held so that the application can be discussed in more detail.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Chrissie Stansfield

B33a

From: Tony Maltby
Sent: 06 April 2016 10:57
To: licensingservice
Subject: Licensing application Spearmint Rhino Sheffield

6 April 2016

By Email

Dear Madam or Sir

I refer to the application for a sexual entertainment venue license by Spearmint Rhino Ltd, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield. S1 2BS.

I believe that the Council should **refuse** the license application under the Discretionary Grounds for Refusal of Sheffield City Council's Sexual Entertainment Venues Licensing Policy on two grounds:

Ground c):

"the number of sex establishments in the relevant locality at the time the application is made is equal to or exceeds the number which the authority consider is appropriate for that locality."

The grounds go on to state that "Nil may be an appropriate number for the purposes of (c)"

Ground d):

"the grant or renewal of a license would be inappropriate, having regard –

(i) to the character of the relevant locality: or

(ii) to the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put: or

(iii) to the layout, character or condition of the premises; vehicle; vessel or stall in respect of which the application is made."

Sheffield City Council also has statutory obligations in relation to disability, 'race' and gender" and age ensuring that these factors are not used to discriminate against anyone. I believe that a sexual entertainment venue directly discriminates against women by normalising the sexualisation and objectification of women, and that this contributes to their sexualisation and objectification in other areas of society. This is particularly important in view of the recent revelations regarding the sexual exploitation of minors in the city, in Rotherham and elsewhere.

Furthermore Schedule 3 1982 Act provides specific grounds to refuse/renew license:

e) "cultural hub of city"

f) "central gateway to the city....or tourist attraction"

My general terms of objection are as follows:

– the part of the city that the club is situated is unsuitable due to it being in the "cultural heart" of the city. The Sexual Entertainment Venue is situated in the cultural heart of Sheffield, and within the area of the railway station, the main gateway and welcome point to the city, encompassing the pedestrianised walk way up to town centre.

– the club is situated directly next to the Hallam Students Union, a hub of young impressionable people, sometimes vulnerable and often away from home for the first time.

– when walking around this area, which as a Council you encourage people to do due to the other businesses and services in the area, women have told me that they feel nervous because of the proximity of this establishment and have to change their behaviour because of it. For example, take a different route walking to the centre of town so that they do not have to go past the venue. Women should not have to feel like this or act in this way in their city.

– the Council's own promotion of the city is "Sheffield – where everyone matters" – this includes the female citizens of the city who should not be subjected to their city promoting and normalising the sexualisation and objectification of them

– this image or a high-end establishment portrayed by this company and venue goes in some way to normalising this in a very active part of the city. As such it sends out to our visitors and citizens alike the impression that Sheffield as a city, and by implication the local council condones both the sexualisation and objectification of women, which is in complete contradiction to the Council's equality policies and Sheffield's own widely publicised marketing of Sheffield being a city "where everyone matters."

–granting a license would be contradictory to other work that the Council does, funds and promotes, for example the recent SheFest, the Equalities Hub Network, the Social Cohesion strategy and indeed the campaign 'Our Fair City' arising out of the Sheffield Fairness Commission. It is counterintuitive to work within our community of Sheffield that is bringing communities of identity together to tackle equalities issues within the Council and the city,

– the council has a duty under the Equality Act to work to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation. In agreeing to offer a license it is singularly failing in this duty. Indeed has it carried out an Equality Impact Assessment in relation to the licensing of this venue?

You will be aware that Leeds City Council has successfully defended a refusal to renew two SEV licenses at judicial review (see R (Bean Trading A Ltd) v Leeds City Council (2014)). The case of Thompson v Oxford City Council (2014) was also supported at Court of Appeal, and Oxford City Council told they could "take a fresh look" at any application for renewal.

If the panel feel that they cannot make a refusal decision without further discussion, I would ask that a hearing is held so that the application can be discussed in more detail. I write this letter as a member of the Equality Hub Network Board, a member of the Sheffield Fairness Commission and because of my key strategic role within the VCF sector in Sheffield. You should note that the Equality Hub Board has recently condoned the previous extension of the license and we will actively pursue the revocation of licenses if awarded on the grounds of equality, fairness and social justice.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

Tony Maltby

Dr Tony Maltby,

Member, Sheffield Equality Hub Network Board

Fair City Champion

Sheffield Fairness Commissioner

B34 a

From: Christ Church Central
Sent: 06 April 2016 11:49
To: licensingservice
Subject: Objection to renewal of SEV licence for Spearmint Rhino, Brown Street, Sheffield

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing on behalf of Christ Church Central in order to object to the renewal of the Sexual Entertainment Venue licence for Spearmint Rhino, located at 60 Brown Street, S1 2BS.

We would like to object to the renewal of the SEV licence on the following grounds:

Protection of children from harm

Christ Church Central is a church of more than 200 members, which meets each week in the Workstation - a building directly almost directly opposite the Spearmint Rhino premises. The church family includes around 70 children, many of whom regularly take the opportunity to play in the public space next to the premises after the service. While we take safeguarding very seriously and do everything in our power to protect our young people, the very presence of the premises in its current form presents danger to children - from anti-social behaviour and litter left around the premises to the moral implications of being regularly exposed to an institution which encourages the objectification and sexualisation of women. We believe normalising such values will not help fight such behaviour in later life, and does nothing to further the cause for appropriate treatment of women in wider society.

Close proximity to a church

As previously stated, Christ Church Central meets each week in the Workstation, directly across from the Spearmint Rhino premises. While the space we rent is ideal for our church family, the very presence of a sexual entertainment venue has the potential to cause problems for members of the church. We accept that not all hold to the same sexual ethics as we do as laid out in the Bible, however we also believe that those struggling with these issues should not have such venues forced upon them so close to their place of worship, particular when these venues are proven to be the cause of family and marital breakdowns. Personal choices remain so, however as a council with a duty to serve the people of the city, we believe granting an SEV licence would be in opposition to the will and needs of the city.

Proximity to a central gateway to the city or other city landmark, historic building or tourist attraction

The Brown Street premises is 0.2 miles or a short walk from Sheffield's rail station, which is without doubt one of the main gateways to the city. The Spearmint Rhino premises is located on one of the main thoroughfares to the city centre from the station, immediately giving a dubious impression for those arriving in the city.

Additionally, the building lies just a few metres away from the Students' Union building of Sheffield Hallam University. While students are legally adults and therefore able to make their own decisions, having such a venue near so many impressionable, and in many cases vulnerable, young adults is a great risk to those students.

Finally, the Showroom cinema itself is something of a Sheffield landmark, with a rich history of independent cinema and a vibrant creative community surrounding it. The juxtaposition of this community with Spearmint Rhino is jarring and undesirable, and risks upsetting a major cultural asset.

B34b

The character of the locality

The Brown Street site is located within Sheffield's Cultural Industries Quarter - an area where education, in the form of the aforementioned SHU, the University Technical College and Freeman College - combine with creative industries, businesses and individuals to form an exciting and attractive area of the city that offers employment, training and opportunity. This is an area which draws people with ideas and inspiration, an area of unusual and interesting design - for example Pinball Square - and of renowned galleries and exhibitions.

Spearmint Rhino is none of the above, and is therefore not in keeping with the style or substance of the area. In addition, there are many charities in the region working with young and vulnerable adults who would find the renewal of the SEV licence a hindrance to their excellent work.

As a church, we would also seek to question the logic behind any planned approval, given Sheffield City Council's own commitments to gender equality and women's right, any Equality Impact Assessment, and indeed the values the Council stands for.

Therefore, Christ Church Central respectfully asks that Sheffield City Council refuses to grant the SEV licence to Spearmint Rhino.

Many thanks for taking the time to read our objection, and I look forward to hearing your response in the near future.

Yours gratefully

Reverend Canon Tim Davies,

Senior Minister

Christ Church Central

Egerton Hall

Fitzwilliam Street

S1 4JR

B35

Head of Licensing

Licensing Service

Block C

Staniforth Road Depot

Staniforth Road

SHEFFIELD

S9 3HD

6.4.16

Dear Madam or Sir

I wish to object to the application for renewal of a Sexual Entertainment Venue license for premises at 60 Brown Street, Sheffield S1 2BS, premises known as Spearmint Rhino on the following grounds:

- The prevention of crime and disorder, including fear of crime, noise pollution, anti-social behaviour or disturbance to residents
- The protection of children from harm

I work at Scotia Works which is a managed workspace on Leadmill Road, Sheffield S1 4SE and within close proximity to Spearmint Rhino. Tenants from Scotia Works include SRASAC and the Sheena Amos Trust who work with vulnerable adults and teenagers.

My concern is that Spearmint Rhino will increase the fear of crime that the clients of these charities experience within the cultural industries quarter. A further concern is that Spearmint Rhino portrays that it is acceptable that women act as sexual objects for the gratification of men which contributes to society's violence against women and girls.

I ask that you refuse this application

Yours sincerely

H.Conduit

HAZEL CONDUIT

B36

From: val binney
Sent: 06 April 2016 12:04
To: licensingservice
Subject: Spearmint Rhino Licence Application

6 April 2016

Dear Madam or Sir

I wish to object to the application for renewal of a Sexual Entertainment Venue license for premises at 60 Brown Street, Sheffield S1 2BS, premises known as Spearmint Rhino.

I feel strongly that Spearmint Rhino gives a very bad impression to people arriving in the city by car or train. It is placed right near where many young women get on and off buses for the Station on their own at night. Men who have experienced drinking and 'entertainment' at Spearmint Rhino are likely to be dis-inhibited in making sexual approaches to these young women. I understand that other young people use the close vicinity to visit charities too.

I think the so-called 'sexual entertainment' Club is particularly unsuitable for the Cultural Industries Quarter. In fact, Sheffield Council should choose the option of making Sheffield a 'No Sexual Entertainment City. What kind of message does it give to the women of our city?

On the above grounds, lease refuse Spearmint Rhino's licence application

Yours sincerely

Valerie Binney

B37a

From: Brian Lewis
Sent: 06 April 2016 13:13
To: licensingservice
Subject: Renewal of licence: Spearmint Rhino, Brown Street, Sheffield

Dear Sir/Madam

I refer to the application for a sexual entertainment venue licence by Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield. S1 2BS.

This is an **objection letter** to the application for this licence and I call for the council to **refuse it.**

I believe that the Council should refuse the licence application under the Discretionary Grounds for Refusal of Sheffield City Council's Sexual Entertainment Venues Licensing Policy on two grounds:

Ground c):

"the number of sex establishments in the relevant locality at the time the application is made is equal to or exceeds the number which the authority consider is appropriate for that locality."

The grounds go on to state that "Nil may be an appropriate number for the purposes of (c)"

Ground d):

"the grant or renewal of a licence would be inappropriate, having regard -

(i) to the character of the relevant locality: or
(ii) to the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put: or
(iii) to the layout, character or condition of the premises; vehicle; vessel or stall in respect of which the application is made."

Sheffield City Council also has "statutory obligations in relation to disability race and gender" ensuring that these factors are not used to discriminate against anyone. I believe that a sexual entertainment venue directly discriminates against women by normalising the sexualisation and objectification of women, and that this contributes to their sexualisation and objectification in other areas of society.

Furthermore Schedule 3 1982 Act provides specific grounds to refuse/renew license:

e) "cultural hub of city"
f) "central gateway to the city....or tourist attraction"

My general terms of objection are as follows:

- the part of the city in which the club is situated is unsuitable due to it being in the "cultural heart" of the city. The Sexual Entertainment Venue is situated in the cultural heart of Sheffield, close to the Site Gallery, Yorkshire Artspace, Showroom/Workstation and other arts venues, and within the area of the railway station, the main gateway and welcome point to the city, encompassing the pedestrianised walk way up to town centre.

- the club is situated directly next to the Hallam Students Union, a hub of young impressionable people, sometimes vulnerable and often away from home for the first time. A number of the SEV's recent promotions have clearly and directly targeted young, impressionable students.

B37b

- when walking around this area (which, as a Council, you encourage people to do due to the other businesses and services in the area), women feel nervous because of the SEV and have to change their behaviour because of it being there, for example having to look to see if there are people coming out of the SEV, and taking a different route walking to the city centre so that they do not have to go past the SEV. Women should not have to feel like this in their own city.

- the Council's own promotion of the city is "Sheffield - where everyone matters" - this includes the female citizens of the city who should not be subjected to their city promoting and normalising the sexualisation and objectification of them.

- this image or a high-end establishment portrayed by this SEV goes in some way to normalising this type of venue in a very active part of the city, and as such giving the impression that Sheffield as a city condones both the sexualisation and objectification of women, which is in complete contradiction to the Council's equality policies and Sheffield's own widely publicised belief of Sheffield being a city "where everyone matters."

- granting a licence would be contradictory to and undermining of other work that the Council does, funds and promotes: for example, the recent SheFest, the Equalities Hub within the community bringing Communities of Identity together to tackle equalities issues within the council and the city.

- the council has a duty under the Equality Act to work to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation.

A sexual entertainment venue in the heart of the city is completely contradictory to everything that the council says it stands for, everything that the council should stand for, and has a duty to work towards.

I also ask what actions or discussions the council has taken in order to consider what number of sexual entertainment venues is appropriate for Sheffield, as stated in the policy and legislation? Has the Council for example, as per their own policy, carried out an Equality Impact Assessment?

The Council is asked to note that in the last few years Leeds City Council successfully defended a refusal to renew two SEV licenses at judicial review:

R (Bean Trading A Ltd) v Leeds City Council (2014)

It was held that a council can "take a fresh look" despite no changes to the character of locality.

The case of Thompson v Oxford City Council (2014) was also supported at court of appeal, and the Council told they could "take a fresh look" at any application for renewal.

If the panel feel that they cannot make a refusal decision without further discussion, I would ask that a hearing is held so that the application can be discussed in more detail.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards

Brian Lewis

B38

From: Andrew Enever
Sent: 06 April 2016 13:57
To: licensingservice
Subject: Spearmint Rhino objection

Dear Licensing commitee

I understand that there is an application for this organisation to open a 'sexual entertainment venue' at 60 Brown Street.

I wish to register my opposition to such a development on the grounds that it sets a very poor example for both men and women about what sex should be really all about.

If the would-be patrons of such a venue are so emotionally impoverished, perhaps they should seek advice from a sexual and relationship counsellor. Such venues foster the idea that to participate with your mates in sexual gratification with women, with whom no more satisfying relationship is ever possible, is OK.

Equally, it promotes the idea among some women that all men are interested in is sex, and that those men (and indirectly, their families) can be financially and emotionally manipulated to part with money in exchange for titillation.

I think that such venues are fundamentally anti-family, anti-emotional, anti-women. Ultimately they are militate against proper human relationships where sexuality plays a healthy, enjoyable part of human relationships.

Please don't let this tawdry development go ahead.

regards

Andrew Enever

B39a

From: emma bolland
Sent: 06 April 2016 14:02
To: licensingservice
Subject: Renewal of licence: Spearmint Rhino, Brown Street, Sheffield

Dear Sir/Madam

I refer to the application for a sexual entertainment venue licence by Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield. S1 2BS.

This is an **objection letter** to the application for this licence and I call for the council to **refuse** it.

I believe that the Council should refuse the licence application under the Discretionary Grounds for Refusal of Sheffield City Council's Sexual Entertainment Venues Licensing Policy on two grounds:

Ground c):

"the number of sex establishments in the relevant locality at the time the application is made is equal to or exceeds the number which the authority consider is appropriate for that locality."

The grounds go on to state that "Nil may be an appropriate number for the purposes of (c)"

Ground d):

"the grant or renewal of a licence would be inappropriate, having regard –

(i) to the character of the relevant locality: or
(ii) to the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put: or
(iii) to the layout, character or condition of the premises; vehicle; vessel or stall in respect of which the application is made."

Sheffield City Council also has "statutory obligations in relation to disability race and gender" ensuring that these factors are not used to discriminate against anyone. I believe that a sexual entertainment venue directly discriminates against women by normalising the sexualisation and objectification of women, and that this contributes to their sexualisation and objectification in other areas of society.

