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## East Sussex Licensing Team

25/02/2023

Licensing Team  
Eastbourne Borough & Lewes District Council

Dear Eastbourne and Lewes Licensing Team,

**RE: TEMPORARY EVENT NOTICE (TEN) for 14-15 Phoenix Place, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 2QJ**

### **NOTICE OF OBJECTION under Section 104 (2) of the Licensing Act 2003**

Notice of objection is hereby given on behalf of the Chief Officer of Police for Sussex for the above Temporary Event Notice (TEN) on the grounds of the licensing objectives of The prevention of crime and disorder, Public Safety, The prevention of public nuisance and The protection of children from harm.

This TEN seeks to licence the provision of late-night refreshment, the provision of regulated entertainment and the sale by retail of alcohol between the hours of 2000 hours on Saturday 17th June 2023 to 0300 hours on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

Sussex Police received the TEN application on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2023. The applicant states that the event is a Charitable dance event with alcohol for sale.

Due to the minimal information provided Sussex Police is not satisfied that the licensing objectives will be upheld.

On reading the application we do not feel adequate provisions have been put in place to ensure the event runs safely.

The venue address has been attended by a Police Constable.

Sussex Police have a multitude of concerns relating to the venue itself, the location, the nature of the event and the safety and welfare of those attending.

The venue itself consists of two industrial units located on a now otherwise abandoned industrial estate. The building itself is marked for redevelopment and there are concerns over the structure and ongoing maintenance of the building, including the structural safety of the roof.

The building is situated directly next to the River Ouse which in itself poses various dangers to members of the public who may be under the influence of alcohol.

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Police Station, North Trade Road, Battle,  
East Sussex TN33 0EX

Lighting in the area is poor and there are no cctv camera's within the venue or in the roads surrounding the property.

There are a number of vehicles in the direct vicinity that are being used as housing.

Fire safety is a concern and although a person associated with the venue has stated verbally that the building has been inspected by the Fire service, they were unable to produce any documentation relating to any such inspection. There is no information offered as to what will happen in the event of an emergency. Are there Fire Exits? Is there an Assembly point? Are there Fire extinguishers?

Within the building itself there is Electricity, Gas and Water. No documentation to show that these services are in good working order has been produced nor have any safety certificates or other documentation.

It is unknown if there are working toilets within the building.

During the visit to site a covered vehicle was seen to be parked up in the corner of one of the units. This in itself may pose a fire risk.

In relation to the event itself it is unknown who the event is targeting and there is no indication if the event is going to be ticket only or paid entry on the door.

There are no 'conditions of entry' offered by the applicant, nor are there any known search policies in place. It is not known if under 18's are permitted to attend.

The applicant has not indicated that security would be in attendance.

The applicant has not provided details of what alcoholic drinks would be available nor where they would be stored nor how they would be distributed.

There is no information on staffing levels nor was there any information offered as to how the applicant would prevent underage sales of alcohol.

There are no 'Age 25' or 'under 18' posters within the venue on public display.

The applicant has failed to provide any information as to how he intends to ensure the safety of all those in attendance regarding drug prevention policies.

There is no detail as to how any persons ejected from the venue will be managed.

There is no information offered regarding First aiders.

There are no provisions offered relating to 'Ask Angela' nor how the venue plans to ensure the safety and welfare of vulnerable persons who may be under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

The applicant has requested a 3 am finish to events. Within the town of Lewes there are no provisions for late night travel. There are no buses or trains at 3 am in the morning which could lead to a large number of people being left stranded in Lewes on a Sunday morning.

Due to the minimal information provided Sussex Police is not satisfied that the licensing objectives will be upheld.

As a TEN is a light touch approach to licensing, responsible authorities are unable to apply conditions to it. We are aware that if a panel was to grant the TEN following a hearing, conditions could be imposed if they so wish. Items such as structural stability confirmation, valid and current Fire regulations being in place, SIA requirements and Challenge 25 would be some of the areas we ask the panel to consider.

As it currently stands, the Chief Officer of Police contends that permitting this location to be used in accordance with the notice is likely to lead to crime and disorder and an unacceptable risk to public safety. We therefore ask that this notice is heard before a licensing panel and unless an agreement on conditions can be agreed, a Counter Notice to be issued by the Licensing Authority Committee.

I confirm that a copy of this objection letter has been sent by email to the applicant.

Yours sincerely,



Insp Simon Burroughs  
Licensing Inspector  
East Sussex Licensing Team  
Sussex Police

**Please address all future correspondence to [EastSussex.Licensing@sussex.pnn.police.uk](mailto:EastSussex.Licensing@sussex.pnn.police.uk)**