

## Licensing committee

Date: Thursday, 30 November 2017

Time: **16:30** 

Venue: Mancroft room, City Hall, St Peters Street, Norwich, NR2 1NH

# Pre-meeting briefing for members of the committee only for 30 minutes before the start of the meeting

Committee members: For further information please contact:

Councillors: Committee officer: Alex Hand

Button (chair) t: (01603) 212459

Woollard (vice-chair) e: alexhand@norwich.gov.uk

Ackroyd

Bradford Democratic services

Brociek-Coulton City Hall Jones (B) Norwich Jones (T) NR2 1NH

Malik

Maxwell www.norwich.gov.uk

Price Raby

Thomas (Va) Thomas (Vi)

#### Information for members of the public

Members of the public and the media have the right to attend meetings of full council, the cabinet and committees except where confidential information or exempt information is likely to be disclosed, and the meeting is therefore held in private.

For information about attending or speaking at meetings, please contact the committee officer above or refer to the council's website



If you would like this agenda in an alternative format, such as a larger or smaller font, audio or Braille, or in a different language, please contact the committee officer above.

#### **Agenda**

4		
1	$\Delta n \cap$	logies
	Apo	ogics

To receive apologies for absence

## 2 Public questions/petitions

To receive questions / petitions from the public.

Please note that all questions must be received by the committee officer detailed on the front of the agenda by **10am on Monday 27 November 2017.** 

Petitions must be received must be received by the committee officer detailed on the front of the agenda by **10am on Wednesday 29 November 2017.** 

For guidance on submitting public questions or petitions please see appendix 1 of the council's constutition.

#### 3 Declarations of interest

(Please note that it is the responsibility of individual members to declare an interest prior to the item if they arrive late for the meeting)

4 Minutes 5 - 74

Purpose - To approve the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting held on 8 September 2017.

## 5 Hackney Carriage Fare Review 75 - 86

Purpose - To ask members to determine the level of fares charged for the hire of Norwich city council licensed hackney carriages.

#### 6 Standing item - Regulatory subcommittee minutes 87 - 88

To receive the minutes of the regulatory sub committee held on 18 September.

#### 7 Exclusion of the public

Consideration of exclusion of the public.

#### **Exempt items:**

(During consideration of these items the meeting is not likely to be open to the press and the public.)

To consider whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during consideration of an agenda item on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as specified in Part 1 of Schedule 12 A of the Local Government Act 1972 or it being confidential for the purposes of Section 100A(2) of that Act.

In each case, members are asked to decide whether, in all circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exemption (and discussing the matter in private) outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Date of publication: Wednesday, 22 November 2017

Page	4	of	88
------	---	----	----



Minutes

### Licensing committee

09:30 to 18:55 8 September 2017

Present: Councillors Button (chair), Woollard (vice chair following election),

Bradford, Jones (B), Jones (T), Malik, Maxwell, Price, Raby, Thomas

(Va) and Wright

Apologies: Councillors Ackroyd, Brociek-Coulton and Thomas (Vi)

### 1. Appointment of vice chair

**RESOLVED** to appoint Councillor Woollard as vice-chair for the ensuing civic year.

## 2. Public questions/ petitions

The following public question was received from Helen Dawson:

"Does Norwich City Council Licencing Committee have a contribution to make to a 3, 5, 10 year strategy for Prince of Wales Rd?

If so, in what ways does the Licencing Committee aim to increase the diversity of business on Prince of Wales Road to attract a greater diversity of people of all ages including those with families?"

The following response was given from the chair:

"Thank you for your question Ms Dawson

The role of the licensing committee (and its sub-committee) is fairly narrow, in that its remit is to set the licensing policies that surround the processing and determination of the various licences that Norwich City Council is responsible for administering, and then determining those applications in accordance with the agreed policy and relevant legislation.

This covers a wide range of licensing administration activity from alcohol/entertainment licensing, to gambling, taxis, scrap metal, tattooing and ear piercing.

Having said that, the recent adoption of the cumulative impact policy section of the Licensing Act 2003 Licensing Policy makes it more difficult for new later night

premises to open, which then gives a slight bias towards daytime and early evening uses. This policy is due for review in 2020.

The following public question was received from Liz Stocks:

"Have the council taken into consideration the fact this is the main gateway from the railway station to the City centre for visitors to our Fine City? I would have thought lap dancing clubs as the first impression is not a good one.

Surrounding Prince of Wales Road is becoming much more a residential area and increasingly so. The behaviour at the moment requires a high police presence at the weekends as it is, without provocation being increased.

Has respect for the mosque and any other religious places of worship even been considered?"

The following response was given from the chair:

"Thank you for your question Ms Stocks

The four current sex establishment applications will be considered by the Licensing Committee on the 8 September 2017. When determining an application for a sex establishment licence the licensing authority must take into consideration the "relevant locality" and the "use to which other premises in the vicinity are put". This is further set out in the City council's policy which states:

In considering the characteristics of a locality the Licensing Authority shall particularly take account of the density and proximity of:

schools, nurseries, crèches, youth hostels and other similar educational or recreational facilities attended by children, parks and children's play areas, residential and sheltered accommodation, religious and community buildings, alcohol or entertainment licensed premises, other retail units (and their uses).

The following public question was received from William Stocks:

"Prince of Wales road is the gate-way to Norwich from the station, what type of message does this give to the visitors to our 'Fine City'? If you approve the licences please ensure that any advertising, hoarding and signage is discrete.

The close proximity of a new primary school (Charles Darwin). The housing developments at St Anne's Quarter and those planned for Mounter Gate, having more families and children living in the area needs to be considered. There are local religious and community facilities in the Prince of Wales area, how will these be impacted?

The precedent set if the licence is granted, will this open the door to further adult entertainment establishments and how will this reflect upon what is becoming a residential area?

Could you make it clear how the licences and regulations will be managed given the

probable environment within the clubs (i.e. private booths)? The licencing objectives as I understand them are; public safety, the prevention of crime, protection of children, prevention of public nuisance. Will inspectors be visiting establishment during their operating hours (e.g. 01:00)?

Regarding the process followed for the licence application, according to the process which the council followed you refused to accept comments after the 28 day period. This is disappointing given the obvious public interest once people were informed of the consultation. It is a shame that the representatives and agents of the public appear to be excluding the people that they serve from voicing concerns."

The following response was given from the chair:

"Thank you for your question Mr Stocks.

Sexual Entertainment Licences have a number of standard conditions in relation to signage/advertising which address the concerns that you raise, in particular conditions 30-36."

In determining the application the committee must consider the characteristics of the locality.

The council may set maximum limits on the numbers of sex establishments in a particular area. No limits have currently been set, but this may happen as a result of the hearings on Friday 8 September.

The licensing objectives that you refer to relate to the premises licence, issued under the Licensing Act 2003, which authorises the premises to sell alcohol and other music type entertainments. This is a separate licence to the one being considered on Friday, which is only to authorise the provision of sexual entertainment. We would also be undertaking enforcement and inspection activities at each premises in relation to the alcohol licence, and these are often done jointly with other agencies, such as the Police, who also have a joint enforcement remit.

Licence applications, including the way they are advertised and the period of time that representations can be accepted for, are generally set within the relevant legislation which in this case is Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982. This legislation sets out that objections must be received within a 28 day period from the submission of the application, as below:-

LGMPA 1982, Schedule 3, section 10, sub-para (15) - Any person objecting to an application for the grant, renewal or transfer of a licence under this Schedule shall give notice in writing of his objection to the appropriate authority, stating in general terms the grounds of the objection, not later than 28 days after the date of the application."

The following public question was received from Jessica Goldfinch:

"Why were those, who had expressed interest by objecting earlier, not informed, and the information not sent out with the usual licensing emails where people would expect to find it?

Why is the Sexual Entertainment Venue, (SEV), policy not anywhere to be found on the website and being enforced?"

The following response was given from the chair:

"Thank you for your question Ms Goldfinch.

The various licensing regimes that local authorities have to administer are set within their own different legal frameworks. Each will vary with regard to the advertising and consultation requirements. The Licensing Act 2003 (alcohol and entertainment licensing) casts a particularly wide consultation net and also requires that a public register of applications is held. This is done by publishing them on the Norwich City Council website.

This wide consultation requirement set by the Licensing Act 2003 is not reflected in most other licensing legislation, and the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 (sex establishments) only requires that the applicant place a public notice at the premises for 21 days and for 1 day in a local newspaper. There is no requirement set in the legislation for further public notification and no facility for any public register of applications. The city council policy reflects the legislative requirements. All four of the current applications were advertised in line with the legislation and the council's policy.

The SEV policy has until recently been in draft format but is now finalised and will shortly be being made available on the council's website. The policy is currently being enforced, in as far as it guides the current application and decision making process being undertaken by the four current applicants. The policy contains standard conditions to be applied to any licences that might be granted, including some relating to signage. However these may only be enforced if/when a licence is granted."

The following public question was received from Geraldine Terry:

"I would like to know what measures these four clubs will take to prevent anti-social behaviour, including sexual harassment and assaults by customers outside the club?

Also, what measures will be taken to prevent the display of sexual images of women outside the club, where they can be seen by members of the public, including minors?

Also, there seems to have been little opportunity for public consultation, and I would like to know why this is?"

The following response was given from the chair:

"Thank you for your question Ms Terry.

Premises cannot be directly responsible for the actions of an individual once they are outside of the venue. Each venue will be subject to standard conditions

restricting the actions of the performers at the venue to ensure that their actions are not overly explicit in nature, thus limiting the stimulation of the customers. The performers are also prevented from engaging in communications such as exchanging telephone numbers or email addresses with customers. The standard conditions also require inappropriate behaviour by customers to be reported to the management so that this may be dealt with immediately.

Sexual Entertainment Licences have a number of standard conditions in relation to signage/advertising which address the concerns that you raise, in particular conditions 30-36.

Licence applications, including the way they are advertised and the period of time that representations can be accepted for, are generally set within the relevant legislation, which in this case is Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982.

This legislation sets out that each application must be advertised by a public notice in a local newspaper within 7 days of the application being submitted and also a public notice displayed on or near the premises for 21 days following the application being submitted. Representations must be submitted not later than 28 days after the application is submitted.

These requirements were complied with by all the applicants for the licenses being considered."

A question was received from Councillor Lesley Grahame:

"Today Licensing Members are being asked to consider granting four Sexual Entertainment Venue, (SEV), licences. They can refuse an application if the number of SEVs is greater than that agreed. However no number has been agreed. They are being asked to do the impossible.

Granting four SEV licences at once, with no cap on the numbers would send a message that Norwich is a soft touch, a destination for stag parties, bringing more strip clubs into the city. While some may consider this desirable, the conversation has not been had and no democratic decision has been made, or can be without further consultation and a review of the policy to decide a cap on the numbers.

Over 400 people have signed a petition to extend the consultation.

I therefore ask the committee to consider a deferment of the decision on the basis that this meeting is not valid because relevant interested people were not given sufficient information, and the regulations that the applications will be judged under are clearly unworkable.

If that deferral cannot legally be done, I request a review of the policy, and an agreement that next year's license application may be subject to a change in policy."

The following response was given by the chair:

"Thank you for your question Councillor grahame.

The legislation relating to sex establishments allows a local authority to set a maximum number of licences, or licences of a particular kind, for a relevant locality. Relevant locality of a premises is not defined within the legislation other that as "the locality where they are situated". The only further assistance that the Home Office Guidance can offer on this matter is that the relevant locality cannot be designated as the entire local authority area.

Norwich city council has not at this time defined all the relevant localities that the district could be split into, and therefore has not been able to set maximum numbers for relevant localities.

However, maximum appropriate numbers may be set and considered as part of the determination of an application, as the relevant locality can be better identified and properly assessed, once the location of an application premises is known. This initial decision could also then be applied to further applications that are received from premises within the same relevant locality.

Although four applications have been received and will be heard by the licensing committee, the relevant locality of each of the premises will be considered, including whether it is appropriate to set a maximum number for that locality, before a determination is reached. Any maximum number(s) set may be more than, less than or equal to the number of applications received. Any maximum numbers set by the committee for a relevant locality, would then need to be considered as an amendment to the policy."

In response to Councillor Grahame's supplementary question the legal advisor to the committee advised that in terms of capping the number of venues in the locality all applications would need to be heard before determining this.

No petitions were received.

#### 3. Declarations of interest

The committee's legal advisor explained the notion of predetermination. All members of the committee declared that they did not hold a pre-determined view in relation to the applications being heard.

Councillor Price declared an 'other' interest in item (5) below, application for the grant of a Sexual Entertainment Venue Licence – Lace, 75 Prince-of-Wales Road, Norwich, NR1 1DG; as he was the father of a child who attended a school in the area.

Councillor Maxwell declared an 'other' interest in item (6) below, application for the grant of a Sexual Entertainment Venue Licence – Platinum Lace, 15 Dove Street, Norwich, NR2 1DE; as she lived in the area.

#### 4. Minutes

**RESOLVED** to approve the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting held on 9 March 2017.

#### 5. Application for the Grant of a Sexual Entertainment Venue Licence – Lace,

#### 75 Prince-of-Wales Road, Norwich, NR1 1DG

(Councillor Price had declared an 'other' interest in this item)

The environmental protection, licensing and markets manager presented the report. He explained there were two objections received to the application, one from Helen Dawson who was unable to attend and another from Councillor Lesley Grahame. He confirmed that opening hours requested on the application had been amended, on the application they were shown as 24hours but had been amended to 08:00-05:00.

The counsel for the applicant presented to the committee. She highlighted that the provision of sexual entertainment was a lawful activity and the question of morality was irrelevant. She stated sexual entertainment venues in general do not give rise to issues of crime and disorder or public nuisance. The business model was not driven by encouraging people to drink to excess meaning customers left the premises calm, sober and controlled.

The establishment catered to a small number of customers, with a high proportion of staff to customers and extensive CCTV in operation. They exhibited a high level of care for the performers, each being escorted away from the premises back to their home. The business has been established for 10 years and had excellent working relationship with both licensing and policing authorities.

On a typical night 18 customers would be hosted at any one time and over a total night an average of 55. The venue had an extensive CCTV system of 35 cameras installed and the duty manager was equipped with an iPad on which to view the CCTV. There were three Security Industry Authority (SIA) staff on duty at any time. If there were to be an incident they could call upon further SIA staff. There would also be a bar manager, deputy manager, two to three barstaff, dedicated dance counters at two points with one on each floor. Therefore, at any one time there would be a 1:2 staff to customer ratio.

There was a single door into an entrance lobby. Each customer's ID was checked at this stage and the house rules explained to them. The entrance lobby was anonymous, there was no visibility to any passerby of the relevant entertainment.

The applicant's counsel suggested some alterations to Norwich City Council's standards conditions of licence, which were outlined below:-

Condition 20 reads: The CCTV system must be monitored by a dedicated member of staff or security personnel at all times that the premises are in operation.

This was considered unnecessary and disproportionate, technology had overtaken need to have a one person sit in a room and monitor CCTV.

Condition 38 and 39 were designed to avoid visibility from the street. Council for the applicant contended that there was already an entrance lobby and spirit and intent of conditions achieved.