Furthermore Schedule 3 1982 Act provides specific grounds to refuse/renew license:

e) "cultural hub of city"
f) "central gateway to the city....or tourist attraction"

My general terms of objection are as follows:

– the part of the city in which the club is situated is unsuitable due to it being in the "cultural heart" of the city. The Sexual Entertainment Venue is situated in the cultural heart of Sheffield, close to the Site Gallery, Yorkshire Artspace, Showroom/Workstation and other arts venues, and within the area of the railway station, the main gateway and welcome point to the city, encompassing the pedestrianised walk way up to town centre.

– the club is situated directly next to the Hallam Students Union, a hub of young impressionable people, sometimes vulnerable and often away from home for the first time. A number of the SEV's recent promotions have clearly and directly targeted young, impressionable students.

- as a doctoral researcher and occasional lecturer at Sheffield Hallam I often have no choice but to walk through this area late at night. Walking past Spearmint Rhino is demeaning, humiliating, and scary. Men entering and exiting often comment upon women walking past, myself included. The atmosphere is intimidating, and psychologically violent. You, as a council, must take responsibility for this.

– when walking around this area (which, as a Council, you encourage people to do due to the other businesses and services in the area), women feel nervous because of the SEV and have to change their behaviour because of it being there, for example having to look to see if there are people coming out of the SEV, and taking a different route walking to the city centre so that they do not have to go past the SEV. Women should not have to feel like this in their own city.

– the Council's own promotion of the city is "Sheffield – where everyone matters" – this includes the female citizens of the city who should not be subjected to their city promoting and normalising the sexualisation and objectification of them.

– this image or a high-end establishment portrayed by this SEV goes in some way to normalising this type of venue in a very active part of the city, and as such giving the impression that Sheffield as a city condones both the sexualisation and objectification of women, which is in complete contradiction to the Council's equality policies and Sheffield's own widely publicised belief of Sheffield being a city "where everyone matters."

– granting a licence would be contradictory to and undermining of other work that the Council does, funds and promotes: for example, the recent SheFest, the Equalities Hub within the community bringing Communities of Identity together to tackle equalities issues within the council and the city.

– the council has a duty under the Equality Act to work to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation.

A sexual entertainment venue in the heart of the city is completely contradictory to everything that the council says it stands for, everything that the council should stand for, and has a duty to work towards.

I also ask what actions or discussions the council has taken in order to consider what number of sexual entertainment venues is appropriate for Sheffield, as stated in the policy and legislation? Has the Council for example, as per their own policy, carried out an Equality Impact Assessment?

The Council is asked to note that in the last few years Leeds City Council successfully defended a refusal to renew two SEV licenses at judicial review:

R (Bean Trading A Ltd) v Leeds City Council (2014)

It was held that a council can "take a fresh look" despite no changes to the character of locality.

The case of Thompson v Oxford City Council (2014) was also supported at court of appeal, and the Council told they could "take a fresh look" at any application for renewal.

If the panel feel that they cannot make a refusal decision without further discussion, I would ask that a hearing is held so that the application can be discussed in more detail.

I would like you to reply to this email explaining what actions you will be taking, and why.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards

Emma Bolland

Emma Bolland | artist & writer

B40a

From: Sarah Finnegan
Sent: 06 April 2016 16:03
To: licensingservice
Subject: Licensing application by Spearmint Rhino

Dear Madam or Sir

I refer to the application for a sexual entertainment venue licence by Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield. S1 2BS.

This is an objection letter to the application for this licence and I call for the council to refuse it.

I believe that the Council should refuse the application under the Discretionary Grounds for Refusal of Sheffield City Council's Sexual Entertainment Venues Licensing Policy on two grounds:

Ground c):

"the number of sex establishments in the relevant locality at the time the application is made is equal to or exceeds the number which the authority consider is appropriate for that locality."

The grounds go on to state that "Nil may be an appropriate number for the purposes of (c)"

Ground d):

"the grant or renewal of a licence would be inappropriate, having regard –

(i) to the character of the relevant locality: or

(ii) to the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put: or

(iii) to the layout, character or condition of the premises; vehicle; vessel or stall in respect of which the application is made."

Sheffield City Council also has "statutory obligations in relation to disability race and gender" ensuring that these factors are not used to discriminate against anyone. I believe that a sexual entertainment venue directly and severely discriminates against women by normalising the sexualisation and objectification of women. This discrimination contributes to the sexualisation and objectification of women in other areas of society.

Furthermore Schedule 3 1982 Act provides specific grounds to refuse/renew license:

e) "cultural hub of city"

f) "central gateway to the city….or tourist attraction"

Our general terms of objection are as follows:

– the part of the city that the club is situated is unsuitable due to it being in the "cultural heart" of the city. The Sexual Entertainment Venue is situated in the cultural heart of Sheffield, and within the area of the railway station, the main gateway and welcome point to the city, encompassing the pedestrianised walk way up to town centre.

– the club is situated directly next to the Hallam Students Union, a hub of young impressionable people, sometimes vulnerable and often away from home for the first time.

– when walking around this area, which as a Council you encourage people to do due to the other businesses and services in the area, women feel nervous because of the SEV and have to change their behaviour because of it being there, for example having to look around to see if there are people coming out of the SEV, take a different route walking to the centre of town so that they do not have to go past the SEV. **Women should not have to feel like this in their city**.

– the Council's own promotion of the city is "Sheffield – where everyone matters" – this includes the female citizens of the city who should not be subjected to their city promoting and normalising the sexualisation and objectification of them.

– this image of a high-end establishment portrayed by this SEV goes in some way to normalising this type of venue in a very active part of the city. As such it gives the impression that Sheffield as a city condones both the sexualisation and objectification of women. This is in complete contradiction to the Council's equality policies and Sheffield's own widely publicised belief of Sheffield being a city "where everyone matters."

– granting a licence would be contradictory to other work that the Council does, funds and promotes, for example the recent SheFest, the Equalities Hub within the community bringing Communities of Identity together to tackle equalities issues within the council and the city

– the council has a duty under the Equality Act to work to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation

A sexual entertainment venue in the heart of the city, or anywhere in the city, is simply completely contradictory to everything that the council says it stands for, everything that the council should stand for, and has a duty to work towards.

I also ask what actions or discussions the council has taken in order to consider what number of sexual entertainment venues is appropriate for Sheffield, as stated in the policy and legislation? Has the Council for example, as per their own policy, carried out an Equality Impact Assessment?

I will fully and actively support the council in the face of any challenge to the council by giving a refusal.

The Council is asked to note that in the last few years Leeds City Council successfully defended a refusal to renew two SEV licenses at judicial review:

R (Bean Trading A Ltd) v Leeds City Council (2014)

It was held that a council can "take a fresh look" despite no changes to the character of locality.

The case of Thompson v Oxford City Council (2014) was also supported at court of appeal, and the Council told they could "take a fresh look" at any application for renewal.

If the panel feel that they cannot make a refusal decision without further discussion, I would ask that a hearing is held so that the application can be discussed in more detail.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sarah Finnegan

B41

-----Original Message-----
From: Lesley James
Sent: 06 April 2016 16:33
To: licensingservice
Subject: objection to renewal of licence of Spearmint Rhino 60 Brown St Sheffield

I am lodging an objection to the relicensing of Spearmint Rhino a sexual entertainment venue at 60 Brown St S1 2BS.

It is completely inappropriate for a sexual entertainment venue to be located in the 'Cultural Industries Quarter'.What does this say about Sheffield's values?Visitors passing by from the train station to Sheffield Hallam University must be appalled.Parents visiting their young student daughters who are at Sheffield Hallam University nearby must worry about their safety and rightly so as the men going to Spearmint Rhino exploit and denigrate women for sexual reasons which is abusive behaviour.

I go to the Showroom Cinema nearby which is a praised arthouse cinema,hosting national events like the Documentary Festival.People coming to the Festival and Cinema confronted with Spearmint Rhino must question whether it is safe to do so,and wonder what sort of place Sheffield is.I am a disabled woman and feel vulnerable near the premises because of the attitudes towards women of the men who go in.

Lesley James

B42 a

From: Laura Baker
Sent: 06 April 2016 16:53
To: licensingservice
Subject: Objection to License Renewal

I refer to the application for a sexual entertainment venue licence by Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield. S1 2BS.

This is an objection letter to the application for this licence and I call for the council to refuse it.

I believe that the Council should refuse the licence application under the Discretionary Grounds for Refusal of Sheffield City Council's Sexual Entertainment Venues Licensing Policy on two grounds:

Ground c):

"the number of sex establishments in the relevant locality at the time the application is made is equal to or exceeds the number which the authority consider is appropriate for that locality."

The grounds go on to state that "Nil may be an appropriate number for the purposes of (c)"

Ground d):

"the grant or renewal of a licence would be inappropriate, having regard -

(i) to the character of the relevant locality: or

(ii) to the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put: or

(iii) to the layout, character or condition of the premises; vehicle; vessel or stall in respect of which the application is made."

Sheffield City Council also has "statutory obligations in relation to disability race and gender" ensuring that these factors are not used to discriminate against anyone. I believe that a sexual entertainment venue directly discriminates against women by normalising the sexualisation and objectification of women, and that this contributes to their sexualisation and objectification in other areas of society.

Furthermore Schedule 3 1982 Act provides specific grounds to refuse/renew license:

e) "cultural hub of city"

f) "central gateway to the city....or tourist attraction"

Our general terms of objection are as follows:

- the part of the city that the club is situated is unsuitable due to it being in the "cultural heart" of the city. The Sexual Entertainment Venue is situated in the cultural heart of Sheffield, and within the area of the railway station, the main gateway and welcome point to the city, encompassing the pedestrianised walk way up to town centre.

- the club is situated directly next to the Hallam Students Union, a hub of young impressionable people, sometimes vulnerable and often away from home for the first time.

- when walking around this area, which as a Council you encourage people to do due to the other businesses and services in the area, women feel nervous because of the SEV and have to change their behaviour because of it being there, for example having to look around to see if there are people coming out of the SEV, take a different route walking to the centre of town so that they do not have to go past the SEV. Women should not have to feel like this in their city.

- the Council's own promotion of the city is "Sheffield - where everyone matters" - this includes the female citizens of the city who should not be subjected to their city promoting and normalising the sexualisation and objectification of them

- this image or a high-end establishment portrayed by this SEV goes in some way to normalising this type of venue in a very active part of the city, and creates the impression that Sheffield as a city condones both the sexualisation and objectification of women, which is in complete contradiction to the Council's equality policies and Sheffield's own widely publicised belief of Sheffield being a city "where everyone matters."

B42b

- granting a licence would be contradictory to other work that the Council does, funds and promotes, for example the recent SheFest, the Equalities Hub within the community bringing Communities of Identity together to tackle equalities issues within the council and the city,

- the council has a duty under the Equality Act to work to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation

- the venue does not reflect the surrounding businesses and their efforts to regenerate Sheffield's centre.

A sexual entertainment venue in the heart of the city, or anywhere in the city, is simply completely contradictory to everything that the council says it stands for, everything that the council should stand for, and has a duty to work towards.

I also ask what actions or discussions the council has taken in order to consider what number of sexual entertainment venues is appropriate for Sheffield, as stated in the policy and legislation? Has the Council for example, as per their own policy, carried out an Equality Impact Assessment?

I will fully and actively support the council in the face of any challenge to the council by giving a refusal.

The Council is asked to note that in the last few years Leeds City Council successfully defended a refusal to renew two SEV licenses at judicial review:

R (Bean Trading A Ltd) v Leeds City Council (2014)

It was held that a council can "take a fresh look" despite no changes to the character of locality.

The case of Thompson v Oxford City Council (2014) was also supported at court of appeal, and the Council told they could "take a fresh look" at any application for renewal.

If the panel feel that they cannot make a refusal decision without further discussion, I would ask that a hearing is held so that the application can be discussed in more detail.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely

Laura Baker

B43

From: Cathy Dean
Sent: 06 April 2016 17:42
To: licensingservice
Subject: Spearmint Rhino

Dear Madam/ Sir

As a frequent visitor to the Cultural Industries Quarter, especially to the Showroom and the Fusion cafe attached to Freeman College i am very aware that Spearmint Rhino does not fit with the attractions of this area. It is very near to Freeman College with its vulnerable adults and does not suit an important gateway to an area that has brought much inward investment to Sheffield.

I hope that you do not renew the licence.

Yours sincerely

CATHY DEAN

B44a

From: pkevans1
Sent: 06 April 2016 22:47
To: licensingservice
Subject: Renewal of licence: Spearmint Rhino, Brown Street, Sheffield

Dear Sir/Madam

I refer to the application for a sexual entertainment venue licence by Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield. S1 2BS.

This is an **objection letter** to the application for this licence and I call for the council to **refuse** it.

I believe that the Council should refuse the licence application under the Discretionary Grounds for Refusal of Sheffield City Council's Sexual Entertainment Venues Licensing Policy on two grounds:

Ground c):

"the number of sex establishments in the relevant locality at the time the application is made is equal to or exceeds the number which the authority consider is appropriate for that locality."

The grounds go on to state that "Nil may be an appropriate number for the purposes of (c)"

Ground d):

"the grant or renewal of a licence would be inappropriate, having regard -

(i) to the character of the relevant locality: or
(ii) to the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put: or
(iii) to the layout, character or condition of the premises; vehicle; vessel or stall in respect of which the application is made."

Sheffield City Council also has "statutory obligations in relation to disability race and gender" ensuring that these factors are not used to discriminate against anyone. I believe that a sexual entertainment venue directly discriminates against women by normalising the sexualisation and objectification of women, and that this contributes to their sexualisation and objectification in other areas of society.

Furthermore Schedule 3 1982 Act provides specific grounds to refuse/renew license:

e) "cultural hub of city"
f) "central gateway to the city....or tourist attraction"

My general terms of objection are as follows:

- the part of the city in which the club is situated is unsuitable due to it being in the "cultural heart" of the city. The Sexual Entertainment Venue is situated in the cultural heart of Sheffield, close to the Site Gallery, Yorkshire Artspace, Showroom/Workstation and other arts venues, and within the area of the railway station, the main gateway and welcome point to the city, encompassing the pedestrianised walk way up to town centre.

- the club is situated directly next to the Hallam Students Union, a hub of young impressionable people, sometimes vulnerable and often away from home for the first time. A number of the SEV's recent promotions have clearly and directly targeted young, impressionable students.

- when walking around this area (which, as a Council, you encourage people to do due to the other businesses and services in the area), women feel nervous because of the SEV and have to change their behaviour because of it being there, for example having to look to see if there are people coming out of the SEV, and taking a different route walking to the city centre so that they do not have to go past the SEV. Women should not have to feel like this in their own city.

- the Council's own promotion of the city is "Sheffield - where everyone matters" - this includes the female citizens of the city who should not be subjected to their city promoting and normalising the sexualisation and objectification of them.

- this image or a high-end establishment portrayed by this SEV goes in some way to normalising this type of venue in a very active part of the city, and as such giving the impression that Sheffield as a city condones both the sexualisation and objectification of women, which is in complete contradiction to the Council's equality policies and Sheffield's own widely publicised belief of Sheffield being a city "where everyone matters."

- granting a licence would be contradictory to and undermining of other work that the Council does, funds and promotes: for example, the recent SheFest, the Equalities Hub within the community bringing Communities of Identity together to tackle equalities issues within the council and the city.

- the council has a duty under the Equality Act to work to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation.

A sexual entertainment venue in the heart of the city is completely contradictory to everything that the council says it stands for, everything that the council should stand for, and has a duty to work towards.

I also ask what actions or discussions the council has taken in order to consider what number of sexual entertainment venues is appropriate for Sheffield, as stated in the policy and legislation? Has the Council for example, as per their own policy, carried out an Equality Impact Assessment?

The Council is asked to note that in the last few years Leeds City Council successfully defended a refusal to renew two SEV licenses at judicial review:

R (Bean Trading A Ltd) v Leeds City Council (2014)

It was held that a council can "take a fresh look" despite no changes to the character of locality.

The case of Thompson v Oxford City Council (2014) was also supported at court of appeal, and the Council told they could "take a fresh look" at any application for renewal.

