

Local Policing Support Team

1st February 2021

Licensing department
Eastbourne Borough Council
Grove Road

Dear Mr Thornton,

RE; APPLICATION FOR CHEF H, 27-31 LANGNEY ROAD EASTBOURNE BN21 3QA, UNDER THE LICENSING ACT 2003.

I write on behalf of the Chief Officer of Police for Sussex to raise a representation against the grant of the above application on the grounds that it will undermine the Licensing Objectives of the prevention of crime and disorder, the prevention of public nuisance and public safety.

This is a proposed licence in an area of Eastbourne which is subject to a Special Policy adopted by Eastbourne Borough Council (EBC). The premises lies within the Cumulative Impact Zone (as defined in the EBC statement of Licensing Policy 2019-2024)

Paragraph 8.1 of Eastbourne Borough Councils statement of Licensing Policy 2019-2024 states; The impact of the number, type and density of licensed premises in a given area may lead to problems of noise, nuisance, crime and disorder outside of, or a distance from licensed premises. Cumulative Impact is defined as the "potential impact upon the Licensing Objectives of a significant number of licensed premises concentrated in an area," and is a proper matter for consideration by the Licensing Authority.

The applicant describes the nature of premises as "Licensed restaurant with take away and delivery facility" and seeks the following licensable activities and timings;

- Late Night Refreshment Monday to Saturday 2300-0400
- Supply of alcohol Monday to Sunday 1100-2300

Paragraph 14.24 of the Secretary of State's Guidance to the Licensing Act 2003 (April 2018) provides:

"A cumulative impact assessment (CIA) may be published by a licensing authority to help it to limit the number or types of licence applications granted in areas where there is evidence to show that the number or density of licensed premises in the area is having a cumulative impact and leading to problems which are undermining the licensing objectives. CIAs relate to applications for new premises licences and club premises certificates and applications to vary existing premises licence and club premises certificates in a specified area."

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Paragraph 14.40 of the Secretary of State's Guidance to the Licensing Act 2003 (April 2018) provides:

'In publishing a CIA a licensing authority is setting down a strong statement of intent about its approach to considering applications for the grant or variation of premises licences or club premises certificates in the area described....

Applications in areas covered by a CIA should therefore give consideration to potential cumulative impact issues when setting out the steps that will be taken to promote the licensing objectives'

The applicant has not referred to the Cumulative Impact Policy (CIP) or the EBC statement of Licensing in their application. Although the applicant has offered a number of conditions, Sussex Police do not believe these go far enough to help mitigate any potential risk in what is already a very busy area of Eastbourne.

On Tuesday 26th January 2021, Sussex Police Licensing contacted Euro Safety, who are the agents acting on behalf of the applicant. They were made aware of our concerns about the premises operating times and how they have not provided enough evidence of how the premises will promote the four licensing objectives. The agent said he had partially read EBC statement of licencing but when questioned did not know anything about the CIP. It was explained how they needed to provide details of how the premises will not negatively impact one or more of the Four Licensing Objectives. The agent's response was to ask for Police to provide them with conditions and they will agree to them. This response does not provide Sussex Police with confidence that this premises will be manged efficiently.

The night time economy within Eastbourne can at times be very challenging for all the emergency services and the CIA has been shown to be a hot spot location within Eastbourne for crime and violent offences. There are already a high number of late night licensed venues all of which are in very close proximity to this new proposed venue and yet another late night establishment is likely to negatively add to the cumulative impact which in turn is likely to undermine the licensing objectives.

In light of the above together with data showing an increase in Sexual assault within the Cumulative area, Sussex Police are not satisfied that this application presents an exceptional case to override the presumption of rebuttal for new applications within the CIA. We invite the Licensing Authority to seriously consider refusing this application.

Yours sincerely,

R. Lovell

Insp Rob Lovell
Licensing Inspector
Local Policing Support Team

Sussex Police

Please address all future correspondence to Licensing Officer Kirstie Rolfe, Bexhill Police Station, Terminus Road, Bexhill TN39 3NR email; kirstie.j.rolfe@sussex.pnn.police.uk and EastSussex.Licensing@sussex.pnn.police.uk

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Licensing Police Staff are currently working from home, email is the preferred method of communication.