Condition 54 (1) 'customers must be seated in an upright positon against the back of the booth or seat' presented problems for the design of the premises. Seats used were circular deep and wide and did not have an obvious back to them. It was suggested to delete 'against the back of the booth or seat'.

In summary these alterations could be characterised as minor departures from the standard conditions.

In response to a question from Councillor Maxwell the applicant clarified that the bedroom shown in the plans comprised 2 booth areas with a divan which were monitored by CCTV.

In response to a question from Councillor Wright the applicant advised that the venue was currently opening 21:00 – 04:00 but had requested 08:00 – 05:00 to provide flexibility.

In response to a question from Councillor Wright the environmental protection, licensing and markets manager advised that the application was not advertised on the council's website as there was no requirement to do so unlike with alcohol licence applications.

In response to Councillor Tim Jones' question on the seating in the boudoir, the applicant confirmed it was a half circular bed, similar to a divan in style.

Councillor Raby commented that the change from regular trading hours of 21:00 – 04:00 to requested 08:00 – 05:00 hours provided an unusual degree of flexibility.

In response to a question on staff training from Councillor Woollard the applicant confirmed that staff received 2-3 days of training which was renewed every 12 months.

The applicant responded to Councillor Maxwell's question that there were 8-16 dancers on duty dependent on the night and that the fire regulations for the building covered 150 people.

The applicant confirmed to Councillor Woollard that the house rules restricted under 18s from entering the premises.

In response to questions from Councillor Price and Councillor Malik the applicant stated that there were multiple iPads used by staff which linked into and monitored the CCTV. The iPad were placed in the hands of those most empowered to respond. The applicant said that managers walked the floors constantly and the premises were small. A member of staff at the CCTV point would be at the furthest point from where the customers were. The dedicated process they had in place currently was working.

In response to a question from Councillor Thomas the applicant stated the premise was open to all genders, races and sexes.

The applicant advised in response to a question from Councillor Beth Jones that all performers were escorted by back to their vehicles at the end of their shift.

In response to a question from Councillor Price clarifying the points raised on condition 38 the applicant confirmed that when the business was operational the door was staffed with security and when not operational the door was locked.

Councillor Lesley Grahame had provided a representation to the committee and was provided with an opportunity to comment on the application. She discussed the use of female imagery outside of the premise and questioned what a young girl walking past would think if she saw this. She highlighted concerns over the welfare of performers and suggested that no applications should be granted and referred to a decision by Oxford council.

The applicant responded to the representation that the billboard would be removed if the licence was granted. They confirmed that the use of phones during performances was not allowed as detailed in their house rules and that the performers were escorted back to their cars.

In terms of the Oxford case this was utterly distinguishable as Oxford had adopted a policy of nil venues in the locality. The High Court determined this was lawful to refuse as number in policy was nil.

Councillors discussed the number of applications to be granted and how this would be determined. The environmental protection, licensing and markets manager clarified the questions to be considered in terms of determining applications; the relevant locality needed to be taken into consideration and whether the locality required a maximum number to be set.

In conclusion the applicant stated the locality must recognise the status quo. The premise had been trading successfully in an area deemed appropriate for late night activity. They asked for three minor amendments to standard conditions of licence and reminded the committee that a licence once granted was enforceable within criminal law.

# 6. Application for the Grant of a Sexual Entertainment Venue Licence – Platinum Lace, 15 Dove Street, Norwich, NR2 1DE

(Councillor Maxwell had declared an 'other' interest in this item)

The environmental protection, licensing and markets manager presented the report. He explained there were two objections received to the application, one from Helen Dawson who was unable to attend and another from Councillor Lesley Grahame.

The counsel for the applicant presented to the committee. He stated that whilst members may not consider the provision of sexual entertainment tasteful, it was a lawful and legitimate activity. The establishment had been operating for 11 years and the application was appropriate and in the relevant locality. He referred to section 9.2 in Norwich City Council's Sex Establishment Policy Statement and stated it was critical to consider the application in light of the representations received which he addressed in turn.

With regard to the representation from Helen Dawson, (appended to these minutes), it was far from clear that it had any relevance to the application; it was fundamentally addressing issues about Prince of Wales Road area. In respect of crime and disorder there was no evidence and Norfolk Police had issued no objection to the application. There was not a single observation about the premise itself which had been open for 11 years. Reference to schoolchildren related to Prince of Wales Road and the timings in the objection differed to the application's which were 20:00-03:00 closing at 04:00 on a Saturday. The economy of Prince of Wales Road which was referred to was not relevant. The listing of Trip Advisor reviews for the Prince of Wales Road area again was not relevant and could not be the basis of a determination.

He stated the application had attracted three representations from local business in support of their application.

He continued with the representation from Councillor Grahame and highlighted that the form used was for a premise licence application objection and not a sexual entertainment venue application. Some of the studies and academic papers referred to dated back to 1998 and were from observations in America or Scotland and could not help inform the decision. The representation was not about the application in question at all. If each application had to be considered on its own merit, he said representations must be as well. On 17 July 2017, Sugar and Spice made a premise licence application and the objection was extraordinarily similar to the objection the councillor made then. Summarising he said that nothing in the representation engaged their discretion.

The business was making an application for the same layout, operating structure and planning that they were currently operating with. The entrance was discreet, with no overt advertising of the business. It was a well thought out application from a mature business that was a national operator. He summarised the paperwork provided in the application.

The applicant requested some amendments to the standard application if it were to be granted detailed below:

Condition 10 currently go out and market for customers, this should be appropriate material but some marketing was needed.

Condition 20 regarding CCTV the applicant requested that this not be interpreted as an individual needing to watch CCTV the whole time. It would not be proportionate to have a dedicated CCTV operator based on the number of customers visiting the premises.

Condition 23 regarding customer numbers suggested the current wording was substituted for 'A Fire Risk Assessment will be undertaken at the premise and a customer capacity limit set. Such capacity limit shall be complied with at all time. A copy of the Fire Risk Assessment will be made available to the council and police officers on request.' The result of that was that the fire risk assessment should be basis for capacity.

Condition 38 and 39 in reference to doors the applicant highlighted the design of the venue and asked for the condition to be amended. The current design was discreet and any member of the public walking past could not see inside.

Condition 53 and Condition 54 (1) to (4) suggest adding to the end of the condition the wording 'or as otherwise may be agreed with officers in writing'. There was a need to future proof the licence and the applicant wanted to ensure an ongoing dialogue with officers.

Condition 54 (5) regarding performers feet on seats requested be removed.

The applicant suggested the addition of an extra condition that a code of conduct for customers be clearly displayed in the premises.

Condition 42 regarding no alterations without prior consent; the applicant would ask for the addition 'with the exception to the minor alteration to the internal premises' which would allow alterations such as putting up a shelf, or changing seating.

The applicant said the business was positively regarded and had received representations of support from local businesses, made in good time. It was a non-threatening, subtle and discreet business and the application was a considered one from a good premise.

In response to a question from Councillor Beth Jones the applicant confirmed all dancers were walked to their cars at the end of their shift.

Councillor Malik commented that the policy on Modern day slavery was a good recommendation for all venues to adopt.

In response to a question from Councillor Wright the applicant confirmed the representations received from local business were legitimate and genuine.

In response to a question from Councillor Woollard the applicant confirmed staff numbers were; three bar staff, three or four door staff depending on the day, seven to 22 dancers depending on the day, a DJ, a manager and an assistant manager who was SIA trained.

Councillor Lesley Grahame had provided a representation to the committee and was provided with an opportunity to comment on the application. She reminded the committee that they had the power to set the number on venues deemed appropriate to be considered for a licence in a determined locality.

The applicant summed up and stated that the provision of sexual entertainment was a lawful and legitimate activity and that this was a good application from an established business and that a licence should be granted.

# 7. Application for the Grant of a Sexual Entertainment Venue Licence – B52 Lap Dancing Club, 52 Prince-of-Wales Road, Norwich, NR1 1LL

The environmental protection, licensing and markets manager presented the report. He explained there were two objections received to the application, one from Helen Dawson who was unable to attend and another from Councillor Lesley Grahame.

The council for the applicant presented to the committee. He stated that the application was to operate for the hours of 18:00 to 03:45 everyday. The business had been operating for three years and achieved an excellent working relationship with the police. In addition an experienced house manager would be recruited. He highlighted the code of conduct for performers and customers. He referenced that the layout had an inner lobby and separate doors and this complied with the terms of licence. When premises were operating door staff were on duty.

The venue provided strip dancing, pole dancing, lap dancing, and full nudity in private booths. In booths there were flat beds where customers were able to watch performances lying down with their hands by their side. Staff would be fully trained with SIA door staff and an in house radio system. CCTV would be monitored by a dedicated person and CCTV was installed in private booths.

The applicant suggested some amendments to the standard conditions, listed below:

Condition 10 in reference to marketing, the applicant wanted to be able to hand out flyers which would not depict full or partial nudity or sex or violence, applying the same criteria which was listed in condition 33.

Condition 31 to amend to delete 'at no time shall a performance or persons working in the premises be visible from outside the premises, with the exclusion of door supervisors', replacing these words with 'performers may only go outside the premises in the presence of a door supervisor and when fully dressed'. This was to enable performers who wished to, to go outside and smoke.

Condition 43 regarding private booths, to amend to enable the use of see through covers over entrance to private booths.

Condition 50, regarding contact details, would like to change to 'except in the form of a business card and before leaving the premises the performer will surrender permanently'.

Paragraph 53, the applicant said it was not practical to have separate female toilets for performers and therefore requested the removal of the wording (this excludes the toilets as performers must not use the public toilets whilst open to the public).

Condition 54 (1) and (2), there were performance areas where customers could lay on beds with their hands by their sides or under their heads and asked could the wording be amended.

Condition 55 (3) requested the condition be amended to take into account money or tokens handed to performers or placed in their garters.

The applicant summarised and said no objections were received within the 28 day consultation period and highlighted that there were no objections from the police. It was he said a well managed establishment that worked closely with police. The applicant said the late objections which were received and included, were directed at national policy and were not for this committee to deal with.

The evidence used was out of date and not based on Norfolk.

In terms of locality, B52 was closed when schools and churches were open. There was no outside indication at the premise that it was a Sexual Entertainment Venue. The establishment was currently called 'Bar 52 Lap Dancing' but if the committee thought it necessary, the applicant would be happy to comply and change the name to 'Bar 52'. The establishment had no detrimental effect on the appearance of Prince of Wales Road. The welfare of performers was central to the operation and all were checked to determine that they were able to work legally in UK.

The applicant said that Councillor Grahame's representation had requested several conditions but said there was no need for these as they were covered in the Sexual Entertainment Policy and could be enforced. Mrs Dawson's representation had similar themes as Councillor Grahame's and had been responded to previously in the meeting.

The applicant said that the application complied with all relevant policy; the establishment had a good working relationship with authorities and was asking for only minor amendments to the conditions.

In response to a question from Councillor Maxwell, the applicant advised that the performers would surrender any business cards immediately to the house mother. A house mother was a manager/ supervisor of performers and ensured their welfare and compliance with the code of conduct. The wording could be changed to 'will be surrendered immediately to nearest house mum, SIA staff or the CCTV dedicated person.' Councillor Wright suggested that customers could deposit the cards at reception.

Councillor Wright clarified the opening hours, as the application had requested 18:00-03:45. The applicant confirmed the establishment would open from 20:00.

Councillor Malik commented that as regards condition 10, the business should only need to flyer in the locality of the venue and not the wider city.

The applicant responded to a question from Councillor Raby and said that the performers were required to comply with the code of conduct as part of their contract with the business. It was the responsibility of management in terms of who they hired.

In response to a question from the chair, who was concerned about the curtains covering each booth, the applicant confirmed there was CCTV in the private booths.

In response to a question from Councillor Beth Jones, the applicant agreed that escorting performers to their transport safely would be part of the business' normal practice and would be written into their policy in due course.

In response to Councillor Woollard, the applicant advised 'fully' clothed in reference to performers going outside to smoke, meant wearing a dressing gown or a coat and in terms of supervision it was one performer at a time with a member of door staff alongside.

In summing up the applicant stated they were entering into a new phase of their business and that they took note of the committee's comments.

# 8. Application for the Grant of a Sexual Entertainment Venue Licence – Sugar & Spice, 39 Prince-of-Wales Road, Norwich, NR1 1BG

The environmental protection, licensing and markets manager presented the report. He explained there were two objections received to the application, one from Helen Dawson who was unable to attend and another from Councillor Lesley Grahame.

The consultant for the applicant presented to the committee. He stated that the business was a mature one and significant investment had been made into the business. The establishment provided a relaxed and friendly atmosphere, in which people drank as their 'local'. The venue and its operators had always worked closely with the authorities and the police held the venue in high regard.

The applicant expressed that they welcomed the SEV policy as it created a level playing field for all venues. They said people from all walks of life attended the venue and highlighted that 30 - 35% of customers were female. This was the only SEV in Norwich which could accommodate customers in wheelchairs. Performers adhered to a code of conduct and attended ongoing training. The premise had 48 CCTV cameras.

In response to Councillors Maxwell's question the applicant confirmed their fire capacity was set at 200 and on a busy Saturday night they could have 100 customers present in the venue.

The applicant confirmed dancers were able to accept drinks and could drink in moderation whilst at work.

In response to Councillor Bradford's question the applicant confirmed that if customers who visited looked under 25 they were breathalysed before being allowed to gain entry and in the last 3 months, 150 people had been turned away at the door.

The applicant asked the committee to consider the following amendments to the conditions:

Condition 10, the applicant suggested the following amendment 'Promotional flyers can only be used after the design of the flyer has approval from the Police/Norwich City Council. Promotional advertising will only take place after 9pm by fully clothed staff.'

Condition 11, the applicant was concerned that this could breach individual's confidentiality in its wording and suggested rewording as; 'the licensee shall maintain an up to date register in which shall be recorded the name and address of any person who is to be responsible for managing the Sex Establishment in the Licensee's absence and the names and addresses of those employed in the establishment. There will be a daily Register of employees and members of staff on duty showing who are working. This Register is to be completed each

day within 30 minutes of the Sex Establishment being open for business and is to be available for inspection by the Police and by authorised officers of the Council'.

Condition 20, they requested that the word 'dedicated' be removed from the condition.

Condition 28, which precluded the use of items which could be used to restrain customers, the applicant highlighted that the venue hosted Stag and Hen parties which used 'handcuffs' and asked if the wording of the condition be amended to take this into consideration.

Condition 31, would prevent performers from going out the front of the building to smoke but their planning conditions did not allow for smoking at the back of the building. It was noted that the wording of this condition precluded performers from leaving the premises for any reason.

Condition 43, a chain link curtain which could be seen through was used in booths but each booth has CCTV. Therefore could the wording regarding coverings be reconsidered.

Condition 46, the applicant suggested rewording to 'performers shall only perform to customers in specified designated areas or in such areas of the licensed premises as may be agreed in writing by the council'.

Condition 50 regarding performers taking customers contact details, it was suggested that this be reworded to 'performers shall try to make it clear to customers that they may not accept any telephone number, email address or contact information from them. Performers must not retain any business card or similar in the event that any such information is given to them.'