If the panel feel that they cannot make a refusal decision without further discussion, I would ask that a hearing is held so that the application can be discussed in more detail.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards

Paul Evans

B45

From: Rosie O'Daly
Sent: 06 April 2016 22:19
To: licensingservice
Subject: Objection to Spearmint Rhino licence

Dear Sir or Madam,

I wish to object to the application for licence renewal at 60 Brown Street, S1 2BS, known as Spearmint Rhino.

I feel that venues of this sort have no place in our society and certainly not in a city as sophisticated as Sheffield. When we have a city campus for university students nearby, as well as as 14-19 year olds school within three minutes of the venue, I feel it sets a bad example as well as having a dangerous proximity to areas in which young people are frequenting at all hours of the day when completing their studies. On top of this, the venue is opposite a hub of activity housing experts in their field such as Brett Payne (world famous silversmith) as well as other cultural venues such as the Showroom cinema. It is embarrassing to take guests visiting our city to experience these places, only to have to walk past Spearmint Rhino on your way home from seeing a fantastic European film. If people are going to degrade themselves to the extent of visiting such a venue, it would be better placed elsewhere in the city and if possible, outside of Sheffield altogether. Sheffield is a modern, ambitious place but sex entertainment just seems very eighties and nineties to me.

Thanks.

Yours faithfully,

Rosamund O'Daly

B46

From: Declan Walsh
Sent: 06 April 2016 21:27
To: licensingservice
Subject: Spearmint Rhino application

Dear Madam or Sir,

I wish to object to the application for renewal of a Sexual Entertainment Venue license for premises at 60 Brown Street, Sheffield S1 2BS, premises known as Spearmint Rhino.

Given the close proximity of this premises to Freeman College, the University Technical College (UTC) and the fact that this area is designated a cultural industries quarter, I think it entirely inappropriate and I urge you to refuse their application.

Yours Sincerely,

Declan Walsh

B47

-----Original Message-----
From: Sue Vice
Sent: 06 April 2016 19:46
To: licensingservice
Subject: Email for the Head of Licensing

Dear Head of Licensing

I would like to register an objection to the renewal of the license for Spearmint Rhino.

It is not a suitable establishment for its locality (or indeed anywhere in Sheffield, given the Council's concern with equality on all grounds, including gender). It is near to Sheffield Hallam University students'
union, not to mention the Showroom Cinema and railway station.

Its presence near these institutions gives a particular and very negative impression of Sheffield to people arriving as students or visitors. Worse than that, it changes the atmosphere of the area to one in which women don't feel safe. I go out of my way to avoid the establishment (I believe it's called a SEV) when I have to be in that area.

Sheffield is a place where everyone matters, so the slogan goes:
ensuring that Spearmint Rhino is no longer around, in a way that makes sexual exploitation and the objectification of women for profit seem acceptable, would be a good place to start.

best wishes

Sue Vice

B48

From: LOVEDAY HERRIDGE
Sent: 06 April 2016 19:36
To: licensingservice
Subject: Application for a sexual entertainment venue license by Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield S1 2BS

Reference: application for a sexual entertainment venue license by Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield S1 2BS.

This email takes the form of an objection to the application, and I call for the Council to refuse it.

I believe that the Council should refuse the license application under the Discretionary Grounds for Refusal of Sheffield City Council's Sexual Entertainment Venue Licensing Policy under the following grounds:

Ground (C):

The number of sex establishments in the relevant locality at the time the application is made exceeds the number which the authority consider is appropriate for that locality.

The gounds go on to state that 'nil may be appropriate number for the purposes of (c)'

Ground (D):

'the grant or renewal of a license may be inappropriate, having regard -

to the character of the relevant locality; and

to the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put; and

to the layout, character or condition of the premises; vehicle; vessel or stall in respect of which the application is made.

Sheffield City Council also has 'statutory obligations in relation to disability race and gender' ensuring that these factors are not used to discriminate against anyone. I believe that a sexual entertainment venue directly discriminates against women by normalising the sexualisation and objectification of women, and that this contributes to their sexualisation and objectification in other areas of society.

My objections relating to Ground (D)(i) are:

The part of the city where the proposed club is to be sited is unsuitable, as it is in the cultural heart of the city, within the area of the railway station, the main gateway and welcome point of the city, encompassing the walkway up to the city centre.

The club is to be sited directly adjacent to Sheffield Hallam Students' Union, a hub of young people, who are sometimes vulnerable and often away from home for the first time.

The proposed club is sited directly opposite the Site Gallery, which is supported by the Council and by the Arts Council. A strip club is not in keeping with the aims of the gallery (see www.sitegallery.org in particular a programme for Young People, supported by the Paul Hamlyn Foundation), nor in my view does it come within the definition of 'cultural industries' lying within the Cultural Industries Quarter Conservation Area. In this area considerable investment has been made to preserve its character and to attract businesses which are part of the cultural industries.

My objections relating to Ground D(ii) and (iii) are:

The Council's own promotion of the city is 'Sheffield - where everyone matters'. This includes the female population who should not be subjected to their city promoting and normalising the objectification and sexualisation of women.

The Council has a duty under the Equality Act to work to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

Loveday Herridge

B49a

From: Charlotte Mead
Sent: 06 April 2016 18:44
To: licensingservice
Subject: Spearmint Rhino Objection

To whom it may concern,

I refer to the application for a sexual entertainment venue licence by Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield. S1 2BS.

This is an objection letter to the application for this licence and I call for the council to refuse it.

I believe that the Council should refuse the licence application under the Discretionary Grounds for Refusal of Sheffield City Council's Sexual Entertainment Venues Licensing Policy on two grounds:

Ground c):
"the number of sex establishments in the relevant locality at the time the application is made is equal to or exceeds the number which the authority consider is appropriate for that locality."
The grounds go on to state that "Nil may be an appropriate number for the purposes of (c)"

Ground d):
"the grant or renewal of a licence would be inappropriate, having regard -
(i) to the character of the relevant locality: or
(ii) to the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put: or
(iii) to the layout, character or condition of the premises; vehicle; vessel or stall in respect of which the application is made."

Sheffield City Council also has "statutory obligations in relation to disability race and gender" ensuring that these factors are not used to discriminate against anyone. I believe that a sexual entertainment venue directly discriminates against women by normalising the sexualisation and objectification of women, and that this contributes to their sexualisation and objectification in other areas of society.

Furthermore Schedule 3 1982 Act provides specific grounds to refuse/renew license:
e) "cultural hub of city"
f) "central gateway to the city....or tourist attraction"

My general terms of objection are as follows:

- the part of the city that the club is situated is unsuitable due to it being in the "cultural heart" of the city. The Sexual Entertainment Venue is situated in the cultural heart of Sheffield, and within the area of the railway station, the main gateway and welcome point to the city, encompassing the pedestrianised walk way up to town centre.

- the club is situated directly next to the Hallam Students Union, a hub of young impressionable people, sometimes vulnerable and often away from home for the first time.

- when walking around this area, which as a Council you encourage people to do due to the other businesses and services in the area, women feel nervous because of the SEV and have to change their behaviour because of it being there, for example having to look around to see if there are people coming out of the SEV, take a different route walking to the centre of town so that they do not have to go past the SEV. Women should not have to feel like this in their city.

- the Council's own promotion of the city is "Sheffield - where everyone matters" - this includes the female citizens of the city who should not be subjected to their city promoting and normalising the sexualisation and objectification of them

- this image or a high-end establishment portrayed by this SEV goes in some way to normalising this type of venue in a very active part of the city, and as such giving the impression that Sheffield as a city condones both the sexualisation and objectification of women, which is in complete contradiction to the Council's equality policies and Sheffield's own widely publicised belief of Sheffield being a city "where everyone matters."

- granting a licence would be contradictory to other work that the Council does, funds and promotes, for example the recent SheFest, the Equalities Hub within the community bringing Communities of Identity together to tackle equalities issues within the council and the city,

- the council has a duty under the Equality Act to work to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation

- I am the parent of 2 children, one of whom is soon to be a teenager and will want to go into Sheffield City Centre by herself, I do not want her to feel sexualised or come to the realisation sooner than she has to that women in our society are sexualised, worried or nervous about walking round her own city or let down that the city she lives says it's ok to sexualise women in this way

- as an employee of Sheffield City Council every year the Council gives a licence to Spearmint Rhino it undermines all the things that the Council tells me they believe in as my employer- equality, anti-discrimination, equality of opportunity, fairness - and also undermines all the things they say they expect from me as an employee. If I sexualised or objectified anyone at work in the way that Spearmint Rhino is allowed to do as a result of the licence that the Council gives them, I would face disciplinary procedures, and yet the Council does exactly this by giving a licence to this club which does so many things that the Council says they stand against both as my employer, and that they expect me to stand against as their employee. This means that my relationship with my employer is not a balanced one.

A sexual entertainment venue in the heart of the city, or anywhere in the city, is simply completely contradictory to everything that the council says it stands for, everything that the council should stand for, and has a duty to work towards.
I also ask what actions or discussions the council has taken in order to consider what number of sexual entertainment venues is appropriate for Sheffield, as stated in the policy and legislation? Has the Council for example, as per their own policy, carried out an Equality Impact Assessment?

I will fully and actively support the council in the face of any challenge to the council by giving a refusal.

B49c

The Council is asked to note that in the last few years Leeds City Council successfully defended a refusal to renew two SEV licenses at judicial review:
R (Bean Trading A Ltd) v Leeds City Council (2014)

It was held that a council can "take a fresh look" despite no changes to the character of locality.

The case of Thompson v Oxford City Council (2014) was also supported at court of appeal, and the Council told they could "take a fresh look" at any application for renewal.

If the panel feel that they cannot make a refusal decision without further discussion, I would ask that a hearing is held so that the application can be discussed in more detail.

I look forward to hearing from you.

yours faithfully,

Charlotte Mead

B50 a

-----Original Message-----
From: Lin Harrison
Sent: 07 April 2016 09:56
To: licensingservice
Subject: Objection to Spearmint Rhino's licence being renewed

7th April 2016

To whom it may concern

I refer to the application for a sexual entertainment venue licence by Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield. S1 2BS.

This is an objection letter to the application for this licence and I call for the council to refuse it. I also originally lobbied Sheffield City Council not to grant the initial alcohol licence to this establishment several years ago. As a woman and local resident this is something that I feel very strongly about.

I believe that the Council should refuse the licence application under the Discretionary Grounds for Refusal of Sheffield City Council's Sexual Entertainment Venues Licensing Policy on two grounds:

Ground c):

"the number of sex establishments in the relevant locality at the time the application is made is equal to or exceeds the number which the authority consider is appropriate for that locality."

The grounds go on to state that "Nil may be an appropriate number for the purposes of (c)"

Ground d):

"the grant or renewal of a licence would be inappropriate, having regard –

(i) to the character of the relevant locality: or

(ii) to the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put: or

(iii) to the layout, character or condition of the premises; vehicle; vessel or stall in respect of which the application is made."

Sheffield City Council also has "statutory obligations in relation to disability race and gender" ensuring that these factors are not used to discriminate against anyone. I believe that a sexual entertainment venue directly discriminates against women by normalising the sexualisation and objectification of women, and that this contributes to their sexualisation and objectification in other areas of society.

Furthermore Schedule 3 1982 Act provides specific grounds to refuse/renew license:

e) "cultural hub of city"

f) "central gateway to the city....or tourist attraction"

B50 b

Our general terms of objection are as follows:

– the part of the city that the club is situated is unsuitable due to it being in the "cultural heart" of the city. The Sexual Entertainment Venue is situated in the cultural heart of Sheffield, and within the area of the railway station, the main gateway and welcome point to the city, encompassing the pedestrianised walk way up to town centre.

– the club is situated directly next to the Hallam Students Union, a hub of young impressionable people, sometimes vulnerable and often away from home for the first time.

– when walking around this area, which as a Council you encourage people to do due to the other businesses and services in the area, women feel nervous because of the SEV and have to change their behaviour because of it being there, for example having to look around to see if there are people coming out of the SEV, take a different route walking to the centre of town so that they do not have to go past the SEV. Women should not have to feel like this in their city.

– the Council's own promotion of the city is "Sheffield – where everyone matters" – this includes the female citizens of the city who should not be subjected to their city promoting and normalising the sexualisation and objectification of them

– this image or a high-end establishment portrayed by this SEV goes in some way to normalising this type of venue in a very active part of the city, and as such giving the impression that Sheffield as a city condones both the sexualisation and objectification of women, which is in complete contradiction to the Council's equality policies and Sheffield's own widely publicised belief of Sheffield being a city "where everyone matters."

– granting a licence would be contradictory to other work that the Council does, funds and promotes, for example the recent SheFest, the Equalities Hub within the community bringing Communities of Identity together to tackle equalities issues within the council and the city,

– the council has a duty under the Equality Act to work to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation

On a personal level I see the direct impact of this kind of establishment as I work for the NHS as a psychotherapist. My specialist area is trauma work and I mostly work with women who have been sexually abused and/or raped. I believe that the normalisation of a culture where women and girls are seen as sexual objects is part of the problem in this area. I implore Sheffield City Council to stand by it's proud tradition of advocating social equality in opposing the continuity of this is our city.

A sexual entertainment venue in the heart of the city, or anywhere in the city, is simply completely contradictory to everything that the council says it stands for, everything that the council should stand for, and has a duty to work towards.

I also ask what actions or discussions the council has taken in order to consider what number of sexual entertainment venues is appropriate for Sheffield, as stated in the policy and legislation? Has the Council for example, as per their own policy, carried out an Equality Impact Assessment?

I will fully and actively support the council in the face of any challenge to the council by giving a refusal.

The Council is asked to note that in the last few years Leeds City Council successfully defended a refusal to renew two SEV licenses at judicial review: B50c

R (Bean Trading A Ltd) v Leeds City Council (2014)

It was held that a council can "take a fresh look" despite no changes to the character of locality.

The case of Thompson v Oxford City Council (2014) was also supported at court of appeal, and the Council told they could "take a fresh look" at any application for renewal.

If the panel feel that they cannot make a refusal decision without further discussion, I would ask that a hearing is held so that the application can be discussed in more detail.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Lin Harrison

B51

From: Margaret Spooner
Sent: 07 April 2016 10:21
To: licensingservice
Subject: Spearmint Rhino

Dear Council Licensing Committee,

I understand that the application for the renewal of Spearmint Rhino is due to be reviewed this month.

I work with vulnerable women in particular and as I come to town on the bus, each time I am aware of the club on this much used important road into the centre of the city. It is so near various organisation and charities in that locality eg., Freeman College, that I fear for the safety of women and children.

I strongly recommend that this licence is not renewed and that our city is one step closer to being safer for women.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Spooner

Founder member of ASSIST – a charity working with destitute, frightened and vulnerable people

B52

From: Marina Lewycka
Sent: 07 April 2016 11:09
To: licensingservice
Subject: 60 Brown Street 'Spearmint Rhino'

7th April 2016

Dear Sir or Madam

I am writing to you to object to the application to renew the Sexual Entertainment Venue license for 60 Brown Street, Sheffield S1 2BS, also known as Spearmint Rhino.

I visit the locality quite often, especially the Showroom Cinema, of which I am a patron, and I have sometimes felt intimidated late at night by groups of slightly-inebriated rowdy men in the street outside the premises. Even when the street is quiet, the high-visibility of a 'sexual entertainment' venue in this area makes me, and I'm sure a number of people of my age feel slightly uneasy. It is quite off-putting, like entering a red-light district. One never knows quite who or what to expect.

This is an area much used by members of the public, visitors to Sheffield, older persons like myself, people with limited mobility, students, and children for who the Showroom runs special regular events. I just don't feel the presence of such a club does anything to enhance the general public's experience of visiting the area, or to attract visitors to Sheffield, and thus to the growth of Sheffield as a home of the cultural industries. It is tragic and short-sighted that the economic advantages for Sheffield of even *having* a cultural industries quarter are blown away by the rash inclusion of this wholly inappropriate business.

