

MEMO: Licensing Unit

To Licensing Unit **Date** 17 December
2019

Copies

From Jayne Tear **Telephone** 020 7525 0396

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Subject K-CHE VIP Latin Club, First Floor, 516 Old Kent Road, London, SE1 2QH

Application to review the premises licence

I write with regards to the above application to review the premises licence submitted by The Metropolitan Police as a responsible authority under Section 53A of the Licensing Act 2003.

The grounds for the review within the application state:

'On Saturday the 30st November 2019 at approximately 03:00 fight started inside the premises the victim was close to DJ booth. It appears he was knocked unconscious and believes was struck with a bottle due to serious injuries sustained. Police were not called by the venue and the victim was allowed to leave with no first aid or intervention bleeding with a serious facial injury. The injuries required a number stitches to his upper lip and nostril and will possibly require plastic surgery reconstruction of his broken nose. The report crime report was made to the station officer at Walworth police station at 20.13hrs that evening. Police records have been checked and no call for police or ambulance was made from the premises. The victim phoned the club that day asking about CCTV and they confirmed they did have CCTV and would not do anything unless police requested it and put the phone down on him. On initial investigation the premises licence was suspended in May and the venue was operating without a licence since then. Warning letters had been sent to venue and the registered address of the licence holder informing them they should not operate on the 9 May 2019.

Previous History.

On Saturday the 1st September 2018 at 04.00hrs a fight started inside the premises and security removed all parties from the venue, once outside two customers removed from K-Che were stabbed on McDonalds car park. Witnesses believe it was a result of intervention of the fight inside. Since December 2018 twelve crime reports of violent incidents have occurred associated with the premises including Four (4) for Greivous Bodily Harm (GBH), Four (4) for Actual Bodily Harm (ABH), One (1) assault on Police, One(1) common assault, One (1) Robbery and a Crime related incident for a Fight inside the premises. The area in proximity to the premises has suffered from considerable amount of violent incidents, Anti social behavior and calls for police accidents which we believe the premises has been a contributing factor to. This incident took place in a licensed premises that at the time was operating without the correct authorisation as the licence was suspended. The premises has a history of violent incidents both inside and outside. We have no confidence in the management of this premises, they have a number of control measures on the licence that do not appear to be restricting the crime and disorder associated with the premises. The addition of further conditions as interim steps in my opinion is not appropriate on this occasion. I recommend that the licence is suspended to

evaluate the operation of the premises. A suspension will allow for full investigation and recommendations at the full review of the premises licence'.

My representation is submitted with regards to promoting the prevention of crime and disorder, the prevention of public nuisance, public safety and protection of children from harm licensing objectives and also has regard to the Southwark Statement of Licensing Policy 2019 – 2021.

At the licensing sub-committee hearing to discuss interim measure held on 5 December 2019 several conditions were imposed upon the premises licence, to promote the licensing objectives, pending the full hearing as follows:

1. That no spirits (alcohol containing more than 20% ABV) shall be sold by the bottle or half bottle.
2. That all spirits (alcohol containing more than 20% ABV) shall be sold by the measure of 25ml or 35ml at a maximum of two measures per container/receptacle
3. CCTV to be upgraded so all parts of the upstairs are covered including seating areas, and a CCTV camera is placed so that it gives a clear facial image of all customers leaving the premises.
4. One member of staff be designated to ensure all persons are entered on the ID Scanning system when entering through the front gate, and that there is no re-entry except for staff

Licensing officers have visited the premises to check on compliance of the conditions imposed however it has not been possible to ascertain whether these measures have been implemented as the premises has been closed.

I fully support the Police in seeking more robust control measures being imposed on this premises licence to promote the licensing objectives and recommend that the interim steps 1-4 remain on the premises licence with a further condition added as follows:

5. That all beverages including alcoholic and non-alcoholic will be served in reusable polycarbonate receptacles, no glasses or bottles will be permitted in the public areas of the venue

I may provide further information to support this representation at a later stage.

Southwark's Statement of Licensing Policy 2019 – 2021 can be found on the following link:
<https://www.southwark.gov.uk/business/licences/business-premises-licensing/licensing-and-gambling-act-policy>

Jayne Tear
Principal Licensing officer
In the capacity of the Licensing Responsible Authority