Discussion ensued, around taking contact details and members noted that this raised expectations, that it was best to say no when security personnel were there and suggested the venue introduced a corporate card bowl at reception which people could leave details in on way out.

Condition 53, regarding customers and performers not being in each other's company except in public areas and precluded performers using the same toilets as customers. The applicant said that female staff used the same toilet as female customers and requested that the condition be reconsidered.

Condition 54(1) - (5) it was noted that the venue had areas where there were beds and customers would lay on with either hands at their sides or under their heads. The applicant suggested the rewording and consolidation of numbers (1) - (4) as below with removal of (5);

The licensee must ensure that during the performance of a table, lap, sofa or bed dance:

- (1) Customers must be seated or lying with their hands by their sides or behind their head before a dancer can start a dance
- (2) Customers must remain seated or lying during the entire performance of the dance

#### (3) Performers must not sit on or straddle the customers when naked

Condition 54(3) which described the areas of the torso deemed acceptable for performers to touch customers when restraint was necessary. The applicant considered this was not practical in an emergency situation and requested the removal of this section of the condition. The environmental protection, licensing and markets manager stated that proportionality applied.

Condition 57 the applicant stated many customers of the venue considered the establishment as their 'local' and to take account of this would like to insert the following wording into the condition; 'A social greeting such as hand shake, hug or kiss on the cheek'.

Condition 42, in reference to alterations to the venue, could the committee consider adding additional wording 'with exception to minor alterations which will not affect capacity'.

In summary, the applicant said in terms of locality, the venue had been operating for the last 7 years and was well thought of by police and relevant authorities.

(All applicants and their legal representatives left the meeting at this point.)

### 9. Standing item - Regulatory subcommittee minutes

The chair took this item before the determination of the applications.

**RESOLVED** to receive the minutes of the regulatory subcommittee meetings held on 8 May 2017, 12 June 2017 and 10 July 2017.

#### 10. Determination of applications

The legal advisor reminded members that applications were to be considered on their individual merits and the relevant locality and its merits. Discussion on localities and how these were to be defined ensued.

# 11. Determination of application for the Grant of a Sexual Entertainment Venue Licence – Platinum Lace, 15 Dove Street, Norwich, NR2 1DE

Members considered the application in terms of locality with the venue situated in the lanes. Discussion ensued around the relevant locality, city center and the character predominantly being retail and leisure.

The environmental protection, licensing and markets manager highlighted a map showing the planning department's city centre leisure area. After discussion it was agreed to amend the map of the city centre leisure area (appended to these minutes) and to exclude the late night activity zone. This area would constitute the locality.

Members considered each of the changes requested to the conditions of the licence.

Condition 10, regarding marketing by use of flyers this request to amend was refused as the area was not deemed an appropriate area to market in.

**RESOLVED** to grant the application with the following amendments to the conditions with ten members (Councillors Button, Woollard, Bradford, Jones (B), Jones (T), Malik, Maxwell, Price, Raby and Wright) voting in favour and one abstention (Councillor VaughanThomas).

Condition 20, regarding CCTV to remove 'by a dedicated member of staff or security personnel' to leave last sentence as: 'The CCTV must be monitored at all times that the premises are in operation.'

Condition 23, agreed proposed amendment regarding customer numbers, wording substituted for 'A Fire Risk Assessment will be undertaken at the premise and a customer capacity limit set. Such capacity limit shall be complied with at all time. A copy of the Fire Risk Assessment will be made available to the council and police officers on request.'

Condition 38 committee agreed to remove 'the external doors shall be fitted with a device to ensure their automatic closure and such devices shall be maintained in good working order'.

Condition 38 agreed to delete condition.

Condition 42, agreed to addition of wording 'with the exception of minor alterations to the internal premises'.

Condition 53, committee amended condition to delete '(this excludes the toilets as performers must not use the public toilets whilst open to the public)'.

Condition 54, amendments to condition were agreed as proposed by the applicant, with the additions of the words 'unless in areas as may be agreed in writing with the council' to condition 54(5) and "or as otherwise may be agreed in writing with the council" to condition 54(1) and 54(2).

Condition 62, new condition, addition code of conduct agreed.

# 12. Determination of application for the Grant of a Sexual Entertainment Venue Licence – Lace, 75 Prince-of-Wales Road, Norwich, NR1 1DG

Three applications had been received from Prince of Wales Road. Members considered that Prince of Wales Road itself could constitute a locality with the riverside retail area included within this area. Locality late night activity zone which includes riverside.

The character of the locality was discussed, and the fact that there was a school in the area.

**RESOLVED** to grant the application with the following amendments to the conditions with ten members (Councillors Button, Woollard, Bradford, Jones (B), Jones (T), Malik, Maxwell, Price, Raby and Wright) voting in favour and one abstention (Councillor VaughanThomas).

Discussed opening hours, taking account school in area, members considered that the opening hours of the venue should not intersect with the opening times of the school. Licence would grant opening hours of 18:00 – 05:00.

Condition 20, agreed to removal of wording 'by a dedicated member of staff or security personnel'.

Paragraphs 38 and 39 designed to avoid visibility from the street agreed to the removal of these conditions.

Paragraph 54 (1) agreed to deletion of the wording 'against the back of the booth or seat'.

Condition 10 was amended as follows, committee noting that other SEV premises in Prince of Wales Road had been treated similarly:

It was agreed that the following words would appear 'apart from promotional flyers for the premises, which shall not include the following;

- a) Any depiction of full nudity
- b) Any depiction of partial nudity (including the display of breasts, buttocks or genitalia)
- c) Any description of sexual of violent images, or any other images which may give rise to concerns in respect of public decency or protection of children or vulnerable persons from harm.

Committee imposed a condition that promotional flyers may only be distributed during the hours the premises are acting as a sexual entertainment venue, and may only be distributed in Prince Of Wales Road, Norwich.

# 13. Determination of application for the Grant of a Sexual Entertainment Venue Licence – B52 Lap Dancing Club, 52 Prince-of-Wales Road, Norwich, NR1 1LL

Locality late night activity zone which includes riverside.

**RESOLVED** to grant the application with the following amendments to the conditions with ten members (Councillors Button, Woollard, Bradford, Jones (B), Jones (T), Malik, Maxwell, Price, Raby and Wright) voting in favour and one abstention (Councillor VaughanThomas).

Condition 10, lap dancing removed from title outside of venue, flyering limited to Prince of Wales Road area and at the time only that the venue was open as inappropriate to leaflet wider. It was agreed that the following words would appear 'apart from promotional flyers for the premises, which shall not include the following;

a) Any depiction of full nudity

- b) Any depiction of partial nudity (including the display of breasts, buttocks or genitalia)
- c) Any description of sexual of violent images, or any other images which may give rise to concerns in respect of public decency or protection of children or vulnerable persons from harm.

Committee imposed a condition that promotional flyers may only be distributed during the hours the premises are acting as a sexual entertainment venue, and may only be distributed in Prince Of Wales Road, Norwich.

Condition 31 amended to delete 'at no time shall a performance or persons working in the premises be visible from outside the premises, with the exclusion of door supervisors', replacing these words with 'performers may only go outside the premises in the presence of a door supervisor and when fully dressed'. This was to enable performers who wished to, to go outside and smoke.

Condition 43 regarding private booths, to amend to enable the use of see through covers over entrance to private booths.

Condition 50, applicant amendments not accepted to keep with standard conditions as per policy because risk to dancer's safety if changed.

Condition 53, amended to delete the wording (this excludes the toilets as performers must not use the public toilets whilst open to the public).

Current Condition 54(3),(4) and (5) are deleted, and Condition 54 rewritten in accordance with the proposal of the applicant contained on page 245 of the agenda:

The licensee must ensure that during the performance of a table dance:

- (1) Customers must be seated in an upright position against the back of the booth or seat with their hands by their sides before a dancer can start a dance
- (2) Customers must remain seated during the entire performance of the dance

The licensee must ensure that during the performance of a lap dance:

- (1) For a seated performance, customers must be seated in an upright position with their hands by their sides or, for a performance on a bed, customers must be lying with their hands by their sides or behind their head, before a dancer can start a dance.
- (2) Customers must remain seated or lying down during the entire performance of the dance.
- (3) There shall be no physical contact from the customer to the Performer except for the placing of money/tokens in a garter or in the hands of the Performer at the beginning or conclusion of the performance or for payment of drinks.
- (4) Performers may only touch the customer with their hands for the purpose of restraint.

Condition 55(3) 'performers may not intentionally touch a customer at any time during the performance unless absolutely accidentally or due to a third party' is deleted, as not necessary due to other conditions.

14. Determination of application for the Grant of a Sexual Entertainment Venue Licence – Sugar & Spice, 39 Prince-of-Wales Road, Norwich, NR1 1BG

**RESOLVED** to grant the application with the following amendments to the conditions with ten members (Councillors Button, Woollard, Bradford, Jones (B), Jones (T), Malik, Maxwell, Price, Raby and Wright) voting in favour and one abstention (Councillor VaughanThomas).

Condition 10, flyering limited to Prince of Wales Road area and at the time only that the venue was open as inappropriate to leaflet wider. It was agreed that the following words would appear 'apart from promotional flyers for the premises, which shall not include the following;

- d) Any depiction of full nudity
- e) Any depiction of partial nudity (including the display of breasts, buttocks or genitalia)
- f) Any description of sexual of violent images, or any other images which may give rise to concerns in respect of public decency or protection of children or vulnerable persons from harm.

Committee imposed a condition that promotional flyers may only be distributed during the hours the premises are acting as a sexual entertainment venue, and may only be distributed in Prince Of Wales Road, Norwich.

Condition 11, amended to read as follows 'the licensee shall maintain an up to date register in which shall be recorded the name and address of any person who is to be responsible for managing the sex establishment in the licensees absence and the names and addresses of those employed in the establishment. There will be a daily register of employees and members of staff on duty, showing who is working. This register is to be completed each day within 30 minutes of the sex establishment being open for business, and is to be available for inspection by the police and by authorised officers of the council.'

Condition 20, word 'dedicated' to be removed from the condition.

Condition 28, agreed to addition of the wording 'except toy handcuffs'.

Condition 31, agreed to amend wording to 'The windows and opening of the Premises shall be of a material or covered with a material, which will ensure the interior of the Premise is not visible to passers-by. Performers are to be fully dressed when outside of the premises at all times'.

Condition 42, in reference to alterations, accepted additional wording 'with exception to minor alterations which will not affect capacity'.

Condition 43 regarding private booths, to be amended to 'all booths, cubicles or VIP areas used by private dancers must not have closing doors, curtains or coverings such that they are not easily visible to supervision from outside the booth. '

Condition 44, accept applicant amendments to 'All booths, cubicles, VIP areas used for private dancers must be monitored by either a SIA-registered door supervisor, a member of staff who has direct contact with SIA-registered door supervisors working on the premises, or a CCTV operator at all times the booths/cubicles/VIP areas are in use.'

Condition 46, to reword conditions as follows 'performers shall only perform to customers in specified designated areas or in such areas of the licensed premises as may be agreed in writing by the council'.

Condition 50, applicant amendments not accepted to keep with standard conditions as per policy because risk to dancer's safety if changed.

Condition 53, agreed to the removal of the final bracketed part of condition '(this excludes the toilets as Performers must not use the public toilets whilst open to the public)'.

Condition 54(1) - (5) agreed to following rewording and consolidation of numbers (1) - (4) as below with removal of (5);

The licensee must ensure that during the performance of a table, lap, sofa or bed dance:

- (1) Customers must be seated or lying with their hands by their sides or behind their head before a dancer can start a dance
- (2) Customers must remain seated or lying during the entire performance of the dance
- (3) Performers must not sit on or straddle the customers when naked

Condition 57, agreed to insert the following wording into the condition; 'A social greeting such as hand shake, hug or kiss on the cheek'.

**CHAIR** 

Objection Helen Dawson

I believe that the Licencing Committee will meet on 8 September to agree the licences for three sexual entertainment venues (SEVs) on Prince of Wales Road and one on Dove Street.

#### **Public Consultation**

The minimum requirement for a public consultation about the licencing of SEVs has been insufficient to alert people in Norwich who would like the opportunity to comment. The licencing alert system was not used to publicise the consultation. If it had been, local people would have found out about these applications. Norwich City Council refused a petition now signed by more than 300 people asking for the consultation process to be extended to allow them to comment. It has failed to run an open, informed and reasonable consultation.

These SEVs are already operating. Allowing time for reasonable public consultation will bring no economic or other detriment to the businesses. It is public perception that these licences are being slipped under the radar and that the Council does not respect the views of residents.

I have set out my comments below in line with the licencing criteria:

#### Prevention of Crime & Disorder and Public nuisance, to improve Public Safety

Norfolk Constabulary's website shows that crime, including violent and sexual offences, on or near PoW Rd is reported every month. The impact of SEVs and consumption of alcohol cannot be discounted. The police presence here is vastly disproportionate to other areas of the city, and this must be costly. I see an increased number of homeless people living on the streets in Norwich. Many use PoW Rd to openly beg for money, food, cigarettes and alcohol. The situation may be complex, but challenges around preventing crime and disorder, improving public safety and preventing public nuisance need to be met.

It is significant that new homes being built mean that the area around PoW Rd is becoming increasingly residential (St Anne Wharf, King St, Grey Friars Rd).

It is well documented that <u>fear of crime can be more debilitating to people than crime itself</u>. It is too easy to dismiss and devalue fear of crime because it is an expression of feelings. PoW Rd has a culture that I find unpleasant and intimidating. I avoid walking there both day and night, perhaps putting myself at a greater risk of crime by walking after dark in the less busy back streets.

Some existing local residents have made the Council aware of their own responses to their perceived risks. These may be dismissed as exaggerated, but those feelings mean that the *fear of crime* impacts on residents' lives in the way that they choose to avoid perceived risks. It is not acceptable if local residents have to make a conscious choice to avoid walking or cycling on a main thoroughfare because they perceive it to be dangerous. The owner of one of the lap-dancing clubs stated publicly that he provides an escort to workers each night. Clearly these workers too are, at best, uncomfortable walking alone to their transport at the end of their shift.

A second impact of the fear of crime is that it <u>reduces the positive impact of any crime reduction strategy</u>. These issues are of interest to Norfolk Constabulary and I have copied this to the PCC for his views.

An opportunity exists to engineer a social solution that meets the needs of the increasingly residential local community by broadening the diversity of venues to attract people of all ages and families in this residential area. This should include reducing, or at the very least preventing an increase in, the number of SEVs.

#### To Protect Children from Harm

PoW Rd is a main walking route into and out of Norwich for by members of the public of all ages, including children going to and from school. Licenced on weekdays from 10.00am until 06.00am the following day, SEVs impact on children leaving primary and other schools in the area. The presence of lap dancing clubs sends damaging messages to children and young people. These clubs affect people on the periphery, not just their customers. There are no clear guidelines regulating billboard advertising, signage and leafleting. A lack of regulation creates a culture where the most vulnerable are not protected. The Council has a responsibility to protect vulnerable members of society.

#### **Diversity & Equality**

Whilst diversity and equality is not one of the criteria of the Licencing Committee, it does present part of a social solution to the prevention of crime, disorder and public nuisance, improving public safety and the prevention of harm.