There are plenty of areas of Sheffield given over to clubs, where children, older people, and the general public do not go, and where there are no activities specifically aimed at them. I feel it would be more appropriate to relocate Spearmint Rhino to such an area.

I therefore call on the committee to reject this application,

Yours sincerely,

Marina Lewycka

BS3a

SHIFT

Developing media, developing people

5th April 2016

Dear Sir/Madam,

I refer to the application for a sexual entertainment venue licence by Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield. S1 2BS.

This is an objection letter to the application for this licence and I call for the council to refuse it.

I believe that the Council should refuse the licence application under the Discretionary Grounds for Refusal of Sheffield City Council's Sexual Entertainment Venues Licensing Policy on two grounds:

Ground c):
"the number of sex establishments in the relevant locality at the time the application is made is equal to or exceeds the number which the authority consider is appropriate for that locality."
The grounds go on to state that "Nil may be an appropriate number for the purposes of (c)"

Ground d):
"the grant or renewal of a licence would be inappropriate, having regard -
(i) to the character of the relevant locality: or
(ii) to the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put: or
(iii) to the layout, character or condition of the premises; vehicle; vessel or stall in respect of which the application is made."

Sheffield City Council also has "statutory obligations in relation to disability race and gender" ensuring that these factors are not used to discriminate against anyone. I believe that a sexual entertainment venue directly discriminates against women by normalising the sexualisation and objectification of women, and that this contributes to their sexualisation and objectification in other areas of society.

Furthermore Schedule 3 1982 Act provides specific grounds to refuse/renew license:

e) "cultural hub of city"

f) "central gateway to the city....or tourist attraction"

Our general terms of objection are as follows:

- the part of the city that the club is situated is unsuitable due to it being in the "cultural heart" of the city. The Sexual Entertainment Venue is situated in the cultural heart of Sheffield, and within the area of the railway station, the main gateway and welcome point to the city, encompassing the pedestrianised walk way up to town centre.

SHIFT LTD, The Workstation
15 Paternoster Row, Sheffield, S1 2BX
0114 272 6304 www.shiftmedia.org.uk
Company No. 2501588 Charity No. 702975

B536

SHIFT
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- the club is situated directly next to the Hallam Students Union, a hub of young impressionable people, sometimes vulnerable and often away from home for the first time.

- when walking around this area, which as a Council you encourage people to do due to the other businesses and services in the area, women feel nervous because of the SEV and have to change their behaviour because of it being there, for example having to look around to see if there are people coming out of the SEV, take a different route walking to the centre of town so that they do not have to go past the SEV. Women should not have to feel like this in their city.

- the Council's own promotion of the city is "Sheffield - where everyone matters" - this includes the female citizens of the city who should not be subjected to their city promoting and normalising the sexualisation and objectification of them

- this image or a high-end establishment portrayed by this SEV goes in some way to normalising this type of venue in a very active part of the city, and as such giving the impression that Sheffield as a city condones both the sexualisation and objectification of women, which is in complete contradiction to the Council's equality policies and Sheffield's own widely publicised belief of Sheffield being a city "where everyone matters."

- granting a licence would be contradictory to other work that the Council does, funds and promotes, for example the recent SheFest, the Equalities Hub within the community bringing Communities of Identity together to tackle equalities issues within the council and the city,

- the council has a duty under the Equality Act to work to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation

The venue, set in the heart of the Cultural Industries Quarter, is in the centre of a cultural destination. A destination that hosts a major international documentary festival; the Children's Media Conference again with media professionals and international visitors from all over the world. In addition Showcommotion, a children's film and media festival takes place annually offering sessions for children aged between 5-19 years old.

I object to the license being renewed on the grounds that it is within the footfall of these calendared and several institutions who work with young people i.e. The Workstation; University Technical College (14-19) and SHIFT Media who work with 16-18 year old young people defined as vulnerable.

The venue is not open during the time that young people pass the venue. However they are still exposed to a 'gentleman's club' and the notion that women are available and sexual services in the form of entertainment can be purchased.

This offers poor role modelling of adult behaviour to young people. At a subliminal level it give them a pernicious message linked to gender equality. That message is around the discrimination between men and women; girls and boys.

B53c

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In relations to equality I reference the new Ofsted Common Inspection Framework www.ofsted.gov.uk

In making judgements, inspectors will pay particular attention to differences between how: boys/men and girls/women are treated.

The Equality Act 2010
www.gov.uk/equality-act-2010-guidance#equalities-act-2010-legislation

15. Inspectors will assess the extent to which the school or provider complies with relevant legal duties as set out in the Equality Act 2010 and the Human Rights Act 1998, promotes equality of opportunity and takes positive steps to prevent any form of **discrimination either direct or indirect against those with protected characteristics in all aspects of their work.**

CIF judges educational provision in how it responds to difference. On SHIFT's doorstep is a venue that is an illustration of gender inequality i.e. men purchasing sexual entertainment from women. This is a commercial activity that not only objectifies women but also makes that objectification part of a commercial transaction and therefore commodification of women.

SHIFT's aim is to engender in our students an aspiration for self-improvement through education and to promote emotional wellbeing. The subliminal message of Spearmint Rhino does not support the agenda clearly laid out by Ofsted in the new CIF (June 2015) in relation to gender equality or wellbeing or indeed Sheffield City Council's agenda that all groups are able to enjoy the city centre equally.

As a woman walking around the CIQ at night, Spearmint Rhino does not add to my enjoyment rather it encourages me not to frequent the CIQ when Spearmint Rhino is open.

The fact that my students, daily, walk past a club where men can purchase sexual dances from women does not support a modern, non-sexist and non-patriarchal society where women and men are encouraged equally to aspire and achieve. The message underpinning Spearmint Rhino is that women are a commodity to be bought.

Lastly, the site of Spearmint Rhino, reflects a poor context for the cultural activity of the city. Rather than presenting a robust, vibrant city and hub of creativity, the venue presents an outdated and rather downbeat image that is out of sync with modern life and sensibilities.

This presents and plays Sheffield badly to an outside world that has moved on in terms of sexual relation and gender discrimination.

A sexual entertainment venue in the heart of the city, or anywhere in the city, is simply completely contradictory to everything that the council says it stands for, everything that the council should stand for, and has a duty to work towards.

B53d

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I also ask what actions or discussions the council has taken in order to consider what number of sexual entertainment venues is appropriate for Sheffield, as stated in the policy and legislation? Has the Council for example, as per their own policy, carried out an Equality Impact Assessment?

I will fully and actively support the council in the face of any challenge to the council by giving a refusal.

The Council is asked to note that in the last few years Leeds City Council successfully defended a refusal to renew two SEV licenses at judicial review:

R (Bean Trading A Ltd) v Leeds City Council (2014)

It was held that a council can "take a fresh look" despite no changes to the character of locality.

The case of Thompson v Oxford City Council (2014) was also supported at court of appeal, and the Council told they could "take a fresh look" at any application for renewal.

If the panel feel that they cannot make a refusal decision without further discussion, I would ask that a hearing is held so that the application can be discussed in more detail.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours Sincerely,

Bridget Kelly

Bridget Kelly
Chief Executive
SHIFT Media

B54a

From: CATHERINE BROWN
Sent: 07 April 2016 12:55
To: licensingservice
Subject: Spearmint Rhino

I refer to the application for a sexual entertainment venue licence by Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield. S1 2BS.

This is an objection letter to the application for this licence and I call for the council to refuse it.

I believe that the Council should refuse the licence application under the Discretionary Grounds for Refusal of Sheffield City Council's Sexual Entertainment Venues Licensing Policy on two grounds:

Ground c):

"the number of sex establishments in the relevant locality at the time the application is made is equal to or exceeds the number which the authority consider is appropriate for that locality."

The grounds go on to state that "Nil may be an appropriate number for the purposes of (c)"

Ground d):

"the grant or renewal of a licence would be inappropriate, having regard -

(i) to the character of the relevant locality: or

(ii) to the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put: or

(iii) to the layout, character or condition of the premises; vehicle; vessel or stall in respect of which the application is made."

Sheffield City Council also has "statutory obligations in relation to disability race and gender" ensuring that these factors are not used to discriminate against anyone. I believe that a sexual entertainment venue directly discriminates against women by normalising the sexualisation and objectification of women, and that this contributes to their sexualisation and objectification in other areas of society.

Furthermore Schedule 3 1982 Act provides specific grounds to refuse/renew license:

e) "cultural hub of city"

f) "central gateway to the city....or tourist attraction"

Our general terms of objection are as follows:

- the part of the city that the club is situated is unsuitable due to it being in the "cultural heart" of the city. The Sexual Entertainment Venue is situated in the cultural heart of Sheffield, and within the area of the railway station, the main gateway and welcome point to the city, encompassing the pedestrianised walk way up to town centre.

B54b

- the club is situated directly next to the Hallam Students Union, a hub of young impressionable people, sometimes vulnerable and often away from home for the first time.

- when walking around this area, which as a Council you encourage people to do due to the other businesses and services in the area, women feel nervous because of the SEV and have to change their behaviour because of it being there, for example having to look around to see if there are people coming out of the SEV, take a different route walking to the centre of town so that they do not have to go past the SEV. Women should not have to feel like this in their city.

- the Council's own promotion of the city is "Sheffield - where everyone matters" - this includes the female citizens of the city who should not be subjected to their city promoting and normalising the sexualisation and objectification of them

- this image or a high-end establishment portrayed by this SEV goes in some way to normalising this type of venue in a very active part of the city, and as such giving the impression that Sheffield as a city condones both the sexualisation and objectification of women, which is in complete contradiction to the Council's equality policies and Sheffield's own widely publicised belief of Sheffield being a city "where everyone matters."

- granting a licence would be contradictory to other work that the Council does, funds and promotes, for example the recent SheFest, the Equalities Hub within the community bringing Communities of Identity together to tackle equalities issues within the council and the city,

- the council has a duty under the Equality Act to work to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation

A sexual entertainment venue in the heart of the city, or anywhere in the city, is simply completely contradictory to everything that the council says it stands for, everything that the council should stand for, and has a duty to work towards.

I also ask what actions or discussions the council has taken in order to consider what number of sexual entertainment venues is appropriate for Sheffield, as stated in the policy and legislation? Has the Council for example, as per their own policy, carried out an Equality Impact Assessment?

I will fully and actively support the council in the face of any challenge to the council by giving a refusal.

The Council is asked to note that in the last few years Leeds City Council successfully defended a refusal to renew two SEV licenses at judicial review:

R (Bean Trading A Ltd) v Leeds City Council (2014)

It was held that a council can "take a fresh look" despite no changes to the character of locality.

The case of Thompson v Oxford City Council (2014) was also supported at court of appeal, and the Council told they could "take a fresh look" at any application for renewal.

If the panel feel that they cannot make a refusal decision without further discussion, I would ask that a hearing is held so that the application can be discussed in more detail.

Yours sincerely

From: Judith Harrison
Sent: 07 April 2016 13:23
To: licensingservice
Subject: Spearmint Rhino

B55

Dear Sirs,

I wish to object to the application for renewal of a Sexual Entertainment Venue license for premises at 60 Brown Street, Sheffield S1 2BS, premises known as Spearmint Rhino.

The grant or renewal of a licence would be inappropriate, having regard to the character of the relevant locality which has been designated as Sheffield "Cultural Industries Quarter"

There are a number of educational establishments in the ares, Sheffield Hallam Unversity and the UTC, and it is not appropriate for Spearmint Rhino to be nearby.

Therefore I am asking the licensing committee to refuse this application

Yours sincerely

JUDITH HARRISON

Kind Regards

Judith

Have a look at our new web site www.performconsult.co.uk

Judith Harrison FCCA DChA

Performance Consulting UK
Company Registration Number 5085897

Performance Consulting: UK

From: Kate Jacob
Sent: 07 April 2016 11:41
To: licensingservice
Subject: Objection - application for a sexual entertainment venue licence by Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield. S1 2BS.

B56a

Dear Sir / Madam

I refer to the application for a sexual entertainment venue licence by Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield. S1 2BS.

This is an objection letter to the application for this licence and I call for the council to refuse it.

I believe that the Council should refuse the licence application under the Discretionary Grounds for Refusal of Sheffield City Council's Sexual Entertainment Venues Licensing Policy on two grounds:

Ground c):

"the number of sex establishments in the relevant locality at the time the application is made is equal to or exceeds the number which the authority consider is appropriate for that locality."

The grounds go on to state that "Nil may be an appropriate number for the purposes of (c)"

Ground d):

"the grant or renewal of a licence would be inappropriate, having regard -

(i) to the character of the relevant locality: or

(ii) to the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put: or

(iii) to the layout, character or condition of the premises; vehicle; vessel or stall in respect of which the application is made."

Sheffield City Council also has "statutory obligations in relation to disability race and gender" ensuring that these factors are not used to discriminate against anyone. I believe that a sexual entertainment venue directly discriminates against women by normalising the sexualisation and objectification of women, and that this contributes to their sexualisation and objectification in other areas of society.

Furthermore Schedule 3 1982 Act provides specific grounds to refuse/renew license:

e) "cultural hub of city"

f) "central gateway to the city....or tourist attraction"

Our general terms of objection are as follows:

- the part of the city that the club is situated is unsuitable due to it being in the "cultural heart" of the city. The Sexual Entertainment Venue is situated in the cultural heart of Sheffield, and within the area of the railway station, the main gateway and welcome point to the city, encompassing the pedestrianised walk way up to town centre.

- the club is situated directly next to the Hallam Students Union, a hub of young impressionable people, sometimes vulnerable and often away from home for the first time.

B56b

- when walking around this area, which as a Council you encourage people to do due to the other businesses and services in the area, women feel nervous because of the SEV and have to change their behaviour because of it being there, for example having to look around to see if there are people coming out of the SEV, take a different route walking to the centre of town so that they do not have to go past the SEV. Women should not have to feel like this in their city.

- the Council's own promotion of the city is "Sheffield - where everyone matters" - this includes the female citizens of the city who should not be subjected to their city promoting and normalising the sexualisation and objectification of them

- this image or a high-end establishment portrayed by this SEV goes in some way to normalising this type of venue in a very active part of the city, and as such giving the impression that Sheffield as a city condones both the sexualisation and objectification of women, which is in complete contradiction to the Council's equality policies and Sheffield's own widely publicised belief of Sheffield being a city "where everyone matters."

- granting a licence would be contradictory to other work that the Council does, funds and promotes, for example the recent SheFest, the Equalities Hub within the community bringing Communities of Identity together to tackle equalities issues within the council and the city,

- the council has a duty under the Equality Act to work to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation

In a modern, forward thinking city this kind of establishment has no place. It continues to accept and promote the objectification of women and Sheffield City Council should not be part of that nor promote itself a city of equality when it continues to endorse and allow objectification of women in any form. This serves no member of society, male or female.

A sexual entertainment venue in the heart of the city, or anywhere in the city, is simply completely contradictory to everything that the council says it stands for, everything that the council should stand for, and has a duty to work towards.

I also ask what actions or discussions the council has taken in order to consider what number of sexual entertainment venues is appropriate for Sheffield, as stated in the policy and legislation? Has the Council for example, as per their own policy, carried out an Equality Impact Assessment?

I will fully and actively support the council in the face of any challenge to the council by giving a refusal.

The Council is asked to note that in the last few years Leeds City Council successfully defended a refusal to renew two SEV licenses at judicial review:

R (Bean Trading A Ltd) v Leeds City Council (2014)

It was held that a council can "take a fresh look" despite no changes to the character of locality.

The case of Thompson v Oxford City Council (2014) was also supported at court of appeal, and the Council told they could "take a fresh look" at any application for renewal.

If the panel feel that they cannot make a refusal decision without further discussion, I would ask that a hearing is held so that the application can be discussed in more detail.

I look forward to hearing from you.

B57

From: John Hollings
Sent: 07 April 2016 15:04
To: licensingservice
Subject: Renewal of application for Sexual Entertainment Venue

I wish to object to the application for renewal of a Sexual Entertainment Venue license for premises at 60 Brown Lane, Sheffield S1 2BS, premises known as Spearmint Rhino.

