



4 December 2019

The Licensing Team

Lewes District and Eastbourne Borough Councils

1 Grove Road

Eastbourne

East Sussex

BN21 4TW

The Licensing Team

Representation against the grant of an SEV renewal at the Embassy night club in Pevensey Road

It was with much disappointment and concern that we read recently that Eastbourne Borough Council has given approval to open a strip club above the Embassy nightclub in Pevensey Road.

We understand the owner, Gino Forte, asked for a number of conditions to be changed to the terms of his original licence for the club, including the removal of rules preventing full nudity and dancers from performing within a metre of customers. This would allow for full nudity and a "no touching rule". Despite some concerns being raised by committee members, it was agreed to approve the variation of licence conditions as requested by the applicant.

As Soroptimists, we aim to help transform the lives and status of women and girls by advocating for equity and equality and creating safe and healthy environments. How does a strip club in the centre of Eastbourne help us achieve our goals?

Ventures like the proposed strip club do little to promote the town as a desirable

place to live, work and visit. Approval of such premises by the council is a totally unacceptable development in the 21st century in a town seeking regeneration and focuses on financial gain rather than the well-being of residents of our town.

It also goes against Eastbourne Borough Council's **Equality and Fairness Policy** that states that "All individuals living within our boundaries should have the opportunity to achieve their full potential and all those who live, work and visit our areas should feel welcome, valued, safe, respected and included." How "valued, safe and respected" do performers in a strip club feel?

Yours sincerely,

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[REDACTED]

President Elect

Eastbourne and District Soroptimists

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