As a local resident, I would like to contribute to the economy of PoW Rd, however it currently presents a culture of drinking places, clubs and food takeaways designed to attract a predominantly young age group. This lack of diversity creates an atmosphere that I find unpleasant and intimidating. This is not only my own experience – 74% of TripAdvisor reviews are "Poor" or "Terrible".

I am asking Norwich City Council to act now to enhance the atmosphere by increasing the appeal to a greater range of customers - including families and older people. The Council and PCC should work together to protect the vulnerable and reduce real and perceived crime in the vicinity of PoW Road. Meeting these standards is necessary for the Purple Flag award for successful evening economies.

It would be a good start if the number of sexual entertainment venues was reduced - or at least capped at no more than is currently operating.

I believe it is important that Norwich City is, and is seen to be, a reasonable Council that listens to and values the views of local residents. It is, after all, local residents who pay the Council Tax!

Υ	0	ur	S	

Helen Dawson

## Norwich City Council Licensing Authority Licensing Act 2003

# Statement of support or objection to an application for a premises licence

Your name/organisation name/name of body you represent (see note 1)	Councillor Lesley Grahame, Thorpe Hamlet Ward
Postal address	7 Railway Cottages, Hardy Road, NR1 1JW
Email address	I.grahame@cllr.norwich.gov.uk
Contact telephone number	

Name of the premises you wish to	Lace
support or object to	
Address of the premises you wish to	75 Prince of Wales Road NR1 1DG
support or object to.	

Your support or objection must relate to one of the four Licensing Objectives (see note 2)

Licensing Objective	Please set out your support or objections below.
	Please use separate sheets if necessary
To prevent crime and disorder	Lace plans to open 8am 5am. The police have recognised a problem by objecting to it 24/7. However policing after 5am, when customers are on their home is sparse. There is an acknowledged risk to performers on leaving clubs, as evidenced by the operators variously escorting them to their transport home, or making them stay until all the customers have left. The latter does nothing to mitigate the risk of punters lingering out of view.  See additional sheet
Public safety	There are studies showing that crimes against women increase in areas where lap-dancing clubs proliferate, and in countries where gender inequality is worse. Proliferation makes gender equality worse and increases the risk as well as the fear of crime, and is incompatible with the Norwich's equality policy.  https://www.theguardian.com/world/2008/mar/19/gender.uk http://www.hertsequality.org/downloads/content/Corporate%20Sexism.pd  The Camden study is contested by the industry, as one would expect, but this is neither objective nor conclusive. Local residents are not willing to have the additional risks imposed on them by adding sexual arousal to the mix of alcohol-induced dis-inhibition.  The additional risk is further complicated by the location opposite another Sugar and Spice, so there is no option for those who wish to, of crossing the road to avoid an SEV.  See additional sheet

To prevent public nuisance	The presence of SEVs has been shown to increase demand for
to prevent public nuisance	prostitution in Edinburgh
	http://www.womenssupportproject.co.uk/userfiles/file/uploads/Challengin
	g_Men%C2%92s_Demand.pdf
	and sexual violence in Newquay
	http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/law-and-
	order/9284609/Lapdancing-clubs-encourage-rape-and-sexual-assaults-claims-police-chief.html
	·
	See additional sheet
	There is no reason to think these findings would not apply to Norwich, unless Norwich conducts its own research.
To protect children from harm	It is totally inappropriate for a strip club to be open at 8am so close to a school. If the intention is to open later, then an 8am license is totally
	unnecessary.
	The council's licensing policy states:
	16.1 Where the activities specified in an operating schedule include striptease, or
	any other kind of nudity (e.g. lap dancing, table dancing, pole dancing or
	topless waitresses) the council will take into consideration any increased risk
	to the promotion of the licensing objectives. In particular, the council will
	expect the applicant to have given particular consideration to the promotion of
	the licensing objectives in relation to the protection of children and the
	prevention of crime and disorder.
	16.2 Where applications for premises licences or club premises certificates include
	striptease or any other kind of nudity in the licensable activities, <b>the council</b>
	will have particular regard to the location of the premises in relation to places
	of religious worship, schools, youth clubs or other premises where significant
	numbers of children are likely to attend.
	The emerging SEV policy calls for consideration of 11.1 Relevant Localities In considering the characteristics of a locality the Licensing Authority
	shall particularly take account of the density and proximity of:
	(1) schools, nurseries, crèches, youth hostels and other similar educational or
	recreational facilities attended by children,

- (2) parks and children's play areas,
- (3) residential and sheltered accommodation,
- (4) religious and community buildings,
- (5) alcohol or entertainment licensed premises,
- (6) other retail units (and their uses).

Bar 52 is 100m from Norwich Central Mosque, the Evangelical Free Church and Charles Darwin Primary School.

The presence of strip clubs sends damaging messages to children and young people in the surrounding area, given how they portray male and female roles and relations. This is harmful to boys and girls who are learning their identities. It is naive to think that the clubs affect only the people who enter them, especially since there are no clear government guidelines to regulate billboard advertising, signage and leafleting for lap dancing in the local areas. See additional sheet

## Please suggest any conditions which would alleviate your concerns.

Contracts and Living wage for dancers & all staff.

Regular, unnannounced inspections and enforcement of policy rules. Zero tolerance to harrassment/assault +Warnings to men about prosecution of assault

Confidential whistle-blowing mechanism

Cap on number of SEVs in City/LNAZ/Prince of Wales Road

#### As suggested in Lambeth:

https://moderngov.lambeth.gov.uk/documents/s32548/02d%20Se x%20Establishment%20Policy%20Stage%202%20EIA%202.pdf

- i). Conditions proposed by the Chair of the Institute of Licensing 1. No contact between performers and audience and a minimum of 1 metre separation between performers and audience. 2. Performers confined to stage area. 3. Prevention of fining performers. 4. Zero tolerance policy on customers who break rules of conduct. Contravention warrants a lifetime ban from the premises. 5. Prohibition of private booths. 6. CCTV coverage of all public areas. LBL/PEP/EIA Report Template/V. August 2010/JRT 12 7. Controls on exterior advertising and signage. 8. Prohibition of advertising in public spaces, including on billboards, telephone booth boards, and leafleting.
- ii). iii). Conditions proposed by the Fawcett Society 1. A register to be kept of all staff working each night and valid proof to be held on the premises of the age of each of the performers. 2. No fee to be charged by any club to a performer for working in the club. 3. Police to be kept informed of any assaults that take place on staff, whether or not the victim wishes to press charges. 4. No smoking areas to be allowed at the front of clubs to minimise the potential harassment of women living, working and passing through the area. All smoking areas must be in private areas away from public spaces. 5. No advertising allowed in media that is not exclusively aimed at adults this would exclude local and family newspapers for example.

These suggestions would help a little, they not outweigh my objection, which would still stand, even if these conditions were

met, for the reasons given above and below

Signed: Cllr Lesley Grahame Date: 2/9/17

Licensing Members are asked to consider each application on its own merits and can refuse if the number of SEVs is greater than that agreed. However no number has been agreed, they are being asked to do the impossible.

Granting 4 SEV licenses at once, with no cap on the numbers would send a message that Norwich is a soft touch, a

destination for stag parties etc, bringing more strip clubs into the gateway to the city. This route from station to Cathedral, City Centre, would become even more of a no-go zone for many residents, especially women, and especially given the very long hours requested in these licenses. While some may consider this desirable, the conversation has not been had and no democratic decision has been made, or can be without further consultation and a review of the policy to decide a cap on the numbers.

I call for a deferrment of the decision on the basis that interested people were not given sufficient information, and the regulations that the applications will be judged under are clearly unworkable. Location

The policy allows the committee to refuse an application if it is not suitable for the locality.

In considering the characteristics of a locality the Licensing Authority

shall particularly take account of the density and proximity of:

- (1) schools, nurseries, crèches, youth hostels and other similar educational or recreational facilities attended by children,
- (2) parks and children's play areas,
- (3) residential and sheltered accommodation,
- (4) religious and community buildings,
- (5) alcohol or entertainment licensed premises,
- (6) other retail units (and their uses).

Prince of Wales Road also features almost all the types of location listed above as worthy of consideration in this regard.

#### Duty to promote equality

All local authorities have a legal obligation under the Public Sector Duty of the Equality Act 2010 to eliminate unlawful gender discrimination and harassment and to promote equality of opportunity between women and men. Article 1 of the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) states that discrimination against women means:

any distinction, exclusion or restriction made on the basis of sex which has the effect or purpose of impairing or nullifying the recognition, enjoyment or exercise by women, irrespective of their marital status, on a basis of equality of men and women, of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural, civil or any other field.

A report by End Violence Against Women and London Metropolitan University, Sexualised Sexism: popular culture, sexualisation and violence against women and girls states that: "Since violence against women and girls is

defined by the United Nations as cause and consequence of gender inequality, rooted in, and also reproducing, disparities in power, economic resources and respect<sup>1</sup>, sexist, sexualised representations of gender play a part in creating environments where violence becomes possible."

#### Link between SEVs and increased crime

The council's assertion that there is no link between SEVs and crime and disorder is unsubstantiated. There is clear evidence that women working in SEVs are likely to be victims of sexual violence and exploitation. Research has also found a link between lapdancing clubs and prostitution (see Bindel 2004).

http://secondaryeffectsresearch.com/files/Edinborough.pdf

A report by the Lilith Project which looked at lap-dancing in Camden Town found that in the three years before and after the opening of four large lap-dancing clubs in the area, incidents of rape in Camden rose by 50%, while sexual assault rose by 57%. It also concludes that the existence of lap-dancing clubs has a negative effect on the community, that areas where lap-dance clubs operate have become 'no-go' for women who feel uncomfortable walking by, and that men have been harassed by personnel offering them sexual services.

One body of research on strip clubs in the US found that all dancers had suffered verbal harassment and physical and sexual abuse while at work; all had been propositioned for prostitution; and three-quarters had been stalked by men associated with the club.

https://www.theguardian.com/world/2008/mar/19/gender.uk

#### From a Glasgow City Council report on table-dancing:

In the study 'Stripclubs According to Strippers: Exposing Workplace Sexual Violence' by Kelly Holsopple published in 1998 (Appendix 1) it is noted that '100% of the eighteen women in the survey report being physically abused in the strip club. The physical abuse ranged from three to fifteen times with a mean of 7.7 occurrences over their involvement in stripping. 100% of the eighteen women in this study report sexual abuse in the strip club. The sexual abuse ranged from two to nine occurrences with a mean of 4.4 occurrences over the course of their involvement in stripping. 100% of the women report verbal harassment in the strip club. The verbal abuse ranged from one to seven occurrences with a mean of 4.8 occurrences over the course of their involvement in stripping.'

https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=1776&p=0

Signed: Cllr Lesley Grahame Date: 9/2/17

1

United Nations (2006) In-depth study on all forms of violence against women: Report of the Secretary-General. New York: UN. See www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/vaw/v-sg-study.htm

#### **NOTES**

- In order for you to be able to support or object to an application for a premises licence, your representation must be 'relevant' (i.e. it relates to the likely effect of the grant of the licence on the promotion of at least one of the licensing objectives) and is not frivolous or vexatious.
- 2. The four licensing objectives are:-
  - to prevent crime and disorder
  - public safety
  - to prevent public nuisance
  - to protect children from harm
- 3. An application for a premises licence will be notified to residents by displaying it on the premises, in the local press and on the council's website. Comments in support or objections must be made within 28 days of the date given in the public notice.
- 4. If you have made valid comments of support or objection you will be expected to attend a meeting of the authority's Licensing sub-committee and any subsequent appeal proceeding. If you do not attend, the sub-committee will still consider your comments, but they may not carry the same weight as if you had attended if, for example, the contents are disputed or challenged.
- 5. Your statement of support or objection will be passed to the applicant to allow them the opportunity to address your concerns in line with the Licensing Act 2003. Your statement, which will include your name and address but not your email address, telephone number or signature, will also be published in the report to the Licensing sub-committee, which is publicly available and displayed on the city council's website.
- 6. In exceptional circumstances, persons making representations to the licensing authority may be reluctant to do so because of fears of intimidation or violence if their personal details, such as name and address, are divulged to the applicant. Where an authority consider that the person has a genuine and well-founded fear of intimidation, they may decide to withhold some or all of the person's personal details from the applicant, giving only minimal details (such as street name or general location within a street). However, guidance issued to licensing authorities states that withholding such details should only be considered where the circumstances justify such action. If you consider that the contents of this paragraph apply to you please submit with your representation a written justification as to why your personal details should be withheld.
- 7. Please return this form when completed to:

Norwich City Council Licensing Section City Hall St Peter Street Norwich NR2 1NH

Tel: 01603 212761 / 212760 Email: <a href="mailto:licensing@norwich.gov.uk">licensing@norwich.gov.uk</a>

## Norwich City Council Licensing Authority Licensing Act 2003

# Statement of support or objection to an application for a premises licence

Your name/organisation name/name of body you represent (see note 1)	Councillor Lesley Grahame, Thorpe Hamlet Ward
Postal address	7 Railway Cottages, Hardy Road, NR1 1JW
Email address	I.grahame@cllr.norwich.gov.uk
Contact telephone number	

Name of the premises you wish to	Platinum Lace
support or object to	
Address of the premises you wish to	15 Dove Street , NR2 1DE
support or object to.	

Your support or objection must relate to one of the four Licensing Objectives (see note 2)

Licensing Objective	Please set out your support or objections below. Please use separate sheets if necessary
To prevent crime and disorder	Platinum Lace Is outside the late night activity zone, and risks diverting sparse police resources from it.
	See additional sheet
Public safety	There are studies showing that crimes against women increase in areas where lap-dancing clubs proliferate, and in countries where gender inequality is worse. Proliferation makes gender equality worse and increases the risk as well as the fear of crime, and is incompatible with the Norwich's equality policy.  https://www.theguardian.com/world/2008/mar/19/gender.uk http://www.hertsequality.org/downloads/content/Corporate%20Sexism.pd  The Camden study is contested by the industry, as one would expect, but this is neither objective nor conclusive. Local residents are not willing to have the additional risks imposed on them by adding sexual arousal to the mix of alcohol-induced dis-inhibition.  The additional risk is further complicated by the location opposite another Sugar and Spice, so there is no option for those who wish to, of
	crossing the road to avoid an SEV.  See additional sheet

To serve of sould be a factor	The appearance of OFMs has been also as to be seen also as to
To prevent public nuisance	The presence of SEVs has been shown to increase demand for prostitution in Edinburgh
	http://www.womenssupportproject.co.uk/userfiles/file/uploads/Challengin
	g_Men%C2%92s_Demand.pdf
	and sexual violence in Newquay
	http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/law-and-
	order/9284609/Lapdancing-clubs-encourage-rape-and-sexual-assaults-
	claims-police-chief.html
	See additional sheet
	There is no reason to think these findings would not apply to Norwich,
	unless Norwich conducts its own research, which it has not to my
To protect children from harm	knowledge done.
To proteot official from from	
	The council's licensing policy states:
	16.1 Where the activities specified in an operating schedule include striptease, or
	any other kind of nudity (e.g. lap dancing, table dancing, pole dancing or
	topless waitresses) the council will take into consideration any increased risk
	to the promotion of the licensing objectives. In particular, the council will
	expect the applicant to have given particular consideration to the promotion of
	the licensing objectives in relation to the protection of children and the
	prevention of crime and disorder.
	16.2 Where applications for premises licences or club premises certificates include
	striptease or any other kind of nudity in the licensable activities, <b>the council</b>
	will have particular regard to the location of the premises in relation to places
	of religious worship, schools, youth clubs or other premises where significant
	numbers of children are likely to attend.
	The emerging SEV policy calls for consideration of
	11.1 Relevant Localities
	In considering the characteristics of a locality the Licensing Authority
	shall particularly take account of the density and proximity of:
	(1) schools, nurseries, crèches, youth hostels and other similar educational or
	recreational facilities attended by children,
	(2) parks and children's play areas,
	(3) residential and sheltered accommodation,
	(a) residential and shellered accommodation,

- (4) religious and community buildings,
- (5) alcohol or entertainment licensed premises,
- (6) other retail units (and their uses).