My husband and I moved into Sheffield City centre in July 2015 and have thoroughly enjoyed all that Sheffield has to offer - theatres, cinemas, restaurants etc etc. I was appalled when I learnt that on my doorstep, **in the cultural hub of the city** was a totally inappropriate place of 'entertainment'.

The area is very busy during the day and mostly .quiet and peaceful at night, which is why we chose to live here. However there is evidence that **many more cars are parking and some noise disturbance,** potentially from this type of club.

We often have our **seven year old grandson to stay** with us when we are babysitting for our daughter and find it totally unsuitable to have clubs **like the Spearmint Rhino at the other end of our street.**

We have many **overseas students studying and living in close proximity.** I feel that visiting students and their parents would take o dim view if they were aware of such a club in this area resulting in them taking their money and support for Sheffield elsewhere.

I wish my concerns to be passed on to those who will make the decisions about the renewal of any license.

Yours

Mrs Joan Hollings

From: Ben Miskell
Sent: 07 April 2016 16:46
To: licensingservice
Subject: Objection to SEV license at 60 Brown Street, Sheffield S1 2BS

B58

7th April 2016

Dear Sir/Madam

As a resident that lives within very close proximity of 60 Brown Street, Sheffield S1 2BS (premises known as Spearmint Rhino), I wish to object to the application for the renewal of the Sexual Entertainment Venue license at this address.

I wish to object on the following grounds in line with the council's policy:

Location

The premises wishing to have its license renewed is located directly next to Sheffield train station, which is a major gateway to the city and a significant transport hub. It's position is inappropriate and risks giving a bad impression of our city to both visitors and potential investors.

The character of the locality

The venue is located within the Cultural Industries Quarter of Sheffield City Centre. Significant work continues to be carried out by local businesses, residents and Sheffield Hallam University to develop this important locality within our city. This application jeopardises this work. It's location is inappropriate. Residents cherish the area in which we live and many of us see Spearmint Rhino as a threat.

Location extremely close to educational establishments

Both the University Technology College (which educates 14-18 year olds) and Freeman College (who work with vulnerable young adults aged 16-25) are located within 1-minute walking time of the Spearmint Rhino. This is inappropriate and demonstrates that the establishment should not be licensed within this locality. It is also important to note that directly next door to the establishment is Together Women, an organisation that works with vulnerable women.

I call upon the licensing committee to take my views into consideration and refuse the application.

Yours sincerely

Ben Miskell

B59

-----Original Message-----
From: LUCY.KENNY-LEVICK
Sent: 07 April 2016 18:36
To: licensingservice
Subject: Spearmint Rhino' s license

To Whom it may concern,

make Sheffield an entertainment sex-free city, as a labour council you should not allow the sexual exploitation of young women .

Lucy Kenny-Levick

Sent from my iPad

From: Suffragette
Sent: 07 April 2016 19:27
To: licensingservice
Subject: Objection to Spearmint Rhino

B60 a

Head of Licensing, Licensing Section

Block C, Staniforth Road Depot

Staniforth Road

Sheffield S9 3HD

6 April 2016

Dear Sir/Madam

Objection to licence renewal of Spearmint Rhino

I refer to the application for a sexual entertainment venue licence by Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield. S1 2BS.

This is an objection letter to the application for this licence and I call for the Council to refuse it.

I believe that the Council should refuse the licence application under the Discretionary Grounds for Refusal of Sheffield City Council's Sexual Entertainment Venues Licensing Policy on the following grounds:

Ground c):

"the number of sex establishments in the relevant locality at the time the application is made is equal to or exceeds the number which the authority consider is appropriate for that locality."

The grounds go on to state that "Nil may be an appropriate number for the purposes of (c)"

Ground d):

"the grant or renewal of a licence would be inappropriate, having regard -

(i) to the character of the relevant locality: or

(ii) to the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put: or

(iii) to the layout, character or condition of the premises; vehicle; vessel or stall in respect of which the application is made."

Sheffield City Council also has "statutory obligations in relation to disability race and gender" ensuring that these factors are not used to discriminate against anyone. I believe that a sexual entertainment venue directly discriminates against women by normalising the sexualisation and objectification of women, and that this contributes to their sexualisation and objectification in other areas of society.

Furthermore Schedule 3 1982 Act provides specific grounds to refuse/renew license:

e) "cultural hub of city"

f) "central gateway to the city....or tourist attraction"

My terms of objection are as follows: B60b

- the part of the city that the club is situated is unsuitable due to it being in the "cultural heart" of the city. The Sexual Entertainment Venue is situated in the cultural heart of Sheffield, and within the area of the railway station, the main gateway and welcome point to the city, encompassing the pedestrianised walk way up to town centre.

- the space next to it (Festival Square) is underused due to being adjacent to this SEV.

- the club is situated directly next to the Hallam Students Union, a hub of young impressionable people, sometimes vulnerable and often away from home for the first time. The club also backs directly onto newly created student accommodation. Sexual violence and 'lad culture' on campus is an increasing problem for young women and is widely reported: http://www.theguardian.com/education/2014/sep/15/sexual-harassment-rife-u
niversities-nus-survey
http://www.theguardian.com/education/2014/sep/15/sexual-harassment-rife-un
iversities-nus-survey
http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/universityeducation/student-life/110
99499/Sexual-violence-at-university-dont-be-afraid-to-speak-up.html
http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/universityeducation/student-life/1109
9499/Sexual-violence-at-university-dont-be-afraid-to-speak-up.html

  http://blog.universitiesuk.ac.uk/2015/09/03/sexual-violence-harassment-and-lad-culture-on-campus-how-universities-are-tackling-the-issue/

  It is in very close proximity to a number of organisations where vulnerable persons are present (a school, nursery or premises used by or for children under 16 years of age, a park or any other recreational space used by or for children under 16 years of age):

  - Elements Society, Arundel Street. A youth charity working each year with over 700 15-24 year old severely vulnerable young adults per year including sexually abuse, special educational needs, homelessness. They are UNABLE to use the designated public space next to Spearmint Rhino due to its proximity to a Sexual Entertainment Venue. This means they are disadvantaged are their freedom is restricted because of this establishment and this contradicts your claim (see below) that "Sheffield - where everyone matters".

  - Freeman College, Arundel Street which provides students (16 - 25) who have a range of complex learning, mental health and behavioural needs including Autistic spectrum disorder, Asperger's syndrome.

  - UTC College, Matilda Street. College for 14-16 year olds less than 4 minutes from Spearmint Rhino.

  When walking around this area, which as a Council you encourage people to do due to the other businesses and services in the area, women feel nervous because of the SEV and have to change their behaviour because of it being there, for example having to look around to see if there are people coming out of the SEV, take a different route walking to the centre of town so that they do not have to go past the SEV. Women should not have to feel like this in their city.

  The Council's own promotion of the city is "Sheffield - where everyone matters" - this includes the female citizens of the city who should not be subjected to their city promoting and normalising the sexualisation and objectification of them.

Spearmint Rhino is an internationally recognised name and "brand" normalises this type of venue in a very active part of the city, and as such giving the impression that Sheffield as a

city condones both the sexualisation and objectification of women, which is in complete contradiction to the Council's equality policies and Sheffield's own widely publicised belief of Sheffield being a city "where everyone matters." B60c

Granting a licence would be contradictory to other work that the Council does, funds and promotes, for example the recent SheFest, the Equalities Hub within the community bringing Communities of Identity together to tackle equalities issues within the council and the city.

The council has a duty under the Equality Act to work to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation

A sexual entertainment venue in the heart of the city, or anywhere in the city, is simply completely contradictory to everything that the council says it stands for, everything that the council should stand for, and has a duty to work towards.

I also ask what actions or discussions the council has taken in order to consider what number of sexual entertainment venues is appropriate for Sheffield, as stated in the policy and legislation? Has the Council for example, as per their own policy, carried out an Equality Impact Assessment?

I also wish to complain about the whole process in light of last year's hearing where the applicant had time to respond to objections and objectors only saw sight of his responses 10 minutes before the meeting. This is heavily weighted in favour of the applicant. Furthermore, we were not notified of the outcome and learned of it from the local press.

I also note that in the past you have not taken on board the objections of local businesses who are directly affected by Spearmint Rhino. Again, this contradicts your claim that "everyone matters" as well as the opening statement in your SEV policy:

Sheffield City Council wish to support both the local community and businesses by ensuring that these types of premises [SEVs] are properly managed and that they integrate where possible into the local community.

I will fully and actively support the council in the face of any challenge to the council by giving a refusal.

The Council is asked to note that in the last few years Leeds City Council successfully defended a refusal to renew two SEV licenses at judicial review:

R (Bean Trading A Ltd) v Leeds City Council (2014)

It was held that a council can "take a fresh look" despite no changes to the character of locality.

The case of Thompson v Oxford City Council (2014) was also supported at court of appeal, and the Council told they could "take a fresh look" at any application for renewal.

If the panel feel that they cannot make a refusal decision without further discussion, I would ask that a hearing is held so that the application can be discussed in more detail.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Alison Boydell

B6la

From: sue clarke
Sent: 07 April 2016 21:08
To: licensingservice
Subject: objection to application for renewal of SEV licence at 60 Brown St S1 2BS

To: Head of Licensing

Licensing Service

April 7th 2016

Dear Madam or Sir

I wish to object to the application for renewal of a Sexual Entertainment Venue license for premises at 60 Brown Street, Sheffield S1 2BS, premises known as Spearmint Rhino.

This is an objection letter to the application for this licence and I call for the council to refuse it.

I believe that the Council should refuse the licence application under the Discretionary Grounds for Refusal of Sheffield City Council's Sexual Entertainment Venues Licensing Policy on two grounds:

Ground c):"the number of sex establishments in the relevant locality at the time the application is made is equal to or exceeds the number which the authority consider is appropriate for that locality."

The grounds go on to state that "Nil may be an appropriate number for the purposes of (c)"

Ground d):

"the grant or renewal of a licence would be inappropriate, having regard –

(i) to the character of the relevant locality: or

(ii) to the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put: or

(iii) to the layout, character or condition of the premises; vehicle; vessel or stall in respect of which the application is made."

Sheffield City Council also has "statutory obligations in relation to disability race and gender" ensuring that these factors are not used to discriminate against anyone. I believe that a sexual entertainment venue directly discriminates against women by normalising the sexualisation and objectification of women, and that this contributes to their sexualisation and objectification in other areas of society.

Furthermore Schedule 3 1982 Act provides specific grounds to refuse/renew license:

e) "cultural hub of city"

f) "central gateway to the city….or tourist attraction"

Our general terms of objection are as follows:

– the part of the city that the club is situated is unsuitable due to it being in the "cultural heart" of the city. The Sexual Entertainment Venue is situated in the cultural heart of

Sheffield, and within the area of the railway station, the main gateway and welcome point to the city, encompassing the pedestrianised walk way up to town centre.

– the club is situated directly next to the Hallam Students Union, a hub of young impressionable people, sometimes vulnerable and often away from home for the first time.

– when walking around this area, which as a Council you encourage people to do due to the other businesses and services in the area, women feel nervous because of the SEV and have to change their behaviour because of it being there, for example having to look around to see if there are people coming out of the SEV, take a different route walking to the centre of town so that they do not have to go past the SEV. Women should not have to feel like this in their city.

– the Council's own promotion of the city is "Sheffield – where everyone matters" – this includes the female citizens of the city who should not be subjected to their city promoting and normalising the sexualisation and objectification of them

– this image or a high-end establishment portrayed by this SEV goes in some way to normalising this type of venue in a very active part of the city, and as such giving the impression that Sheffield as a city condones both the sexualisation and objectification of women, which is in complete contradiction to the Council's equality policies and Sheffield's own widely publicised belief of Sheffield being a city "where everyone matters."

– granting a licence would be contradictory to other work that the Council does, funds and promotes, for example the recent SheFest, the Equalities Hub within the community bringing Communities of Identity together to tackle equalities issues within the council and the city,

– the council has a duty under the Equality Act to work to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation

A sexual entertainment venue in the heart of the city, or anywhere in the city, is simply completely contradictory to everything that the council says it stands for, everything that the council should stand for, and has a duty to work towards.

I also ask what actions or discussions the council has taken in order to consider what number of sexual entertainment venues is appropriate for Sheffield, as stated in the policy and legislation? Has the Council for example, as per their own policy, carried out an Equality Impact Assessment?

I will fully and actively support the council in the face of any challenge to the council by giving a refusal.

The Council is asked to note that in the last few years Leeds City Council successfully defended a refusal to renew two SEV licenses at judicial review:

R (Bean Trading A Ltd) v Leeds City Council (2014)

It was held that a council can "take a fresh look" despite no changes to the character of locality.

The case of Thompson v Oxford City Council (2014) was also supported at court of appeal, and the Council told they could "take a fresh look" at any application for renewal.

If the panel feel that they cannot make a refusal decision without further discussion, I would ask that

B6lc

I call for the council to refuse the application for a licence at 60 Brown street, Sheffield S1.

If the panel feel that they cannot make a refusal decision without further discussion, I would ask that a hearing is held so that the application can be discussed in more detail.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Susan Clarke

B62

From: Anna Childs
Sent: 07 April 2016 21:27
To: licensingservice
Subject: re objection to spearmint rhino

Dear Madam, Sir

I am writing to object to the renewal of licence of Spearmint Rhino on Brown street. My partner and I have a business at Yorkshire Artspace and we feel that the venue Spearmint Rhino is totally inappropriate for the cultural industries quarter and for the 21st century. For many years we have felt that Spearmint Rhino Sexual Entertainment Venue did not fit in with the growth and development originally intended for that area , which was after all created , advertised , promoted by the Sheffield Council. There now have been many new developments and new educational establishments. New parks are being developed and more housing is planned. The zone around Spearmint Rhino is a no go area the building next door to it has been vacant for years the so called park is just a large paved waste land not used by anyone. I know many establishments who would happily use the park for markets, craft events and for the youth that attend the special education classes nearby but do not specifically because Spearmint Rhino is there. It benefits no one in that area.

Brown Street is also connected to the extremely expensive gate way to the city I see many people walking from the railway station using this road and despite world renown art venues, business and the cinema with an internationally acclaimed doc fest and children's film festival only see and mention Spearmint Rhino, it has become a infamous landmark. The road is used for a coach drop off for people arriving from Europe the coaches park just outside Spearmint Rhino and that's the first thing they see of Sheffield! I see parents coming with potential students walking by Spearmint Rhino while visiting Sheffield on open days. I hate to think what they think when they see posters outside the door advertising free entrance for students . During the day although it is not open school children walk past it to go home. I worry that this just normalises the whole objectification of women . They have posters outside clearly advertising what goes on inside.

There is also the issue of equality and as you may have had lots of objections already about the objectivism of women I will not repeat what you already know. I have done some research and it is possible for a city to be zero free so really there is no excuse. Women have a right to be equal and be able to walk around the area without having to cross over the road. I often work late into the evening and really dislike walking along by Spearmint Rhino.

Please it is time to take a new look at Spearmint Rhino the area where so many young people are being educated , business are starting up people are putting Sheffield on the map and it is being undermined by this outdated institution of a lap dancing club.

Make Sheffield a zero free of SEV family friendly and safe for women and girls.

Thank You

Anna Childs and John Thatcher

Anna Childs

furniture designer maker

B63

From: Mary Williams
Sent: 07 April 2016 22:12
To: licensingservice
Subject: Spearmint Rhino

Dear Sir/Madam

I want to object to the renewal of an SIV licence for Spearmint Rhino

I do this on the basis that this is a cultural hub of the city. Many people including families pass though this area to the station or the cinema. Just opposite is Together women which helps vulnerable women including women who have been subjected to male violence and possibly sexual trafficking.

Freeman College and a university technical college attended by teenagers and vulnerable young people are also very near

Please refuse this renewal to Spearmint Rhino

Yours faithfully

Mary Williams

B64

From: Liz Robinson
Sent: 07 April 2016 22:44
To: licensingservice
Subject: Spearmint Rhino SEV licensing - objection

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to object to the application for re-issuing of Sexual Entertainment Venue licence applied for by Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield S1 2BS, and respectfully ask the City Council to refuse the application.