Platinum Lace is close to shops, theatre church, all attended by children, and the heart of the city, which hopes to be more lively in the evening

The presence of strip clubs sends damaging messages to children and young people in the surrounding area, given how they portray male and female roles and relations. This is harmful to boys and girls who are learning their identities. It is naive to think that the clubs affect only the people who enter them, especially since there are no clear government guidelines to regulate billboard advertising, signage and leafleting for lap dancing in the local areas. See additional sheet

# Please suggest any conditions which would alleviate your concerns.

Contracts and Living wage for dancers & all staff.

Regular, unnannounced inspections and enforcement of policy rules. Zero tolerance to harrassment/assault +Warnings to men about prosecution of assault

Confidential whistle-blowing mechanism

Cap on number of SEVs in City/LNAZ/Prince of Wales Road

# As suggested in Lambeth:

https://moderngov.lambeth.gov.uk/documents/s32548/02d%20Se x%20Establishment%20Policy%20Stage%202%20EIA%202.pdf

- i). Conditions proposed by the Chair of the Institute of Licensing 1. No contact between performers and audience and a minimum of 1 metre separation between performers and audience. 2. Performers confined to stage area. 3. Prevention of fining performers. 4. Zero tolerance policy on customers who break rules of conduct. Contravention warrants a lifetime ban from the premises. 5. Prohibition of private booths. 6. CCTV coverage of all public areas. LBL/PEP/EIA Report Template/V. August 2010/JRT 12 7. Controls on exterior advertising and signage. 8. Prohibition of advertising in public spaces, including on billboards, telephone booth boards, and leafleting.
- ii). iii). Conditions proposed by the Fawcett Society 1. A register to be kept of all staff working each night and valid proof to be held on the premises of the age of each of the performers. 2. No fee to be charged by any club to a performer for working in the club. 3. Police to be kept informed of any assaults that take place on staff, whether or not the victim wishes to press charges. 4. No smoking areas to be allowed at the front of clubs to minimise the potential harassment of women living, working and passing through the area. All smoking areas must be in private areas away from public spaces. 5. No advertising allowed in media that is not exclusively aimed at adults this would exclude local and family newspapers for example

These suggestions would help a little, they not outweigh my objection, which would still stand, even if these conditions were met, for the reasons given above and below

Licensing Members are asked to consider each application on its own merits and can refuse if the number of SEVs is greater than that agreed. However no number has been agreed, they are being asked to do the impossible.

Granting 4 SEV licenses at once, with no cap on the numbers would send a message that Norwich is a soft touch, a

destination for stag parties etc, bringing more strip clubs into the gateway to the city. This route from station to Cathedral, City Centre, would become even more of a no-go zone for many residents, especially women, and especially given the very long hours requested in these licenses. While some may consider this desirable, the conversation has not been had and no democratic decision has been made, or can be without further consultation and a review of the policy to decide a cap on the numbers.

I call for a deferrment of the decision on the basis that interested people were not given sufficient information, and the regulations that the applications will be judged under are clearly unworkable.

#### Duty to promote equality

All local authorities have a legal obligation under the Public Sector Duty of the Equality Act 2010 to eliminate unlawful gender discrimination and harassment and to promote equality of opportunity between women and men. Article 1 of the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) states that discrimination against women means:

any distinction, exclusion or restriction made on the basis of sex which has the effect or purpose of impairing or nullifying the recognition, enjoyment or exercise by women, irrespective of their marital status, on a basis of equality of men and women, of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural, civil or any other field.

A report by End Violence Against Women and London Metropolitan University, Sexualised Sexism: popular culture, sexualisation and violence against women and girls states that: "Since violence against women and girls is defined by the United Nations as cause and consequence of gender inequality, rooted in, and also reproducing, disparities in power, economic resources and respect<sup>1</sup>, sexist, sexualised representations of gender play a part in creating environments where violence becomes possible."

#### Link between SEVs and increased crime

The council's assertion that there is no link between SEVs and crime and disorder is unsubstantiated. There is clear evidence that women working in SEVs are likely to be victims of sexual violence and exploitation. Research has also found a link between lapdancing clubs and prostitution (see Bindel 2004). http://secondaryeffectsresearch.com/files/Edinborough.pdf

A report by the Lilith Project which looked at lap-dancing in Camden Town found that in the three years before and after the opening of four large lap-dancing clubs in the area, incidents of rape in Camden rose by 50%, while sexual assault rose by 57%. It also concludes that the existence of lap-dancing clubs has a negative effect on the community, that areas where lap-dance clubs operate have become 'no-go' for women who feel uncomfortable walking by, and that men have been harassed by personnel offering them sexual services.

One body of research on strip clubs in the US found that all dancers had suffered verbal harassment and physical and sexual abuse while at work; all had been propositioned for prostitution; and three-quarters had been stalked by men associated with the club. https://www.theguardian.com/world/2008/mar/19/gender.uk

United Nations (2006) In-depth study on all forms of violence against women: Report of the Secretary-General. New York: UN. See www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/vaw/v-sg-study.htm

From a Glasgow City Council report on table-dancing:

In the study 'Stripclubs According to Strippers: Exposing Workplace Sexual Violence' by Kelly Holsopple published in 1998 (Appendix 1) it is noted that '100% of the eighteen women in the survey report being physically abused in the strip club. The physical abuse ranged from three to fifteen times with a mean of 7.7 occurrences over their involvement in stripping. 100% of the eighteen women in this study report sexual abuse in the strip club. The sexual abuse ranged from two to nine occurrences with a mean of 4.4 occurrences over the course of their involvement in stripping. 100% of the women report verbal harassment in the strip club. The verbal abuse ranged from one to seven occurrences with a mean of 4.8 occurrences over the course of their involvement in stripping.'

https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=1776&p=0

Signed: Cllr Lesley Grahame Date: 2/9/17

#### NOTES

- In order for you to be able to support or object to an application for a premises licence, your representation must be 'relevant' (i.e. it relates to the likely effect of the grant of the licence on the promotion of at least one of the licensing objectives) and is not frivolous or vexatious.
- 2. The four licensing objectives are:-
  - to prevent crime and disorder
  - public safety
  - to prevent public nuisance
  - to protect children from harm
- 3. An application for a premises licence will be notified to residents by displaying it on the premises, in the local press and on the council's website. Comments in support or objections must be made within 28 days of the date given in the public notice.
- 4. If you have made valid comments of support or objection you will be expected to attend a meeting of the authority's Licensing sub-committee and any subsequent appeal proceeding. If you do not attend, the sub-committee will still consider your comments, but they may not carry the same weight as if you had attended if, for example, the contents are disputed or challenged.
- 5. Your statement of support or objection will be passed to the applicant to allow them the opportunity to address your concerns in line with the Licensing Act 2003. Your statement, which will include your name and address but not your email address, telephone number or signature, will also be published in the report to the Licensing sub-committee, which is publicly available and displayed on the city council's website.
- 6. In exceptional circumstances, persons making representations to the licensing authority may be reluctant to do so because of fears of intimidation or violence if their personal details, such as name and address, are divulged to the applicant. Where an authority consider that the person has a genuine and well-founded fear of intimidation, they may decide to withhold some or all of the person's personal details from the applicant, giving only minimal details (such as street name or general location within a street). However, guidance issued to licensing authorities states that withholding such details should only be considered where the circumstances justify such action. If you consider that the contents of this paragraph apply to you please submit with your representation a written justification as to why your personal details should be withheld.
- 7. Please return this form when completed to:

Norwich City Council Licensing Section City Hall St Peter Street Norwich NR2 1NH

Tel: 01603 212761 / 212760 Email: licensing@norwich.gov.uk

# **Norwich City Council Licensing Authority** Licensing Act 2003

# Statement of support or objection to an application for a premises licence

Your name/organisation name/name of body you represent (see note 1)	Councillor Lesley Grahame, Thorpe Hamlet Ward
Postal address	7 Railway Cottages, Hardy Road, NR1 1JW
Email address	I.grahame@cllr.norwich.gov.uk
Contact telephone number	

Name of the premises you wish to	Bar 52
support or object to	
Address of the premises you wish to	52 Prince of Wales Road
support or object to.	

Your support or objection must relate to one of the four Licensing Objectives (see note 2)

Licensing Objective	Please set out your support or objections below.	
	Please use separate sheets if necessary	
To prevent crime and disorder	Bars and pubs can get around the licensing regime by holding sexual entertainment events on an 'occasional basis'  If policymakers acknowledge that sexual entertainment requires a specific kind of regulation, then it is inconsistent that they allow venues to hold unlicensed sexual entertainment events, ever. Furthermore, venues hosting infrequent lap dancing events are even less likely to have in place the necessary facilities and security measures to safeguard the female performers, who are thus at higher risk of being victims of crime. See additional sheet	
Public safety	There are studies showing that crimes against women increase in areas	
	where lap-dancing clubs proliferate, and in countries where gender inequality is worse. Proliferation makes gender equality worse and	
	increases the risk as well as the fear of crime, and is incompatible with	
	the Norwich's equality policy.	
	https://www.theguardian.com/world/2008/mar/19/gender.uk	
	http://www.hertsequality.org/downloads/content/Corporate%20Sexism.p	
	The Camden study is contested by the industry, as one would expect, but this is neither objective nor conclusive. Local residents are not willing to have the additional risks imposed on them by adding sexual arousal to the mix of alcohol-induced dis-inhibition.	
	The additional risk is further complicated by the location opposite another Sugar and Spice, so there is no option for those who wish to, of crossing the road to avoid an SEV.	
	See additional sheet	
To prevent public nuisance	The presence of SEVs has been shown to increase demand for prostitution in Edinburgh http://www.womenssupportproject.co.uk/userfiles/file/uploads/Challengin g_Men%C2%92s_Demand.pdf	
Page 43 of 88		

and sexual violence in Newquay

http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/law-andorder/9284609/Lapdancing-clubs-encourage-rape-and-sexual-assaultsclaims-police-chief.html

See additional sheet

There is no reason to think these findings would not apply to Norwich, unless Norwich conducts its own research.

### To protect children from harm

The council's licensing policy states:

16.1 Where the activities specified in an operating schedule include stripte any other kind of nudity (e.g. lap dancing, table dancing, pole dancing or topless waitresses) the council will take into consideration any increased re to the promotion of the licensing objectives. In particular, the council will expect the applicant to have given particular consideration to the promotion the licensing objectives in relation to the protection of children and the prevention of crime and disorder.

16.2 Where applications for premises licences or club premises certificates striptease or any other kind of nudity in the licensable activities, the counc will have particular regard to the location of the premises in relation to of religious worship, schools, youth clubs or other premises where s numbers of children are likely to attend.

The emerging SEV policy calls for consideration of 11.1 Relevant Localities

In considering the characteristics of a locality the Licensing Authority shall particularly take account of the density and proximity of:

- (1) schools, nurseries, crèches, youth hostels and other similar educationa recreational facilities attended by children.
- (2) parks and children's play areas,
- (3) residential and sheltered accommodation,
- (4) religious and community buildings,
- (5) alcohol or entertainment licensed premises,
- (6) other retail units (and their uses).

Bar 52 is close to Norwich Central Mosque, the Evangelical Free Church and Charles Darwin Primary School and Orthodox Church in Recorder Road.

The presence of strip clubs sends damaging messages to children and young people in the surrounding area, given how they portray male and female roles and relations. This is harmful to boys and girls who are learning their identities. It is naive to think that the clubs affect only the people who enter them, especially since there are no clear government guidelines to regulate billboard advertising, signage and leafleting for lap dancing in the local areas. See additional sheet

# Please suggest any conditions which would alleviate your concerns.

Contracts and Living wage for dancers & all staff.

Regular, unnannounced inspections and enforcement of policy rules. Zero tolerance to harrassment/assault +Warnings to men about prosecution of assault

Confidential whistle-blowing mechanism

Cap on number of SEVs in City/LNAZ/Prince of Wales Road

As suggested in Lambeth:

https://moderngov.lambeth.gov.uk/documents/s32548/02d%20S ex%20Establishment%20Policy%20Stage%202%20EIA%202.pd

t). Conditions proposed by the Chair of the Institute of Licensing 1. No contact between performers and audience and a minimum of 1 metre separation between performers and audience. 2. Performers confined to stage area. 3. Prevention of fining performers. 4. Zero tolerance policy on customers who break rules of conduct. Contravention warrants a lifetime ban from the

- premises. 5. Prohibition of private booths. 6. CCTV coverage of all public areas. LBL/PEP/EIA Report Template/V. August 2010/JRT 12 7. Controls on exterior advertising and signage. 8. Prohibition of advertising in public spaces, including on billboards, telephone booth boards, and leafleting.
- ii). Conditions proposed by the Fawcett Society 1. A register to be kept of all staff working each night and valid proof to be held on the premises of the age of each of the performers. 2. No fee to be charged by any club to a performer for working in the club. 3. Police to be kept informed of any assaults that take place on staff, whether or not the victim wishes to press charges. 4. No smoking areas to be allowed at the front of clubs to minimise the potential harassment of women living, working and passing through the area. All smoking areas must be in private areas away from public spaces. 5. No advertising allowed in media that is not exclusively aimed at adults this would exclude local and family newspapers for example.

These suggestions would help a little, they not outweigh my objection, which would still stand, even if these conditions were met, for the reasons given above and below

Date: 2/9/17

Signed: Cllr Lesley Grahame

Licensing Members are asked to consider each application on its own merits and can refuse if the number of SEVs is greater than that agreed. However no number has been agreed, they are being asked to do the impossible.

Granting 4 SEV licenses at once, with no cap on the numbers would send a message that Norwich is a soft touch, a

destination for stag parties etc, bringing more strip clubs into the gateway to the city. This route from station to Cathedral, City Centre, would become even more of a no-go zone for many residents, especially women, and especially given the very long hours requested in these licenses. While some may consider this desirable, the conversation has not been had and no democratic decision has been made, or can be without further consultation and a review of the policy to decide a cap on the numbers.

I call for a deferrment of the decision on the basis that interested people were not given sufficient information, and the regulations that the applications will be judged under are clearly unworkable.

#### Duty to promote equality

All local authorities have a legal obligation under the Public Sector Duty of the Equality Act 2010 to eliminate unlawful gender discrimination and harassment and to promote equality of opportunity between women and men. Article 1 of the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) states that discrimination against women means:

any distinction, exclusion or restriction made on the basis of sex which has the effect or purpose of impairing or nullifying the recognition, enjoyment or exercise by women, irrespective of their marital status, on a basis of equality of men and women, of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural, civil or any other field.

A report by End Violence Against Women and London Metropolitan University, Sexualised Sexism: popular culture, sexualisation and violence against women and girls states that: "Since violence against women and girls is defined by the United Nations as cause and consequence of gender inequality, rooted in, and also reproducing, disparities in power, economic resources and respect<sup>1</sup>, sexist, sexualised representations of gender play a part in creating environments where violence becomes possible."

1

United Nations (2006) In-depth study on all forms of violence against women: Report of the Secretary-General. New York: UN. See www.un.org/womenwatch

#### Link between SEVs and increased crime

The council's assertion that there is no link between SEVs and crime and disorder is unsubstantiated. There is clear evidence that women working in SEVs are likely to be victims of sexual violence and exploitation. Research has also found a link between lapdancing clubs and prostitution (see Bindel 2004). http://secondaryeffectsresearch.com/files/Edinborough.pdf

A report by the Lilith Project which looked at lap-dancing in Camden Town found that in the three years before and after the opening of four large lap-dancing clubs in the area, incidents of rape in Camden rose by 50%, while sexual assault rose by 57%. It also concludes that the existence of lap-dancing clubs has a negative effect on the community, that areas where lap-dance clubs operate have become 'no-go' for women who feel uncomfortable walking by, and that men have been harassed by personnel offering them sexual services.

One body of research on strip clubs in the US found that all dancers had suffered verbal harassment and physical and sexual abuse while at work; all had been propositioned for prostitution; and three-quarters had been stalked by men associated with the club. <a href="https://www.theguardian.com/world/2008/mar/19/gender.uk">https://www.theguardian.com/world/2008/mar/19/gender.uk</a>

#### From a Glasgow City Council report on table-dancing:

In the study 'Stripclubs According to Strippers: Exposing Workplace Sexual Violence' by Kelly Holsopple published in 1998 (Appendix 1) it is noted that '100% of the eighteen women in the survey report being physically abused in the strip club. The physical abuse ranged from three to fifteen times with a mean of 7.7 occurrences over their involvement in stripping. 100% of the eighteen women in this study report sexual abuse in the strip club. The sexual abuse ranged from two to nine occurrences with a mean of 4.4 occurrences over the course of their involvement in stripping. 100% of the women report verbal harassment in the strip club. The verbal abuse ranged from one to seven occurrences with a mean of 4.8 occurrences over the course of their involvement in stripping.' <a href="https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=1776&p=0">https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=1776&p=0</a>

Signed: Cllr Lesley Grahame Date: 9/2/17

#### **NOTES**

- 1. In order for you to be able to support or object to an application for a premises licence, your representation must be 'relevant' (i.e. it relates to the likely effect of the grant of the licence on the promotion of at least one of the licensing objectives) and is not frivolous or vexatious.
- 2. The four licensing objectives are:-
  - to prevent crime and disorder
  - public safety
  - to prevent public nuisance
  - to protect children from harm
- An application for a premises licence will be notified to residents by displaying it
  on the premises, in the local press and on the council's website. Comments in
  support or objections must be made within 28 days of the date given in the public
  notice.
- 4. If you have made valid comments of support or objection you will be expected to attend a meeting of the authority's Licensing sub-committee and any subsequent appeal proceeding. If you do not attend, the sub-committee will still consider your comments, but they may not carry the same weight as if you had attended if, for example, the contents are disputed or challenged.
- 5. Your statement of support or objection will be passed to the applicant to allow them the opportunity to address your concerns in line with the Licensing Act 2003. Your statement, which will include your name and address but not your email address, telephone number or signature, will also be published in the report to the Licensing sub-committee, which is publicly available and displayed on the city council's website.
- 6. In exceptional circumstances, persons making representations to the licensing authority may be reluctant to do so because of fears of intimidation or violence if their personal details, such as name and address, are divulged to the applicant. Where an authority consider that the person has a genuine and well-founded fear of intimidation, they may decide to withhold some or all of the person's personal details from the applicant, giving only minimal details (such as street name or general location within a street). However, guidance issued to licensing authorities states that withholding such details should only be considered where the circumstances justify such action. If you consider that the contents of this paragraph apply to you please submit with your representation a written justification as to why your personal details should be withheld.
- 7. Please return this form when completed to:

Norwich City Council Licensing Section City Hall St Peter Street Norwich NR2 1NH Tel: 01603 212761 / 212760 Email: <a href="mailto:licensing@norwich.gov.uk">licensing@norwich.gov.uk</a>

# **Norwich City Council Licensing Authority** Licensing Act 2003

# Statement of support or objection to an application for a premises licence

Your name/organisation name/name of body you represent (see note 1)	Councillor Lesley Grahame, Thorpe Hamlet Ward
Postal address	7 Railway Cottages, Hardy Road, NR1 1JW
Email address	I.grahame@cllr.norwich.gov.uk
Contact telephone number	

Name of the premises you wish to	Sugar and Spice
support or object to	
Address of the premises you wish to	39 Prince of Wales Road, NR1 1BG
support or object to.	

Your support or objection must relate to one of the four Licensing Objectives (see note 2)

Licensing Objective	Please set out your support or objections below.	
	Please use separate sheets if necessary	
To prevent crime and disorder	Bars and pubs can get around the licensing regime by holding sexual entertainment events on an 'occasional basis'  If policymakers acknowledge that sexual entertainment requires a specific kind of regulation, then it is inconsistent that they allow venues to hold unlicensed sexual entertainment events, ever. Furthermore, venues hosting infrequent lap dancing events are even less likely to have in place the necessary facilities and security measures to safeguard the female performers, who are thus at higher risk of being victims of crime. See additional sheet	
Public safety	There are studies showing that crimes against women increase in areas where lap-dancing clubs proliferate, and in countries where gender	
	inequality is worse. Proliferation makes gender equality worse and increases the risk as well as the fear of crime, and is incompatible with	
	the Norwich's equality policy.  https://www.theguardian.com/world/2008/mar/19/gender.uk	
	http://www.hertsequality.org/downloads/content/Corporate%20Sexism.p	
	The Camden study is contested by the industry, as one would expect, but this is neither objective nor conclusive. Local residents are not willing to have the additional risks imposed on them by adding sexual arousal to the mix of alcohol-induced dis-inhibition.	
	The additional risk is further complicated by the location opposite another Sugar and Spice, so there is no option for those who wish to, of crossing the road to avoid an SEV.	
	See additional sheet	
To prevent public nuisance	The presence of SEVs has been shown to increase demand for prostitution in Edinburgh http://www.womenssupportproject.co.uk/userfiles/file/uploads/Challengin g_Men%C2%92s_Demand.pdf	
Page 49 of 88		

and sexual violence in Newquay

http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/law-andorder/9284609/Lapdancing-clubs-encourage-rape-and-sexual-assaultsclaims-police-chief.html

See additional sheet

There is no reason to think these findings would not apply to Norwich, unless Norwich conducts its own research.

# To protect children from harm

The council's licensing policy states:

16.1 Where the activities specified in an operating schedule include stripte any other kind of nudity (e.g. lap dancing, table dancing, pole dancing or topless waitresses) the council will take into consideration any increased ru to the promotion of the licensing objectives. In particular, the council will expect the applicant to have given particular consideration to the promotion the licensing objectives in relation to the protection of children and the prevention of crime and disorder.

16.2 Where applications for premises licences or club premises certificates striptease or any other kind of nudity in the licensable activities, the counc will have particular regard to the location of the premises in relation of religious worship, schools, youth clubs or other premises where s numbers of children are likely to attend.

The emerging SEV policy calls for consideration of 11.1 Relevant Localities

In considering the characteristics of a locality the Licensing Authority shall particularly take account of the density and proximity of:

- (1) schools, nurseries, crèches, youth hostels and other similar educationa recreational facilities attended by children.
- (2) parks and children's play areas,
- (3) residential and sheltered accommodation,
- (4) religious and community buildings,
- (5) alcohol or entertainment licensed premises,
- (6) other retail units (and their uses).

Sugar and Spice is very close to Norwich Central Mosque, the Evangelical Free Church and Charles Darwin Primary School and the Orthodox Church in Recorder Road.

The presence of strip clubs sends damaging messages to children and young people in the surrounding area, given how they portray male and female roles and relations. This is harmful to boys and girls who are learning their identities. It is naive to think that the clubs affect only the people who enter them, especially since there are no clear government guidelines to regulate billboard advertising, signage and leafleting for lap dancing in the local areas. See additional sheet

# Please suggest any conditions which would alleviate your concerns.

Contracts and Living wage for dancers & all staff.

Regular, unnannounced inspections and enforcement of policy rules. Zero tolerance to harrassment/assault +Warnings to men about prosecution of assault

Confidential whistle-blowing mechanism

Cap on number of SEVs in City/LNAZ/Prince of Wales Road

As suggested in Lambeth:

https://moderngov.lambeth.gov.uk/documents/s32548/02d%20S ex%20Establishment%20Policy%20Stage%202%20EIA%202.pd

t). Conditions proposed by the Chair of the Institute of Licensing 1. No contact between performers and audience and a minimum of 1 metre separation between performers and audience. 2. Performers confined to stage area. 3. Prevention of fining performers. 4. Zero tolerance policy on customers who break rules of conduct. Contravention warrants a lifetime ban from the Page 50 of 88

- premises. 5. Prohibition of private booths. 6. CCTV coverage of all public areas. LBL/PEP/EIA Report Template/V. August 2010/JRT 12 7. Controls on exterior advertising and signage. 8. Prohibition of advertising in public spaces, including on billboards, telephone booth boards, and leafleting.
- ti). ii). Conditions proposed by the Fawcett Society 1. A register to be kept of all staff working each night and valid proof to be held on the premises of the age of each of the performers. 2. No fee to be charged by any club to a performer for working in the club. 3. Police to be kept informed of any assaults that take place on staff, whether or not the victim wishes to press charges. 4. No smoking areas to be allowed at the front of clubs to minimise the potential harassment of women living, working and passing through the area. All smoking areas must be in private areas away from public spaces. 5. No advertising allowed in media that is not exclusively aimed at adults this would exclude local and family newspapers for example.

These suggestions would help a little, they not outweigh my objection, which would still stand, even if these conditions were met, for the reasons given above and below

Date: 2/9/17

Signed: Cllr Lesley Grahame

Licensing Members are asked to consider each application on its own merits and can refuse if the number of SEVs is greater than that agreed. However no number has been agreed, they are being asked to do the impossible.

Granting 4 SEV licenses at once, with no cap on the numbers would send a message that Norwich is a soft touch, a

destination for stag parties etc, bringing more strip clubs into the gateway to the city. This route from station to Cathedral, City Centre, would become even more of a no-go zone for many residents, especially women, and especially given the very long hours requested in these licenses. While some may consider this desirable, the conversation has not been had and no democratic decision has been made, or can be without further consultation and a review of the policy to decide a cap on the numbers.

I call for a deferrment of the decision on the basis that interested people were not given sufficient information, and the regulations that the applications will be judged under are clearly unworkable.

#### Duty to promote equality

All local authorities have a legal obligation under the Public Sector Duty of the Equality Act 2010 to eliminate unlawful gender discrimination and harassment and to promote equality of opportunity between women and men. Article 1 of the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) states that discrimination against women means:

any distinction, exclusion or restriction made on the basis of sex which has the effect or purpose of impairing or nullifying the recognition, enjoyment or exercise by women, irrespective of their marital status, on a basis of equality of men and women, of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural, civil or any other field.

A report by End Violence Against Women and London Metropolitan University, Sexualised Sexism: popular culture, sexualisation and violence against women and girls states that: "Since violence against women and girls is defined by the United Nations as cause and consequence of gender inequality, rooted in,

and also reproducing, disparities in power, economic resources and respect<sup>1</sup>, sexist, sexualised representations of gender play a part in creating environments where violence becomes possible."

#### Link between SEVs and increased crime

The council's assertion that there is no link between SEVs and crime and disorder is unsubstantiated. There is clear evidence that women working in SEVs are likely to be victims of sexual violence and exploitation. Research has also found a link between lapdancing clubs and prostitution (see Bindel 2004). http://secondaryeffectsresearch.com/files/Edinborough.pdf

A report by the Lilith Project which looked at lap-dancing in Camden Town found that in the three years before and after the opening of four large lap-dancing clubs in the area, incidents of rape in Camden rose by 50%, while sexual assault rose by 57%. It also concludes that the existence of lap-dancing clubs has a negative effect on the community, that areas where lap-dance clubs operate have become 'no-go' for women who feel uncomfortable walking by, and that men have been harassed by personnel offering them sexual services.

One body of research on strip clubs in the US found that all dancers had suffered verbal harassment and physical and sexual abuse while at work; all had been propositioned for prostitution; and three-quarters had been stalked by men associated with the club. https://www.theguardian.com/world/2008/mar/19/gender.uk

#### From a Glasgow City Council report on table-dancing:

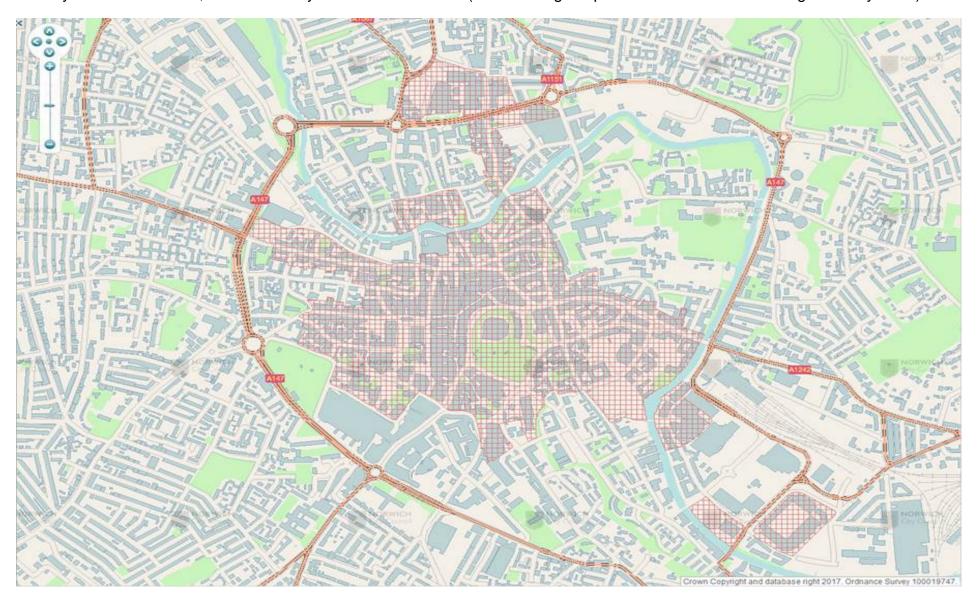
In the study 'Stripclubs According to Strippers: Exposing Workplace Sexual Violence' by Kelly Holsopple published in 1998 (Appendix 1) it is noted that '100% of the eighteen women in the survey report being physically abused in the strip club. The physical abuse ranged from three to fifteen times with a mean of 7.7 occurrences over their involvement in stripping. 100% of the eighteen women in this study report sexual abuse in the strip club. The sexual abuse ranged from two to nine occurrences with a mean of 4.4 occurrences over the course of their involvement in stripping. 100% of the women report verbal harassment in the strip club. The verbal abuse ranged from one to seven occurrences with a mean of 4.8 occurrences over the course of their involvement in stripping.' <a href="https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=1776&p=0">https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=1776&p=0</a>