The grounds for my objection are :

This is in a very prominent area in the **gateway to the city** for tourists or anyone else arriving at the train station or by bus or tram; its presence is **not appropriate to the character of this locality**, and does not align culturally with the character of the city.

The location is also in the cultural industries quarter of Sheffield and right alongside Sheffield Hallam University - once again, a venue of this nature is absolutely **not appropriate in this locality**.

As a woman resident of Sheffield the presence of Spearmint Rhino makes me feel very uncomfortable. The fact that this is seen as a relatively mainstream form of entertainment means that ordinary men can think it is normal and OK to look at women's bodies as objects for their pleasure. It is the club version of "page 3", and I believe this affects attitudes and behaviour in a way that is **detrimental and demeaning to women**. I am sure you must recognise this is **contrary to the stated values of this city and the public image** we all wish to project.

I appreciate that the club is already there, so some Council members may see this as "simply a continuation". However, I seriously urge you to take this opportunity to **take a serious fresh look** at the cultural impact of a club like this in the heart of the city, and to **refuse this application**.

If you would like to discuss this objection in any more detail please let me know. I should be grateful if you would let me know if there is to be a hearing as I would be keen to attend.

Thank you for your consideration. I hope my objection adds weight to your decision to refuse this application.

Yours sincerely

Liz Robinson

B65a

Zero Option
Email: zerooptionsheffield@gmail.com

Head of Licensing
Licensing Section
Block C, Staniforth Road Depot
Staniforth Road
Sheffield S9 3HD

7th April 2016

Dear Sir/Madam

Objection to licence renewal of Spearmint Rhino

We refer to the application for a sexual entertainment venue licence by Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield. S1 2BS.

This is an objection letter to the application for this licence and we call for the Council to refuse it in addition to the submission of a petition (< linked to there).

We believe that the Council should refuse the licence application under the Discretionary Grounds for Refusal of Sheffield City Council's Sexual Entertainment Venues Licensing Policy on the following grounds:

Ground c):

"the number of sex establishments in the relevant locality at the time the application is made is equal to or exceeds the number which the authority consider is appropriate for that locality."

The grounds go on to state that "Nil may be an appropriate number for the purposes of (c)"

Ground d):

"the grant or renewal of a licence would be inappropriate, having regard -

(i) to the character of the relevant locality: or

(ii) to the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put: or

(iii) to the layout, character or condition of the premises; vehicle; vessel or stall in respect of which the application is made."

Sheffield City Council also has "statutory obligations in relation to disability race and gender" ensuring that these factors are not used to discriminate against anyone. We believe that a sexual entertainment venue directly discriminates against women by

normalising the sexualisation and objectification of women, and that this contributes to their sexualisation and objectification in other areas of society.

Furthermore Schedule 3 1982 Act provides specific grounds to refuse/renew license:

e) "cultural hub of city"

f) "central gateway to the city....or tourist attraction"

We object because:

- the part of the city that the club is situated is unsuitable due to it being in the "cultural heart" of the city. The Sexual Entertainment Venue is situated in the cultural heart of Sheffield, and within the area of the railway station, the main gateway and welcome point to the city, encompassing the pedestrianised walk way up to town centre.
- the space next to it (Festival Square) is underused due to being adjacent to this SEV.
- the club is situated directly next to the Hallam Students Union, a hub of young impressionable people, sometimes vulnerable and often away from home for the first time.
- It is in close proximity to a number of organisations where vulnerable persons are present (a school, nursery or premises used by or for children under 16 years of age, a park or any other recreational space used by or for children under 16 years of age):

    - Elements Society, Arundel Street. A youth charity working each year with over 700 15-24 year old severely vulnerable young adults per year including sexually abuse, special educational needs, homelessness. They are UNABLE to use the designated public space next to Spearmint Rhino due to its proximity to a Sexual Entertainment Venue. This means they are disadvantaged are their freedom is restricted because of this establishment and this contradicts the assertion "Sheffield - where everyone matters".
    - Freeman College, Arundel Street which provides students (16 - 25) who have a range of complex learning, mental health and behavioural needs including Autistic spectrum disorder, Asperger's syndrome.
    - UTC College, Matilda Street. College for 14-16 year olds less than 4 minutes from Spearmint Rhino.

When walking around this area, which as a Council you encourage people to do due to the other businesses and services in the area, women feel nervous because of the SEV and have to change their behaviour because of it being there, for example having to look around to see if there are people coming out of the SEV, take a different route walking to the centre of town so that they do not have to go past the SEV. Women should not have to feel like this in our city.

A paper published in *Criminal Justice Matters* (2012 Patiniotis & Standing) states:

". . . the women describe feeling frightened, disempowered, violated, embarrassed, unsafe (particularly if men are around), and avoid certain streets at night where they know there is a lap dancing club."

And goes onto quote from women they interviewed:

> *I avoid this street at night. I feel disempowered and angry and violated when I walk down this street, as there is a lap dancing club on it. The closer I get to that awful venue, the worse I feel. I feel some relief after I've passed it. It's worse when there are men around.*
>
> *I feel embarrassed and uncomfortable as a woman walking down this street. I used to feel sorry for the women who were coming to work as I left for home.*

Patiniotis & Standing continue "However, women also reported avoiding certain streets and feeling frightened in the day time, when the clubs are closed. It is the existence of the clubs that causes women to feel alienated in public space at all times, and fearful of the threat of violence posed by the sexual objectification of women."

"Women's avoidance tactics include crossing the street so as not to walk past a SEV, avoiding certain streets altogether, and no longer using bus stops that are situated near lap dancing clubs, as their vicinity makes them feel vulnerable and unsafe."

Many of the women we have spoken to have expressed the same feelings and infringements on their civil liberties to access this central space in the city centre which offers an array of vibrant restaurants and eateries in addition to Sheffield Hallam Student Union, the Showroom, the Work Station, the Rutland Arms as well as being the gateway to the city and its other attractions.

The Council's own promotion of the city is "Sheffield - where everyone matters" - this includes the female citizens of the city who should not be subjected to their city promoting and normalising the sexualisation and objectification of them.

Granting a licence would be contradictory to other work that the Council does, funds and promotes, for example the recent SheFest, the Equalities Hub within the community bringing Communities of Identity together to tackle equalities issues within the council and the city.

The council has a duty under the Equality Act to work to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation.

A sexual entertainment venue in the heart of the city, or anywhere in the city, is simply completely contradictory to everything that the council says it stands for, everything that the council should stand for, and has a duty to work towards.

We also ask what actions or discussions the council has taken in order to consider what number of sexual entertainment venues is appropriate for Sheffield, as stated in the policy and legislation? Has the Council for example, as per their own policy, carried out an Equality Impact Assessment?

We will fully and actively support the council in the face of any challenge to the council by giving a refusal.

The Council is asked to note that in the last few years Leeds City Council successfully defended a refusal to renew two SEV licenses at judicial review:

R (Bean Trading A Ltd) v Leeds City Council (2014)

It was held that a council can "take a fresh look" despite no changes to the character of locality.

The case of Thompson v Oxford City Council (2014) was also supported at court of appeal, and the Council told they could "take a fresh look" at any application for renewal.

If the panel feel that they cannot make a refusal decision without further discussion,we would ask that a hearing is held so that the application can be discussed in more detail.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Zero Option

References

Jackie Patiniotis & Kay Standing (2012) *License to cause harm? Sex entertainment venues and women's sense of safety in inner city centres.* Criminal Justice Matters, 88:1, 10-12.

B66a

From: Jude Dodds
Sent: 07 April 2016 23:50
To: licensingservice
Subject: Objection to renewal of SEV license for Spearmint Rhino

Head of Licensing
Licensing Service
Block C
Staniforth Road Depot
Staniforth Road
Sheffield
S9 3HD

Dear Madam or Sir

I wish to object to the application for renewal of a Sexual Entertainment Venue license for premises at 60 Brown Street, Sheffield
S1 2BS, premises known as Spearmint Rhino.

I wish to object on the following grounds;

1) The character of the locality.
Whilst the immediate vicinity of Spearmint Rhino was quite delapidated, run down and under-developed when it first opened in the early 2000s the area has since then been designated and redeveloped as Sheffield's Cultural Industries Quarter (CIQ). The nature of a Sexual Entertainment Venue renders it unsuitable for an area which is intended to be the cultural hub of the fifth largest city in the country. Lap dancing and pole dancing venues are not markers of cultural achievement.
For the Cultural Industries Quarter to thrive it must have footfall-including families, children and young people. No-one wants their child to know that Sexual Entertainment Venues-lap dancing, pole dancing and strip joints- exist, never mind have to answer their questions about what happens there.
I have spoken to someone who organises walking tours of the CIQ. She has told me that having a Sexual Entertainment Venue in the quarter makes this awkward. All the blackened windows (which are a major feature of Spearmint Rhino) in the world cannot hide what it is and what it stands for; somewhere where women's bodies are sexualised, where women are expected to act as and are treated as objects and where they can be effectively bought. This gives the message that women are less than human and that makes it easier for females, both girls and women, to be mistreated, abused and exploited.
If this message was not 'the elephant in the room' and the underlying reason why Sexual Entertainment Venues are required by law to conform to a specific set of licensing criteria, we would not be going through this
process: thus the Licensing Committee should be clear about the problems posed by Sexual Entertainment Venues in general and by Spearmint Rhino in particular and in this instance, with regard to the special character of the locality.

Spearmint Rhino lies on one of the major gateways into the city centre, just a stonesthrow from the main train station and city centre bus station. What impression must this give to visitors to our city? It cannot be deemed to be either a positive influence nor, at best, a neutral influence in terms of how it is viewed by potential investors to the city.

2) This leads to my further objection on the grounds of the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put.
Since Spearmint Rhino started several organisations and charities working with children and vulnerable young people and adults have been established in the immediate vicinity including;
A) the University Technical College for 14-19 year olds which is a short walk away. Pupils using bus stops on the ring road near the Millenium Galleries will walk past Spearmint Rhino, between it and the Hallam University Student Union Hubs.
B) Freeman Collegefor 16-25 year olds with special educational needs and disabilities-a range of complex learning, mental health and behavioural needs-is about 100 metres away.
C) Element Society on Arundel Street is a charity working with 16-17 year olds in mainstream education, 16-24 year olds with additional needs and 18-24 year olds not in education, employment and training (NEET).
Many of their clients have experienced some form of disadvantage or discrimination including a history of drug abuse or homelessness. In terms of vulnerable adults accessing their projects 6% had had children removed or in care, 31% had mental health issues, 24% had a criminal record and 14% were care leavers.
D) Together Women is a project supporting vulnerable women which is across the lane at the back of Spearmint Rhino.
E) The Sheffield Hallam University Student Union Hubs are adjacent to Spearmint Rhino. Young people, many away from home for the first time should not be expected to have to cope with being next door to a Sexual Entertainment Venue if they want to access the Union's facilities.

3) The Council's SEV Policy states that objections to SEVs can be considered with regard to the following;
'close proximity' to 'a school ...or premises used by or for children under 16 years of age...or any other recreational space used by or for children under 16 years of age'
' a church or other place of religious worship'
' a Mental Incapacity or Disability Centre or similar premises'

Several organisations working with children and people with mental health problems and disabilities are in the vicinity of Spearmint Rhino.

Festival Square, the space between Spearmint Rhino and Sheffield Hallam University Student Union Hubs, is meant to be used by the public, including children but is hardly ever even walked in by anyone: it is a dead space and I think its under-use is because of its proximity to a Sexual Entertainment Venue; one certainly would not want children or young people to play there and people feel uncomfortable being near it.

There is a now a church operating on Sundays in the Work Station, Christ Church Central.

4) Sexual Entertainment Venues are places where many women are wary of walking past. They attract men who by definition do not respect women, finding it acceptable to patronise a venue which treats women as sex objects and viewing access to our bodies as something that can be bought. This is a blight on our city-why should women have to put up with being frightened even when we are out in our city centre where we should all feel safe and welcome?

B66c

Fear of crime is recognised as an acceptable ground for objection and I feel that in the past the Licensing Committee has not given sufficient consideration to the right of ALL citizens to feel safe and free to access all areas of our city.
Regardless of the official crime statistics for the vicinity of Spearmint Rhino, the perceived risk of crime will always affect women's decisions about where they decide to go; one does not wish to be one of the future statistics.

In addition the Council has a duty with regard to its statutory obligations in relation to disability, race and gender, in ensuring these factors are not used to discriminate against anyone. The Council also has a duty under the Equality Act to work to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harrassment and victimisation.
Sexual Entertainment Venues treat women as sexual objects which can be bought, dehumanising women. This has to be viewed as part of a wider 'macho culture' within society which leads to the victimisation of females and a culture of violence, abuse and exploitation of women and girls.
The Licensing Committee cannot continue to bury its head in the sand in failing to acknowledge the role of SEVs in the spectrum of violence against women and girls which is endemic in our society; whilst ever
(some) men (and it is mainly men), can use their power and money to exercise control of and access to women's bodies this will not stop.
The huge numbers of girls experiencing Child Sexual Exploitation in our city and adjacent towns is frankly appalling.
Declining Spearmint Rhino permission to continue selling access to women's bodies is something in the power of the Committee to stop; it is one small cog in the wheel of making Sheffield a better, safer, welcoming city for women and girls.

I would respectfully request that Sheffield's Licensing Committee take the principled position of standing up for women and girls and refuse this application.

I would welcome the opportunity to explain my objections at a Licensing Hearing should the Committee not feel able to decline permission without further scrutiny.

I would be grateful if my contact details were not made publically accessible for safety reasons but am happy for the Licensing Committee to have view.

I would be grateful if you would send acknowledgement that my objection has been received.

Yours faithfully,

Judith Dodds

B67a

From: Susan Allaker
Sent: 08 April 2016 09:35
To: licensingservice
Subject: Objection to renewal of licence for Spearmint Rhino

I refer to the application for a sexual entertainment venue licence by I Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield. S1 2BS.

This is an objection letter to the application for this licence and I call for the council to refuse it.

I believe that the Council should refuse the licence application under the Discretionary Grounds for Refusal of Sheffield City Council's Sexual Entertainment Venues Licensing Policy on two grounds:

Ground c):

"the number of sex establishments in the relevant locality at the time the application is made is equal to or exceeds the number which the authority consider is appropriate for that locality."

The grounds go on to state that "Nil may be an appropriate number for the purposes of (c)"

Ground d):

"the grant or renewal of a licence would be inappropriate, having regard -

(i) to the character of the relevant locality: or

(ii) to the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put: or

(iii) to the layout, character or condition of the premises; vehicle; vessel or stall in respect of which the application is made."

Sheffield City Council also has "statutory obligations in relation to disability race and gender" ensuring that these factors are not used to discriminate against anyone. I believe that a sexual entertainment venue directly discriminates against women by normalising the sexualisation and objectification of women, and that this contributes to their sexualisation and objectification in other areas of society.

Furthermore Schedule 3 1982 Act provides specific grounds to refuse/renew license:

e) "cultural hub of city"

f) "central gateway to the city....or tourist attraction"

Our general terms of objection are as follows:

- the part of the city that the club is situated is unsuitable due to it being in the "cultural heart" of the city. The Sexual Entertainment Venue is situated in the cultural heart of Sheffield, and within the area of the railway station, the main gateway and welcome point to the city, encompassing the pedestrianised walk way up to town centre.

- the club is situated directly next to the Hallam Students Union, a hub of young impressionable people, sometimes vulnerable and often away from home for the first time.

- when walking around this area, which as a Council you encourage people to do due to the other businesses and services in the area, women feel nervous because of the SEV and have to change their behaviour because of it being there, for example having to look around to see if there are people coming out of the SEV, take a different route walking to the centre of town so that they do not have to go past the SEV. Women should not have to feel like this in their city.

- the Council's own promotion of the city is "Sheffield - where everyone matters" - this includes the female citizens of the city who should not be subjected to their city promoting and normalising the sexualisation and objectification of them

- this image or a high-end establishment portrayed by this SEV goes in some way to normalising this type of venue in a very active part of the city, and as such giving the impression that Sheffield as a city condones both the sexualisation and objectification of women, which is in complete contradiction to the Council's equality policies and Sheffield's own widely publicised belief of Sheffield being a city "where everyone matters."