Signed:	Cllr Lesley Grahame	Date: 9/2/	17
---------	---------------------	------------	----

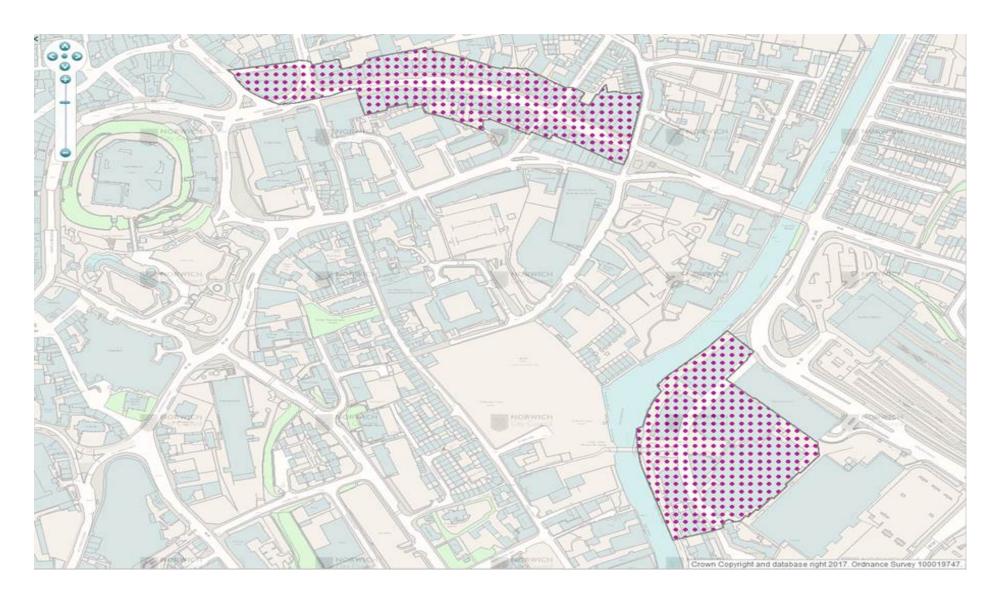
#### **NOTES**

- 1. In order for you to be able to support or object to an application for a premises licence, your representation must be 'relevant' (i.e. it relates to the likely effect of the grant of the licence on the promotion of at least one of the licensing objectives) and is not frivolous or vexatious.
- 2. The four licensing objectives are:-
  - to prevent crime and disorder
  - public safety
  - to prevent public nuisance
  - to protect children from harm
- An application for a premises licence will be notified to residents by displaying it
  on the premises, in the local press and on the council's website. Comments in
  support or objections must be made within 28 days of the date given in the public
  notice.
- 4. If you have made valid comments of support or objection you will be expected to attend a meeting of the authority's Licensing sub-committee and any subsequent appeal proceeding. If you do not attend, the sub-committee will still consider your comments, but they may not carry the same weight as if you had attended if, for example, the contents are disputed or challenged.
- 5. Your statement of support or objection will be passed to the applicant to allow them the opportunity to address your concerns in line with the Licensing Act 2003. Your statement, which will include your name and address but not your email address, telephone number or signature, will also be published in the report to the Licensing sub-committee, which is publicly available and displayed on the city council's website.
- 6. In exceptional circumstances, persons making representations to the licensing authority may be reluctant to do so because of fears of intimidation or violence if their personal details, such as name and address, are divulged to the applicant. Where an authority consider that the person has a genuine and well-founded fear of intimidation, they may decide to withhold some or all of the person's personal details from the applicant, giving only minimal details (such as street name or general location within a street). However, guidance issued to licensing authorities states that withholding such details should only be considered where the circumstances justify such action. If you consider that the contents of this paragraph apply to you please submit with your representation a written justification as to why your personal details should be withheld.
- 7. Please return this form when completed to:

Norwich City Council Licensing Section City Hall St Peter Street Norwich NR2 1NH Tel: 01603 212761 / 212760 Email: <a href="mailto:licensing@norwich.gov.uk">licensing@norwich.gov.uk</a> Locality for Platinum Lace, Dove St. – City Centre Leisure Area (not including the parts that fall into the Late Night Activity Zone)



Locality for Bar 52, Sugar and Spice and Lace, all on Prince of Wales Road - Late Night Activity Zone





# NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

Date of Hearing: 8<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Licence Type: Application for the grant of a Sexual Entertainment Venue Licence

Name of Applicant: Romina (Management) Ltd

Name of Premises/Postal address of Premises: Platinum Lace, 15 Dove St, Norwich NR2 1DE

Persons present: Members of Committee Councillors Button (chair), Woollard (vice chair following election), Bradford, Jones (B), Jones (T), Malik, Maxwell, Price, Raby, Thomas (Va) and Wright; Mr Daz Crawford, Mr Simon Goodings (both present for Sugar & Spice) Mr T Grover representative for B52, Mr Les Pierce, Mr Matthew Phipps, Solicitor, Councillor Lesley Grahame, Mr Tony Shearman, Environmental Protection, Licencing and Markets Manager, Mr D Lowens, Clerk, Alex Hand, Senior Committee Officer.

The committee agreed to receive late representations. There were no declarations of interest save from Cllr Maxwell.

# SUMMARY NOTES OF HEARING:

Following Mr Shearman presenting the report, Mr Mathew Phipps, solicitor on behalf of the applicant, presented their application to committee. He was supported by Les Pierce, the chief operations officer of the group, and Lisa Dunne, who had eleven years of experience at Platinum Lace.

The applicant mentioned that the activity was lawful and legitimate if conducted properly within parameters. The premises had been operating for eleven years. The premises had only ever traded as a striptease venue.

The applicant noted the objection from Helen Dawson and asked committee to consider whether there were any matters of substance or relevance contained in respect of the specific application. The applicant viewed the objection as being directed to Prince of Wales Road and the premises were in Dove St. The applicant noted the Norfolk Constabulary had not objected to the application and confirmed that the applicant was applying for what they currently carried out. The applicant suggested nothing in this objection was relevant to the application premises. There was not a single observation about the operation of the unit itself

The applicant then noted the representation of Councillor Grahame. Whilst legitimate to consider the representation, relevance was important. It was noted the form used was not designed to deal with sexual entertainment venues (SEVs) but instead was dealing with premises licenses. Matters under the Licensing Act 2003 objectives were not material considerations. Policies mentioned relate to other local authority areas and other parts of the UK, and it was suggested these passages do not help inform the council's decision. It was noted there was a reference to 'opposite Sugar & Spice' and the applicant again queried whether the representation was relevant to the applicant premises. Each application should be considered on its individual merits and the representation should be about the individual application. The applicant suggested Councillor Grahame's representation was a generic predisposition objecting to this activity. The applicant noted that the Edinburgh and Newquay studies preceded SEV legislation.

The applicant noted that the application was for the same layout and hours that the premises currently operated. The applicant is a national operator, the formalities are satisfied. While no photographs of the interior of the premises were available, this was because until four days ago, no objection had been received to the application. The premises was the most discrete of all these proposed SEV premises in Norwich and the applicant confirmed there was no line of sight from the street into the area where licensable activities took place, there was no chance of anyone entering the premises by accident due to door staff and committee was provided with a copy of the rules and regulations governing the premises.

The applicant requested changes to the generic conditions, suggesting that in respect of Condition 20, requiring a dedicated CCTV operator, would not be proportionate to the risks and the applicant referred to the proposed amended conditions contained in their application.

Regarding the area, the applicant noted that the premises was positively regarded in the locality, and this was borne out by representations received before the committee from some local businesses in support of the application.

Councillors raised questions relating to the proposed amendment to the standard conditions. The applicant responded, noted that, regarding hours, they had not sought longer than the council's policy suggested.

Numbers of bar staff and dancers were discussed, which varied between days of the week from 7 to 18-22 dancers in busy periods.

The committee heard other applications before making their decision.

#### **DECISION OF COMMITTEE**

The application was granted, with amended conditions.

 The committee did not agree to remove Condition 10, feeling whilst marketing for custom was not inappropriate for Prince of Wales Rd, marketing for custom in Dove St was not appropriate to the nature of that locality

- 2) Regarding Condition 20, the words 'by a dedicated member of staff or security personnel at all times' was deleted
- 3) Committee agreed the proposed amendment to Condition 23 "A Fire Risk Assessment will be undertaken at the premises and a customer capacity limit set. Such capacity limit shall be complied with at all times. A copy of the Fire Risk Assessment will be made available to council and police officers on request".
- 4) Committee agreed to remove 'the external doors shall be fitted with a device to ensure their automatic closure and such devices shall be maintained in good working order' from Condition 38.
- 5) The committee agreed to delete Condition 39,
- 6) The committee agreed alterations to condition 42 (adding "with the exception of minor alterations to the interior layout of the premises that would not add to the capacity of the premises")
- 7) Amendments to condition 54 were agreed as proposed by the applicant, with the additions of the words "unless in areas as may be agreed in writing with the council" to condition 54(5) and "or as otherwise may be agreed in writing with the council" to condition 54(1) and 54(2).
- 8) New condition 62 was agreed to be inserted as proposed by the applicant: "A customer code of conduct shall be prominently displayed and clearly visible throughout the premises, advising patrons of the rules as to how the striptease will be performed".
- 9) Committee amended condition 53 to delete "(this excludes the toilets as performers must not use the public toilets whilst open to the public)".

### REASONS FOR THE COMMITTEE'S DECISION

The premises were well run with acceptable controls and policies, to which the above proposed changes to the standard conditions would assist. The nature of the locality was that of the City Centre Leisure Area excluding the Late Night Activity Zone, being predominantly retail and leisure in character. Committee noted that the police had made no representation regarding the application, and it was accepted that the police had no objections to the proposal, nor to the way the premises had been run. The committee reviewed the grounds under paragraph 12 of schedule 3 of the Act and noted that a decision to refuse a licence must be relevant to one or more of those grounds. The committee after considering these, felt that, on the evidence provided, no reason to refuse the application had been made out. The committee noted that the licensing policy of Norwich City Council did not contain a stated number of SEV establishments for this locality, and also proceeded on this basis. The committee considered Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982, the Home Office guidance and its own statement of policy.

RIGHTS OF APPEAL – The applicant has a right of appeal in respect of the
decisions of committee, to be exercised within 21 days of being advised of the
decision appealed against. The right of appeal is at first instance to the Magistrates'
Court.

lovember 2017

Signed......Chair



# NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

Date of Hearing: 8<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Licence Type: Application for the Grant of a Sexual Entertainment Venue Licence

Name of Applicant: Code Red Promotions Ltd

Name of Premises/Postal address of Premises: Lace – 75 Prince of Wales Road, Norwich, NR1 1DG

Persons present: Members of Committee Councillors Button (chair), Woollard (vice chair following election), Bradford, Jones (B), Jones (T), Malik, Maxwell, Price, Raby, Thomas (Va) and Wright, Ms Sarah LeFevre; counsel for the applicant, Ms Nicky Cockrill; Operations Manager for Lace, Mr Steve Strange; Manager for Lace, Ms Lesley Grahame; Councillor, Mr Matthew Phipps; Solicitor for Platinum & Lace, Les Pierce; Applicant for Platinum & Lace, Mr Andrew Sinclair; Press, Mr Tony Grover; Bar 52 representative, Mr Gavin Tempest; representative for Sugar & Spice, Mr D Crawford; Applicant for Sugar & Spice, Mr Simon Goodings: Applicant for Sugar & Spice, Lisa Dunn of Platinum Lace, Mr Anthony Shearman; Environmental Protection, Licensing and Markets Manager, Mr D Lowens; Clerk, Alex Hand senior committee officer.

The committee agreed to receive late representations. There were no declarations of interest save from Cllr Price.

### SUMMARY NOTES OF HEARING:

Mr Shearman presented the report.

Counsel for Lace, Ms Sara LeFevre, addressed committee regarding the application. Counsel mentioned that the activity is perfectly lawful and appropriate in this location, and that morals were irrelevant to the committee's determination. Counsel suggested that, generally, sexual entertainment venues (SEVs) do not give rise to issues of crime and disorder, and this is a view shared, she said, by the Norfolk Constabulary. Counsel suggested this was also a view shared by police in the London Borough of Camden. The reason for the lack of connection between SEV's and crime and disorder was that the business model was not driven by encouraging drinking to excess or loud music. Visitors to the premises would leave calm, sober and controlled. The premises operates with a small number of customers and there is a high proportion of staff to customers, and lots of supervision via CCTV. The safety of performers was given high priority and the applicant knew of no case where performer safety had been threatened. The

premises were subject to regular inspections when a SEV regime was in place, premises were subject to extensive conditions and an annual review of the license. For all these reasons, counsel suggested that SEV premises were atypical and Lace exhibited all these characteristics. The premises were well established, being at the current site for ten years trading to date, and had an excellent working relationship with the police. No representations had been received from local businesses.

The applicant mentioned that, on average, there would be eighteen visitors in the premises and an average throughput of 55 customers. 35 CCTV cameras were covering the premises. Managers were equipped with ipads and could, via these devices, keep an eye on matters shown on CCTV cameras at all times. Three SIA registered staff were available at any one time, and, should an incident occur, the premises can call upon SIA staff at the premises beneath and opposite, in Prince of Wales Road. There were, in total, 9/10 door staff and other staff present, thus being a one to two ratio with customers. The premises were typical with similar well-run SEVs and were not associated with crime. Dancers had a panic button available, but the applicant noted this had never been operated.

The applicant described the visibility of the premises from the street, noting that, behind the door, there was an anonymous entrance lobby with stairs leading upwards. There was no visibility of relevant entertainment and it was a very easy entrance to control and manage.

The applicant suggested, in respect of the proposed standard conditions, that condition 20 was not necessary if it required a dedicated member of staff to be employed to check CCTV, the managers already carrying out this option and supervising. The applicant suggested the condition was unnecessary and disproportionate, as the problem was already solved. In respect of conditions 38 and 39, these are designed to avoid visibility of the relevant entertainment from the street, and the circumstances cannot pertain to these premises due to their layout. The spirit and intent of the conditions were already achieved by the layout of the premises and the proposed conditions were unnecessary.

In respect of condition 54(1), the applicant suggested that 'against the back of the booth or seat' should be deleted, as not all booths had a back.

The applicant suggested that these minor departures were safe, due to the premises having operated like this for many years.

The applicant had no concerns regarding the remaining conditions.

The applicant was questioned regarding the reference to 'bedroom' on the plans and said these should be removed from the plans. This was a booth area. The applicant, in response to a question as to operating hours, stated these were Thursday to Saturday, 21:00 to 04:00 hours but the application was for 24/7, as flexibility was sought, and it was noted the current licence under the Licensing Act 20013, was a 24 hour license.