- granting a licence would be contradictory to other work that the Council does, funds and promotes, for example the recent SheFest, the Equalities Hub within the community bringing Communities of Identity together to tackle equalities issues within the council and the city,

- the council has a duty under the Equality Act to work to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation

My son attends UTC, a technical college for students from 14 years upwards and I strongly feel that this sort of establishment should not be so close to a college for young people.

A sexual entertainment venue in the heart of the city, or anywhere in the city, is simply completely contradictory to everything that the council says it stands for, everything that the council should stand for, and has a duty to work towards.

I also ask what actions or discussions the council has taken in order to consider what number of sexual entertainment venues is appropriate for Sheffield, as stated in the policy and legislation? Has the Council for example, as per their own policy, carried out an Equality Impact Assessment?

The Council is asked to note that in the last few years Leeds City Council successfully defended a refusal to renew two SEV licenses at judicial review:

B67c

R (Bean Trading A Ltd) v Leeds City Council (2014)

It was held that a council can "take a fresh look" despite no changes to the character of locality.

The case of Thompson v Oxford City Council (2014) was also supported at court of appeal, and the Council told they could "take a fresh look" at any application for renewal.

If the panel feel that they cannot make a refusal decision without further discussion, I would ask that a hearing is held so that the application can be discussed in more detail.

I look forward to hearing from you.
Susan Allaker

Sent from my iPad

B68a

6th April 2016

To whom it may concern

I refer to the application for a sexual entertainment venue licence by Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield. S1 2BS.

This is an objection letter to the application for this licence and I call for the council to refuse it.

I believe that the Council should refuse the licence application under the Discretionary Grounds for Refusal of Sheffield City Council's Sexual Entertainment Venues Licensing Policy on two grounds:

Ground c):

"the number of sex establishments in the relevant locality at the time the application is made is equal to or exceeds the number which the authority consider is appropriate for that locality."

The grounds go on to state that "Nil may be an appropriate number for the purposes of (c)"

Ground d):

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(i) to the character of the relevant locality: or

(ii) to the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put: or

(iii) to the layout, character or condition of the premises; vehicle; vessel or stall in respect of which the application is made."

Sheffield City Council also has "statutory obligations in relation to disability race and gender" ensuring that these factors are not used to discriminate against anyone. I believe that a sexual entertainment venue directly discriminates against women by normalising the sexualisation and objectification of women, and that this contributes to their sexualisation and objectification in other areas of society.

Furthermore Schedule 3 1982 Act provides specific grounds to refuse/renew license:

e) "cultural hub of city"

f) "central gateway to the city….or tourist attraction"

My specific objections are as follows:-

- This venue is close to Hallam University students union and would expose young and potentially vulnerable young women (who may be away from home for the first time in our city and are deserving of our care and protection) to an organisation promoting the exploitation of women as 'sexual entertainment' for men

- It would attract men to its 'entertainment' that might put young women at risk of harm

- It is also close to the Site Gallery which I understand has recently been funded to develop art projects for young people – this alone should prevent the granting of a licence

- It is close to the cultural industries area but is NOT a cultural industry that any Sheffield resident would want to support

- It is on the main route for transit from rail and bus routes into the heart of the city and does not represent the ethos of Sheffield that I would want for visitors or travelers

- I always avoid any area the promotes the sex industry – even as a mature woman I do not feel safe when these venues are close by – especially not in the heart of the city where I should feel safe and the council have a duty to ensure that I feel at ease in my city wherever I want to go

- the Council's own promotion of the city is "Sheffield – where everyone matters" – this includes the women who live in the city who should not be subjected to their city promoting and normalising the sexualisation and objectification of them

- I am proud to be a resident of Sheffield and proud of its commitment to equality and fairness – but I am ashamed of the promotion and legitimisation of the sex industry by this council

- I am proud of the work promoted by the city regarding equality and diversity eg Ignite Imaginations – this is not compatible with a licence for this type of organization

- the council has a duty under the Equality Act to work to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation – do your duty

A sexual entertainment venue in the heart of the city, or anywhere in the city, is simply completely contradictory to everything that the council says it stands for, everything that the council should stand for, and has a duty to work towards.

I also ask what actions or discussions the council has taken in order to consider what number of sexual entertainment venues is appropriate for Sheffield, as stated in the policy and legislation? Has the Council for example, as per their own policy, carried out an Equality Impact Assessment?

The Council is asked to note that in the last few years Leeds City Council successfully defended a refusal to renew two SEV licenses at judicial review:

R (Bean Trading A Ltd) v Leeds City Council (2014)

It was held that a council can "take a fresh look" despite no changes to the character of locality.

B68c

The case of Thompson v Oxford City Council (2014) was also supported at court of appeal, and the Council told they could "take a fresh look" at any application for renewal.

If the panel feel that they cannot make a refusal decision without further discussion, I would ask that a hearing is held so that the application can be discussed in more detail.

I look forward to hearing from you

Yours faithfully

Carol Rejaie

B69a ✓

[redacted]

01/04/2016

Re: objection to the application for renewal of SEV license, Spearmint Rhinos, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield S1 2BS

Dear Sheffield City Council,

I am writing as a lifelong Sheffield resident to strongly object to the application currently with the council for renewal of a SEV license of Spearmint Rhinos, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield, S1 2BS. As a Sheffield resident and tax payer, **I oppose the application and call for the council to refuse to renew the license.** I understand the council can refuse to renew the license under the Discretionary Grounds for refusal of Sheffield City Councils Sexual Entertainment Venues Licensing Policy. Namely,

Ground c) the number of sex establishments in the relevant locality at the time of the application is made equal to or exceeds the number the authority consider is appropriate for that locality. The grounds in this section go on to state that nil may be an appropriate number for the purposes of c)

And ground d) " the grant or renewal of a license would be inappropriate , having regard

(i) To the character of the locality, or
(ii) To the use to which premises in the city are put, or
(iii) To the layout, character or condition of the premises, vehicle, vessel or stall in respect of which the application is made

Schedule 3 of the 1982 Act provides specific grounds for refusal and refusal to renew a license; I would like to cite e) and f);

e) **The cultural hub of the city**- this venue is adjacent to a highlighted cultural quarter of the city, as previously named and celebrated by the Council

f) **The central gateway to the city or a tourist attraction**- the venue is literally minutes from the main railway station where millions of pounds have been spent to attract visitors and on a pedestranised area which leads up to the town centre. This is a welcome point of the city. The venue is opposite art spaces and round the corner from various university buildings.

To be clear, my objections are as follows;

- The part of the city the club is situated is the "cultural heart" of the city

- It is situated directly next to the Sheffield Hallam University Students Union. A hub for our young people staying in the city, sometimes vulnerable, certainly impressionable and away from home potentially for the first time. Men leaving the club are known to harass young female students.
- The council purports the city is " Sheffield- where everyone matters" this includes females in the city, who do not wish to be subject to the council promoting and normalising the sexualisation and objectification of women
- The albeit discrete almost plush looking chain of Spearmint Rhinos goes in part to normalize this kind of venue in a very active part of the city and therefore gives the impression Sheffield condones the sexualisation and objectification of all women, which is **incongruent with the councils equality policies and overt statement of Sheffield being a city "where everyone matters"**
- Granting a renewal of the license is in contradiction to the other work the council funds and supports, for example the recent Shefest, the Equalities Hub within the community
- The council has a duty under the Equality Act to work to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimization. Such a club sets women back many, many years in their plight for equality.

The council is directed to case law whereby a nearby city of Leeds successfully defended a refusal to renew two SEV licenses at judicial review: R (Bean Trading A Ltd V Leeds City Council (2014)

It was held that a council **"can take a fresh look despite no changes to the character of the locality".** The council can simply change its mind

Further to this the case of Thompson V Oxford city council (2014) was also supported at Court of Appeal and again informed "they can take a fresh look" at any application applying for a renewal.

Sheffield city council has "statutory obligations in relation to disability, race and gender" ensuring that these factors are not used to discriminate anyone. It is my opinion that a sexual entertainment venue directly discriminates women by objectifying them and by normalizing the sexualisation of women purely for the sexual gratification of men. This can then be damaging to society at a wider level, not to mention the individual female's self-esteem and psychological well-being. I am reliably informed the venue gives employment to young female students, arguably due to its locality next door to a student's union venue.

I am writing as a modern feminist, a Sheffield resident, public service employee and a tax payer. I am a married woman and not a "burn your bra lesbian" as associations with the term feminist often generate. I am taking this stance for my generation and others that follow. Enough is enough. As a tax payer and resident of the city (unlike the owner of the club), I would fully support the council in the face of any challenge the council will face by giving a refusal. I understand the club has resources and indeed would instruct the best barristers. I would ask the council not to be influenced by such gestures and have some faith in a supportive public, irrespective of the business rates generated from the venue. It is interesting there are several buildings not occupied next to the venue and it is likely in the event of closure the area

can develop appropriately generating significant income for the city and in keeping with the tome of the area.

I would respectfully request to be informed or for the information to be made public as to what steps the council have taken to ascertain the appropriate number of such venues in this cultural part of the city and if an Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out. **I am also requesting a public hearing on this very important issue and to be kept informed of any progress.**

Please do not hesitate to contact me and I look forward to following matters closely

Yours Sincerely

Giselle Brook

RMN, LLB, Accredited Cognitive Behavioural Psychotherapist, MSc

B70a ✓

[redacted]

Councillor David Barker
Chair of the Licensing Committee
Sheffield City Council
Town Hall
Pinstone Street
Sheffield
S1 2HH

5th April 2016

Dear Mr Barker

I refer to the application for a Sexual Entertainment Venue (SEV) license by Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield S1 2BS.

I oppose the renewal of this license and call for Sheffield City Council to refuse it.

I refer to the Sexual Entertainment Venue Policy Document on the Council's website where it says:

"...the Council will not licence premises that it feels are in close proximity to:-

a) *a school, nursery or other premises substantially used by or for children under 16 years of age;*
b) *a park or other recreational area used by or for children under 16 years of age;*
c) *a church or other place of religious worship;*
d) *a Hospital, Mental Incapacity or Disability Centre or similar premises;*
e) *the Cultural Hub of the City (i.e. close to the Peace Gardens and Tudor Square etc.); and/or*
f) *a central gateway to the city or other city landmark, historic building or tourist attraction.*

I would like the Licensing Committee to specifically look at items e) and f) when considering whether or not to grant this license as it seems obvious that a renewal would contravene both items.

The venue is within the cultural heart of our city, close to galleries, the Showroom Cinema, workspaces and cafes, and is right next to Sheffield Hallam University Students' Union building, full of young and impressionable people, some of whom are living away from home for the first time. I am thoroughly dismayed to see that Spearmint Rhino even offers a cut-price students' night.

The venue's proximity to the railway station, the main gateway and welcome point of our city must also be considered. Do we really want a sexual entertainment venue to be one of the first things visitors to our city see when they arrive?

The Council promotes Sheffield as a city "where everyone matters": this includes Sheffield's female citizens who should not be subject to their city promoting and normalising their objectification and sexualisation through establishments such as this.

Granting a license would also be completely contradictory to work the Council promotes, for example the Equalities Hub Network, and quite recently, SheFest (which took place right next door to the SEV in question).

...cont/

B70b

The Council should note that the refusal to renew two SEV licenses in 2014 was successfully defended by Leeds City Council and Oxford City Council, who the court held were entitled to "take a fresh look" despite no changes to the character of the locality, and I would urge Sheffield City Council to do the same.

I look forward to hearing from you,

Yours sincerely

A R Butler

Ann Butler
Concerned citizen
and Women's Equality Party member

Appendix C

Representations - Supporters

C1

From: Hannah Boast
Sent: 05 April 2016 18:38
To: licensingservice
Subject: SUPPORT application for renewal of Spearmint Rhino SEV licence

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing in support of the application for renewal of a Sexual Entertainment Venue license for Spearmint Rhino at 60 Brown Street, Sheffield, S1 2BS.

I live less than five minutes' walk from Spearmint Rhino and have never been bothered by its clientele. I do not feel nervous in the proximity of the venue and do not take different routes to avoid walking past it during the day or late at night. I have suffered harassment, groping and sexual threats in Sheffield, but not in the area surrounding Spearmint Rhino. I have been involved in feminist activism in Sheffield for many years and do not feel that the existence of the venue has a negative impact on women and non-binary people in the city.

I believe that the venue does not violate the conditions for a renewal of its licence. The clientele of Spearmint Rhino do not increase levels of crime and disorder in the area, or disturb residents with noise pollution and anti-social behaviour. Standard bars and nightclubs in the city centre cause much greater inconvenience for local residents. Spearmint Rhino does not present concerns on the grounds of public nuisance or public safety.

The venue is not close to a school, nursery, place of worship, or hospital. Its late hours of operation mean that clients are not in the area at the same time as students of Freeman College or University Technical College Sheffield. The Spearmint Rhino premises are of neutral appearance and do not feature conspicuous advertisements. I do not believe the presence of this venue has a negative impact on the character of the city's Cultural Industries Quarter. Objections to the licence extension on the basis of supposed concern for Hallam students are paternalistic - I speak as someone who regularly teaches undergraduates at the University of York.

Sheffield City Council has "statutory obligations in relation to disability race and gender". Refusing to renew this application would have a disproportionate effect on women, who make up the greatest proportion of employees at the club.

I ask that you grant this application. Thank you for considering my letter of support.

Kind regards,

Dr Hannah Boast

--

Dr Hannah Boast

Associate Tutor

Department of English & Related Literature
University of York
Heslington
York YO10 5DD
UK

https://york.academia.edu/HannahBoast

C2

From: Cara
Sent: 07 April 2016 18:17
To: licensingservice
Subject: SUPPORT the renewal of Spearmint Rhino SEV licence

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing in **support** of the application for renewal of a Sexual Entertainment Venue license for Spearmint Rhino at 60 Brown Street, Sheffield, S1 2BS.

I believe that the venue does not violate the conditions for a renewal of its licence. The clientele of Spearmint Rhino do not increase levels of crime and disorder in the area, or disturb residents with noise pollution and anti-social behaviour. Standard bars and nightclubs in the city centre cause much greater inconvenience for local residents. Spearmint Rhino does not present concerns on the grounds of public nuisance or public safety.

The venue is not close to a school, nursery, place of worship, or hospital. Its late hours of operation mean that customers are not in the area at the same time as students of Freeman College or University Technical College Sheffield. The Spearmint Rhino premises are of neutral appearance and do not feature conspicuous advertisements. I do not believe the presence of this venue has a negative impact on the character of the city's Cultural Industries Quarter.

Sheffield City Council has "statutory obligations in relation to disability race and gender". Refusing to renew this application would have a disproportionate effect on women, who make up the greatest proportion of employees at the club.

I ask that you grant this application. Thank you for considering my letter of support.

Kind regards,

PERSONAL EVIDENCE

I live in the city centre a short distance from Spearmint Rhino and attend events very nearby on a frequent basis and have never been bothered by its clientele. I do not feel nervous in the proximity of the venue and do not take different routes to avoid walking past it during the day or late at night. I have suffered harassment, groping and sexual threats in Sheffield elsewhere and near where I live, but not in the immediate area surrounding Spearmint Rhino. I have been involved in feminist activism in Sheffield for many years and do not feel that the existence of the venue or its location has a negative impact on women and non-binary people in the city. I feel that enabling the women who work there to continue working there in a more safe environment than might otherwise be an option for them, is crucial to supporting their wellbeing and existence.

C3

-----Original Message-----
From: Alan Smith
Sent: 06 April 2016 17:41
To: licensingservice
Subject: Spearmint Rhino sev

I am writing to support Spearmint Rhino's SEV licence renewal.

I do not believe it is a counci's job to act as censors.

A study by Camden Council from 2008 to 2011 showed that there were low crime rates around these clubs, disproving the arguments of campaigners against them.

Mr Alan Smith

C4

From: A Mere Kat
Sent: 05 April 2016 19:46
To: licensingservice
Subject: I SUPPORT the renewal of Spearmint Rhino SEV licence

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing in support of the application for renewal of a Sexual Entertainment Venue license for Spearmint Rhino at 60 Brown Street, Sheffield, S1 2BS.

I believe that the venue does not violate the conditions for a renewal of its licence. The clientele of Spearmint Rhino do not increase levels of crime and disorder in the area, or disturb residents with noise pollution and anti-social behaviour. Standard bars and nightclubs in the city centre cause much greater inconvenience for local residents. Spearmint Rhino does not present concerns on the grounds of public nuisance or public safety.

The venue is not close to a school, nursery, place of worship, or hospital. Its late hours of operation mean that clients are not in the area at the same time as students of Freeman College or University Technical College Sheffield. The Spearmint Rhino premises are of neutral appearance and do not feature conspicuous advertisements. I do not believe the presence of this venue has a negative impact on the character of the city's Cultural Industries Quarter.

Sheffield City Council has "statutory obligations in relation to disability race and gender". Refusing to renew this application would have a disproportionate effect on women, who make up the greatest proportion of employees at the club.

I ask that you grant this application. Thank you for considering my letter of support.

Kind regards,

Kat Bradford (of Highfield, Sheffield).

Appendix D

Current Licence & Conditions

D1a

Sheffield City Council

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 Schedule 3
Licence To Use Premises As A Sex Establishment

Category: SEXUAL ENTERTAINMENT VENUE

ISSUE NO: 4

Licence No: SEV 002

Sheffield City Council being the appropriate Authority under Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 hereby grant a sexual entertainment venue licence in accordance with the requirements of the Act and subject to the conditions attached to the following:

Name and (registered) address of holder of the licence:

Sonfield Developments Limited
64 Clarendon Road
Watford
WD17 1DA

To use the following premises as a Sexual Entertainment Venue situated at and known as:

Premises details:

Spearmint Rhino
60 Brown Street
Sheffield
S1 2BS

Telephone number: 0114 2798092

Nature of entertainment:

Lap Dancing / Pole Dancing / Strip Tease / Other of a like kind

This licence is granted subject to any terms, conditions and restrictions contained in regulations made by the Council applicable to Sexual Entertainment Venues, insofar as they, or any of them, are not expressly excluded by any provision in the Schedule below, but subject to any variations to such regulations set out in the said Schedule.

The times at which the premises will be used as a Sexual Entertainment Venue:

Sunday to Saturday 24:00 to 00:00 hours

Seasonal variations / non standard timings:

None

D16

Designated areas permitted for performance of sexual entertainment:

Performances of 'sexual entertainment' may only be permitted in areas of the premises as outlined on the plans attached to this licence at Appendix 1.

This licence shall be in force from:	**1st May 2015**
until:	**30th April 2016**
issued:	**1st May 2015**

A copy of this licence and the conditions applicable to this sexual entertainment venue licence shall be displayed inside the licensed premises where they can conveniently be read by any member of the public who has entered the premises.

Steve Lonnia
.....
Stephen Lonnia
Chief Licensing Officer
Head of Licensing
On behalf of Sheffield City Council being the appropriate Authority

Sheffield City Council – For Office use only		
Transfer of an SEV licence	0	
Variation of a SEV licence	0	

Dlc

Annex 1 – Standard conditions

Dld

Additional conditions

Dle

Annex 2 – Conditions attached after a hearing by the Licensing Authority

KEY DEFINITIONS

The following terms are used frequently throughout the conditions:

- "The Council/Licensing Authority" refers to Sheffield City Council
- The "2009 Act" refers to the Policing and Crime Act 2009
- The "1982 Act" refers to the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982
- The "2003 Act" refers to the Licensing Act 2003
- "Section 27" refers to section 27 of the Policing and Crime Act 2009
- "Schedule 3" refers to schedule 3 to the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 as amended
- "The Licensing Committee" refers to the committee of Sheffield City Council.
- "Relevant Entertainment" refers to: live performance and live displays of nudity, provided solely or principally for the purposes of sexually stimulating any member of the audience
- "Nude" means in the case of a woman exposing her nipples, pubic area, genitals or anus and in the case of a man, exposure of his pubic area, genitals or anus.

General Conditions

1. Rules shall be produced by the licensee for customers indicating conduct that is permitted. These rules shall be prominently displayed in any bar area, and at sufficient other locations within the venue to ensure that they are brought to the attention of customers.

2. No relevant entertainment provided shall be visible from the street or from any other external area to which the public have access.

3. Performers shall not whilst Nude, whether engaged in relevant entertainment or not, be visible from the street or from any other external area to which the public have access.

4. The licence holder shall ensure that no staff or other persons engaged on their behalf remain in any area of the premises which can be viewed from outside the premises, or from any other area outside the premises, for the purpose of encouraging potential customers into the premises.

5. Without the prior written consent of the Council there shall not be displayed outside the premises, in the immediate vicinity, or elsewhere within the city any advertisements, photographs or images that indicate or suggest that relevant entertainment takes place on the premises.

6. There shall be prominently and legibly displayed a comprehensive tariff of all charges and prices in respect of relevant entertainment, including any charge for the company of any person working at the premises, which shall be illuminated and placed in such a position that it can at all times be easily and conveniently be read by persons inside the premises.

7. No charge shall be made to the customer for any food or drink provided for any person working at the premises unless that customer has specifically ordered it having first been made aware of the cost.

The Premises

1. CCTV will be provided and in working order in the premises, the positioning of such cameras will be in liaison with the Police Licensing Officer and Crime Prevention Department and shall comply with the minimum specification of the South Yorkshire Police at the date of license issue.

2. CCTV recorded material should be kept secure for a period of 31days and disclosed to any Police Officer or authorised officer of the Council.

3. No CCTV footage is to be copied, for the purpose of being given away or sold (except as required by Police / Council for investigation / enforcement purposes). CCTV footage may be distributed internally by licence holders (including to other group premises) for the purposes of internal management and training.

4. Except in accordance with the requirements for CCTV as described above, no photographs, films or video recordings shall be taken of the performances. Nor shall electronic transmissions of a performance be shown outside of the premises (except for the purpose of remote management of the premises and in those circumstances, the licensee shall ensure that only those involved in management shall view any photograph, film or recording).

5. Notices shall be displayed informing customers of the presence of CCTV.

6. An appropriate room shall be available as a change and rest area for performers. Access to this room shall be restricted to performers and employees only whilst the performers are on the premises. This room shall be marked on the plans.

7. The licence holder or his nominated deputy (who is authorised in writing), or door-supervisors shall carry out regular monitoring of all areas of the premises to which the public have access and shall intervene promptly, if necessary, to ensure compliance with licence conditions.

Management Standards

1. Training shall be provided to all members of management and staff regarding the conditions of the licence, management practices and any relevant legislation to ensure compliance with the same. A written record of all such training shall be maintained at the premises and made available on request to the Police and authorised officers of the Council.

2. The licensee shall not employ any person under 18 years of age in the business of the establishment.

3. No person may provide relevant entertainment at the premises until such time as photographic proof of identity showing date of birth is provided to the licence holder, confirming that the person is over the age of 18 years.

4. A record of any person employed or engaged at the premises,including name, address, National Insurance number, photograph anddate of birth will be retained in a register at the premises. Suchdetails are to be checked and verified by the licence holder against other forms of identity. These records are then to be retained at the premises for at least 12 months from the last day (date) of their employment and made available to both Police Officers and authorised officers of the Council on request.

5. A 'Signing-in' register shall be kept at the premises that records the date, start time and finish or cash out time of all person(s) involved in the relevant entertainment at the premises. This shall be retained for a period of 12 months and made available for immediate inspection by a Police Officer or authorised officers of the Council.

6. When the premises are open for relevant entertainment no person under the age of 18 shall be permitted to be on the premises. The licensee shall operate a Challenge 21 Policy and persons appearing to be under the age of 21 shall be required to show proof of ID. A notice to this effect shall be displayed in a prominent place at the entrance to the premises and any other appropriate location (i.e. at the bar).

7. The licence holder must maintain an incident log of any person(s) refused entry at the premises and record the reason why such persons were refused entry. The log shall be retained for a period of 12 months and the licence holder shall make the log available to any Police Officer or authorised officer of the Council on request.

8. A written code of conduct for those engaged in the relevant entertainment shall be produced by the licence holder together with a disciplinary procedure for any breaches of the code. The code of conduct shall prohibit activities that might be thought to lead to prostitution, breaches of the licence or any other unlawful activities. The Code shall be made available to the Police or authorised officers of the Council on request.

The Protection of those Engaged in Relevant Entertainment / Prevention of Crime and Disorder

1. Any person who is providing relevant entertainment, must be briefed verbally, or in writing, by the licence holder or his nominated deputy (authorised in writing) as to the conditions that pertain to their particular premises and as to the code of conduct, including the fact that their activities will be recorded on CCTV. The performer(s) shall sign in a register that they have been briefed, any such register shall be retained for 12 months and made available for inspection by any Police Officer or authorised officer of the Council.

2. (a) During any performance of relevant entertainment there must be no physical contact between the performer and any member of the viewing public, except for the placing of money / tokens in an item of clothing worn by a performer or into the performer's hand before or at the end of the performance and a customary kiss on the cheek of the patron by the performer at the conclusion of the performance. A brief handshake before or at the end of a performance is permitted.

(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) above, a performance which does not involve striptease or nudity may involve a patron seated on a chair on the stage whilst dancers perform on the stage around the patron and may include touching the patron's head and shoulders soley with the performer's head and shoulder soley with the performers hands.

3. There shall be no penetration of a performer's genitals or anus by any means.

4. Performers shall not engage in masturbation and or/oral sex.

5. Except with the consent of the performer and at their invitation no customer shall participate in any relevant entertainment. Any customer participating must remain seated during the performance.

6. No customer shall be required or encouraged to participate in any relevant entertainment against their will.

7. No customer shall have any clothing removed during any relevant entertainment.

8. At the completion of the relevant entertainment the performers shall dress themselves immediately.

9. Whilst on the premises performers are not to solicit, exchange addresses or telephone numbers with customers, or arrange to liaise with customers off the premises.

Safety and Security

1. The licensee shall maintain good order in the premises at all times and shall ensure that persons entering or leaving the licensed premises conduct themselves in an orderly manner and do not in any way cause annoyance to residents and persons passing by.

2. Relevant entertainment may only take place in 'designated areas' that are marked on the plan of the premises submitted to the Licensing Service as part of their application.

3. The licensee shall have in place and comply with a policy concerning the safety of performers arriving at and leaving the premises. The policy shall be recorded in writing and made available to the Police or authorised officers of the Council on request

4. The licensee or a nominated manager (in writing) shall be present on the premises at all times whilst the relevant entertainment is taking place.

DIJ

Appendix 1 – Plans of the premises

Plan Ref No: G/100/40 SEV
Plan Date: July 2005

Appendix E

Meeting Invites

E1

Sheffield City Council

SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

LOCAL GOVERNMENT MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS ACT 1982

Sexual Entertainment Venue – Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield.

IMPORTANT: NOTIFICATION OF A LICENSING SUB COMMITTEE HEARING

LEGISLATION: **Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982**

LICENCE TYPE: **Sexual Entertainment Venue (Renewal)**

I refer to the above and an application for the renewal of a Sexual Entertainment Venue Licence.

This matter has been referred to the Licensing Sub Committee of Sheffield City Council for determination. Full details will be provided in the report to the Committee which will be sent to you in due course. The Licensing Committee has the authority to decide what action to take in relation to each application.

The hearing in respect of the application will take place on Monday 16th May 2016 in a Committee Room of the Town Hall, Sheffield (Pinstone Street entrance) and you are invited to attend at **10:00 am.**

PLEASE NOTE:

Due to the number of interested parties, it is vitally important that you reply to this invite. If you fail to respond to this invite and subsequently attend the hearing, your admission cannot be guaranteed due to health and safety considerations. Entry precedence will be given to individuals who have confirmed their attendance in advance.

I would be grateful if you would confirm that you will be attending the meeting by emailing the Licensing Service at licensingservice@sheffield.gov.uk or by telephoning 0114 273 4264 before 5pm on Thursday 12th May 2016.

Steve Lonnia

.....

Date: 29th April 2016

Steve Lonnia
Chief Licensing Officer
Head of Licensing

Licensing Service, Business Strategy and Regulation, Block C,
Staniforth Road Depot, Staniforth Road, Sheffield, S9 3HD

Telephone 0114 273 4264
Email licensingservice@sheffield.gov.uk

The Licensing Service reception is open from 10.00am to 4.00pm, Monday to Friday

Appendix F

Hearing Procedure

F1a

SEXUAL ENTERTAINMENT VENUES

-

COMMITTEE HEARING PROCEDURE

This procedure has been drawn up to assist those attending Sexual Entertainment Venue Committee hearings. The hearing can be heard in two parts and may be held on separate dates – objectors will be invited to attend Part One only. Part One will not apply if there are no objectors.

The hearing before the Council is Quasi Judicial.

PART ONE

1. The Chair of the Licensing Sub-Committee will introduce the Sub-Committee and ask officers to introduce themselves.

2. The Chair will ask the objectors (or nominated speaker(s) on behalf of the objectors) to formally introduce themselves.

3. The Solicitor to the Sub-Committee will outline the procedure to be followed in the hearing.

4. Hearing Procedure:-

   (a) The Licensing Officer will introduce the report.
   (b) Questions concerning the report can be asked by Members.
   (c) The Licensing Officer will introduce in turn the objectors (or nominated speakers) who will then be asked to detail the relevant representations. New representations must not be raised.
   (d) The Chair of the Licensing Sub-Committee will invite members of the Sub-Committee to put any relevant questions to the objectors
   (e) The Chair of the Licensing Sub-Committee will close Part One of the hearing.

PART TWO

1. The Chair of the Licensing Sub-Committee will introduce the Sub-Committee and ask officers to introduce themselves.

2. The Chair will ask the applicants to formally introduce themselves.

3. The Solicitor to the Sub-Committee will outline the procedure to be followed in the hearing.

4. Hearing Procedure:-

   (a) The Licensing Officer will introduce the report.
   (b) Questions concerning the report can be asked both by Members and the applicant.

F16

(c) The applicant/licensee (or his/her nominated representative) will then be asked to:-
   i) Present their case to the Sub-Committee and respond to any objections made;
   ii) Call on any witness in support of their application;
(d) The Chair of the Licensing Sub-Committee will invite Members of the Sub-Committee to put any relevant questions to the applicant/licensee (or his/her nominated representative) and/or any witnesses who speak.
(e) The applicant will be invited to briefly sum up the application.
(f) The Licensing Officer will then detail the options.
(g) There will then be a private session for Members to take legal advice and consider the application.

5. The decision of the Licensing Sub-Committee will be conveyed in writing following the hearing, to the applicant/licensee (or his/her representative).

6. Objectors will receive a copy of the written notification of the Sub-Committee's decision sent to the applicant, if they have advised the Licensing Authority that they wish to do so. The decision will also be made available on the Council's website.

NB: At any time in the Licensing Process Members of the Sub-Committee may request legal advice from the Solicitor to the Sub-Committee. This advice may be given in open session or in private.

Appendix G

Discretionary Grounds for Refusal

Discretionary Grounds for Refusing a Licence

The Council may refuse the grant or renewal of a licence in the following circumstances:-

(a) the applicant is unsuitable to hold the licence by reason of having been convicted of an offence or for any other reason;

(b) if the licence were to be granted, renewed or transferred the business to which it relates would be managed by or carried on for the benefit of a person, other than the applicant, who would be refused the grant, renewal or transfer of such a licence if he made the application himself;

(c) the number of sex establishments in the relevant locality at the time the application is made is equal to or exceeds the number which the authority consider is appropriate for that locality;

(d) the grant or renewal of the licence would be inappropriate, having regard—

(i) to the character of the relevant locality; or
(ii) to the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put; or
(iii) to the layout, character or condition of the premises, vehicle, vessel or stall in respect of which the application is made.

Nil may be an appropriate number for the purposes of (c) above.

The Council may refuse the transfer of a licence only in the circumstances of (a) and (b) above.

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