In response to a question regarding advertising, the environmental protection, licensing and markets manager confirmed that the advertisement was not placed on

the Council's website, as there was no statutory obligation to do so. The Licensing Act 2003 matters were advertised, as there was a duty to keep a public register of those applications.

The applicant responded regarding the level of training being 2/3 days, mentioned there was a minimum of 8 dancers and 150 persons were permitted by fire regulations. In response to a question from a councillor suggesting a dedicated person needed to check the CCTV, the applicant noted that the CCTV viewing was already in the hands of those empowered to respond immediately to a problem and it was thought to be the best operational way of responding to issues that might arise. Managers were constantly reviewing the licensed area, walking the floor. The applicant disputed with the councillor that the best response would be from a dedicated person checking CCTV systems only.

Regarding equality, the applicant noted the premises were open to all members of the public. Male dancers could be employed but this issue had never been raised.

The applicant confirmed that no safety issues for the performers had arisen and, in response to a concern from a councillor, relating to a possible underage person accessing the premises, the applicant noted that at any time the premises were operational, the door would be guarded, and when not operational, the door would be closed, and is lockable.

Photographs of the interior of the premises (not taken during trading hours) were produced and distributed to committee.

The applicant noted the locality of Prince of Wales Rd was a busy commercial road with a lot of licensed premises contained on it. Reference was made to the fact that the Norwich City Council policy has not adopted an appropriate number of SEV's, that is the context in which the applicant makes the application, by comparison to other councils which had adopted a policy of nil before determining any application. The applicant also noted the premises were long-established in the area, was trading successfully for many years, and the application was, in summary, to permit what was already being done. Committee was invited to grant the application with minor amendments.

(The committee heard other SEV applications before determining the application in respect of 75 Prince Of Wales Road, Norwich).

# DECISION OF AND REASONS OF COMMITTEE

The licence for a sexual entertainment venue was granted, and the following amendments were made to the standard conditions.

- The words 'by a dedicated member of staff or security personnel' is deleted from Condition 20
- 2) Conditions 38 and 39 are deleted
- 3) Condtion 54(1) is amended to insert 'where reasonably practicable' after 'upright position'

- 4) Condition10 was amended as follows, committee noting that other SEV premises in Prince of Wales Road had been treated similarly:
  - it was agreed that the following words would appear 'apart from promotional flyers for the premises, which shall not include the following;
  - a) Any depiction of full nudity
  - b) Any depiction of partial nudity (including the display of breasts, buttocks or genitalia)
  - c) Any description of sexual of violent images, or any other images which may give rise to concerns in respect of public decency or protection of children or vulnerable persons from harm.

Committee imposed a condition that promotional flyers may only be distributed during the hours the premises are acting as a sexual entertainment venue, and may only be distributed in Prince Of Wales Road, Norwich.

Committee also inserted a new condition, namely that 'the premises shall not be open for sexual entertainment venue business between close of business and 18:00 hours on any day'. The reason for this imposition was to avoid any possible conflict between customers of the premises and persons attending the local school.

Committee considered the appropriate locality and its character. The committee was of the view that the relevant locality was the late-night activity zone and the character of that locality was predominantly retail and leisure uses.

Committee noted that the premises were long-standing, appeared well-run with satisfactory policies and that the police had made no representation regarding the application, and it was accepted that the police had no objections to the proposal, nor to the way the premises had been run. The committee reviewed the grounds under paragraph 12 of schedule 3 of the Act and that a decision to refuse a licence must be relevant to one or more of those grounds. The committee after considering these, felt that, on the evidence provided, no reason to refuse the application had been made out. The committee noted that the licensing policy of Norwich City Council did not contain a stated number of SEV establishments for this locality. The committee considered Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982, the Home Office guidance and its own statement of policy.

RIGHTS OF APPEAL – The applicant has a right of appeal in respect of the decisions of committee, to be exercised within 21 days of being advised of the decision appealed against. The right of appeal is at first instance to the Magistrates' Court.

er 201	/
ᆫ	1 201

Signed.....Chair



# NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

Date of Hearing: 8<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Licence Type: Application for the grant of a Sexual Entertainment Venue Licence

Name of Applicant: Bar 52 Ltd

Name of Premises/Postal address of Premises: Bar 52, 52 Prince Of Wales Road, Norwich, NR1 1LL

Persons present: Councillors Button (chair), Woollard (vice chair following election), Bradford, Jones (B), Jones (T), Malik, Maxwell, Price, Raby, Thomas (Va) and Wright; and Mr Tony Grover, representing the applicant; Mr Petrit Vladi; Lauren Hendrik, Daz Crawford, Gavin Tempest and Simon Goodings from Sugar & Spice; Tony Shearman, Environmental Protection, Licensing and Markets Manager; David Lowens – Clerk, Alex Hand senior committee officer.

The committee considered and agreed to receive late representations. There were no declarations of interest.

#### SUMMARY NOTES OF HEARING

Mr Shearman presented the report.

Mr Grover, on behalf of the applicant, presented his application, noting that the premises were already in operation, the application was made in accordance with the regulations and properly submitted. The premises opened three years ago. This was a well-managed and safe venue and the police had only been called once to the premises. The premises were not operating at the time of application as a sexual entertainment venue, but if the application was granted, would be refitted as the same.

The applicant noted he would be obtaining an experienced supervisor for dancers and additional management control will be via conditions of employment introduced by a new manager when in post. The premises would have a lobby with separate doors, it would be impossible to see inside from the street, and when open entry will be monitored by door staff. Door staff would ensure compliance with stated house rules and CCTV systems will be constantly monitored by a dedicated member of staff via tablet showing all CCTV images. The applicant sought amendments to standard conditions.

Regarding the latterly received objections, the applicant suggested that the councillors concerns were directed towards old studies, and there was no evidence to show these concerns were in effect in Norwich. Noting the locality, the applicant stated Bar 52 would not be open when the school/church were open and nothing at the exterior would indicate it is a sexual entertainment venue.

Discussion ensued regarding business cards and the giving of these to dancers. Discussions also took place regarding acceptable smoking areas. The applicant noted that door staff would be present at the front of the premises to ensure control and to ensure that no soliciting took place. The applicant was keen to have a clear net curtain on the booths that could be seen through and thus supervision maintained. Dancers would maintain compliance with the code of conduct.

Discussion took place regarding controls via CCTV and it was noted by the applicant there would be CCTV in each booth.

Discussion took place regarding safety of performers and the applicant confirmed that performers would be escorted to their mode of transport. This was not yet entered in the policy but would be in due course.

Committee considered other applications before making a decision in respect of Bar 52.

#### **DECISION OF COMMITTEE**

The application was granted with amended conditions. The following amendments were made to the standard conditions.

- Regarding Condition 10, as to soliciting custom, it was agreed that the following words would appear 'apart from promotional flyers for the premises, which shall not include the following;
  - a) Any depiction of full nudity
  - b) Any depiction of partial nudity (including the display of breasts, buttocks or genitalia)
  - c) Any description of sexual of violent images, or any other images which may give rise to concerns in respect of public decency or protection of children or vulnerable persons from harm.

Committee imposed a condition that promotional flyers may only be distributed during the hours the premises are acting as a sexual entertainment venue, and may only be distributed in Prince Of Wales Road, Norwich.

2) Condition 31 is amended to delete 'at no time shall a performance or persons working in the premises be visible from outside the premises, with the exclusion of door supervisors', replacing these words with 'performers may only go outside the premises in the presence of a door supervisor and when fully dressed'.

- 3) Condition 43 is amended to start 'the inside of all booths, cubicles or VIP areas must be visible to direct supervision from outside the booth', deleting 'and must not have closing doors, curtains or coverings of any description'.
- 4) Committee did not agree to amend the wording of Condition 50, for reasons of dancer safety.
- 5) Condition 53 is amended by deletion of '(this excludes the toilets as performers must not use the public toilets whilst open to the public)'.
- 6) Current Condition 54(3),(4) and (5) are deleted, and Condition 54 rewritten in accordance with the proposal of the applicant contained on page 245 of the agenda:

The licensee must ensure that during the performance of a table dance:

- (1) Customers must be seated in an upright position against the back of the booth or seat with their hands by their sides before a dancer can start a dance
- (2) Customers must remain seated during the entire performance of the dance

The licensee must ensure that during the performance of a lap dance:

- (1) For a seated performance, customers must be seated in an upright position with their hands by their sides or, for a performance on a bed, customers must be lying with their hands by their sides or behind their head, before a dancer can start a dance.
- (2) Customers must remain seated or lying down during the entire performance of the dance.
- (3) There shall be no physical contact from the customer to the Performer except for the placing of money/tokens in a garter or in the hands of the Performer at the beginning or conclusion of the performance or for payment of drinks.
- (4) Performers may only touch the customer with their hands for the purpose of restraint.
- 7) Condition 55(3) 'performers may not intentionally touch a customer at any time during the performance unless absolutely accidentally or due to a third party' is deleted, as not necessary due to other conditions.

#### REASONS FOR THE COMMITTEE'S DECISION

Committee noted the premises appeared well run as a bar, with well written policies and the police had made no representation regarding the application and had no objections to the proposal. The committee, noting the grounds on which the application could be refused, and after considering the nature of the locality (the late-night activity zone) and feeling that the character of the locality was predominantly retail and leisure use based, considered on the evidence provided, that they had no reason to refuse the application. The committee noted the licensing

policy of Norwich City Council did not contain a stated number of SEV establishments for this locality and proceeded also on that basis. The committee considered Schedule 3 of the (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982, the Home Office Guidance, and its own statement of policy.

RIGHTS OF APPEAL – The applicant has a right of appeal in respect of the decisions of committee, to be exercised within 21 days of being advised of the decision appealed against. The right of appeal is at first instance to the Magistrates' Court.

Dated	November 2017	
Signed	Chair	



# NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

Date of Hearing: 8<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Licence Type: Application for the grant of a Sexual Entertainment Venue Licence

Name of Applicant: Dazmonda Ltd t/a Sugar & Spice

Name of Premises/Postal address of Premises: Sugar & Spice, 39 Prince Of Wales Rd, Norwich NR1 1BG

Persons present: Members of Committee Councillors Button (chair), Woollard (vice chair following election), Bradford, Jones (B), Jones (T), Malik, Maxwell, Price, Raby, Thomas (Va) and Wright; Mr Gavin Tempest, representing the applicant; Lauren Hendrik, Simon Goodings and Daz Crawford – all from Sugar & Spice; Mr Andrew Sinclair, Press; Mr Tony Shearman, Environmental Protection, Licensing and Markets Manager; Mr D Lowens, clerk, Alex Hand, senior committee officer.

The committee agreed to receive late representations. There were no declarations of interest

### SUMMARY NOTES OF HEARING:

Mr Shearman presented the report.

Mr Tempest, representing the applicant, noted his previous experience as Chief Inspector in charge of community safety and the night-time economy, and mentioned, in his view, that the police hold the venue in high regard. There were no representations from the police to be considered by committee. The premises has an extensive code of conduct and this was described further by Daz Crawford.

Mr Crawford addressed committee. He gave details of the way Sugar & Spice operated and noted it was the only proposed SEV club which can accommodate wheelchairs. The premises had a number of regular customers. Capacity was discussed and it was noted that the capacity was 200 persons. On a busy Saturday, 100 persons could be present, but likely to be less. 48 CCTV cameras were present. In respect of controls, the applicant noted they have a Challenge 25 policy in force, a breathalyser was used and in the last three months they had probably turned 150 persons away from the premises. The application was fully in accordance with procedures and policies. Panic buttons were present but in seven and a half years, the applicant thought they had been pressed less than ten times. Planning conditions did not permit smoking at the back of the premises, screens were see-through to ensure controls and CCTV was anyway in each booth.

Regarding conditions, all venues in Norwich have lying down areas and this premises is included.

Dancers were not allowed to accept phone numbers or contact numbers of any sort. Reference was made to condition 42 and minor renovations/decorations which will not affect capacity.

Regarding the locality, the applicant mentioned there were places of worship and education nearby, but the premises were in the late-night activity zone and would not be open whilst the school was open. The Muslim Faith Centre was in a separate location. The premises were already operating and had operated successfully for seven years and were well thought of by the police. Advertising would not refer to sexual matters and indeed, granting the operating license requested would have no practical effect, as no change was proposed to the way the premises were already running. In conclusion, the applicant noted this was a lawful activity, fully compliant with SEV policy statements and a very well-run premises.

### **DECISION OF COMMITTEE**

The decision of committee was to grant the license sought with amended conditions.

The locality is noted to be in the late-night activity zone and the character of that locality was noted to be predominantly retail and leisure uses.

- 1. In respect of Condition 10, the following words are added; 'apart from promotional flyers for the premises, which shall not include the following;
- a) Any depiction of fully nudity
- b) Any depiction of partial nudity, (including the display of breasts, buttocks or genitalia).
- c) Any depiction of sexual or violent images or any other images which may give rise to concerns in respect of public decency or protection of children or vulnerable persons from harm.
- 2. In addition, the committee imposed a condition that promotional flyers may not be distributed during times when the premises is not open for the purposes of being a sexual entertainment venue, nor shall flyers be distributed outside Prince Of Wales Road.
- 3. Condition 11 is to be amended to read as follows 'the licensee shall maintain an up to date register in which shall be recorded the name and address of any person who is to be responsible for managing the sex establishment in the licensees absence and the names and addresses of those employed in the establishment. There will be a daily register of employees and members of staff on duty, showing who is working. This register is to be completed each day within 30 minutes of the sex establishment being open for business, and is to be available for inspection by the police and by authorised officers of the council.

- 4. In respect of Condition 20, the word 'dedicated' was removed.
- 5. Condition 28 is amended to exclude the use of toy handcuffs from controls.
- 6. Condition 31 is amended to read 'the windows and openings of the premises shall be covered with a material which will ensure the interior of the premises is not visible to passers-by. Performers are to be fully dressed when outside the premises at all times.
- 7. Condition 42 is amended to include 'with the exception of minor decoration changes, which will not affect capacity', which is added to the end of the first sentence
- 8. Re Condition 43, regarding booths being visible to supervision, this was redrafted as 'all booths, cubicles or VIP areas used by private dancers must not have closing doors, curtains or coverings such that they are not easily visible to supervision from outside the booth".
- 9. Re condition 44, this was amended to "All booths, cubicles, VIP areas used for private dances must be monitored by either a SIA-registered door supervisor, a member of staff who has direct contact with SIA-registered door supervisors working on the premises, or a CCTV operator at all times the booths/cubicles/VIP areas are in use".
- 10. Condition 46 is amended to read 'performers shall only perform to customers in specified designated areas or in such areas of the licensed premises as may be agreed in writing by the council.
- 11. The committee did not agree to an amendment of condition 50, which remains as per the standard conditions in order to assist dancer safety.
- 12. Condition 53 is amended to delete '(this excludes the toilets as performers must not use the public toilets whilst open to the public)'.
- 13. In respect of Condition 54(5) 'performers must not place their feet on the seats' is deleted. Condition 54 will read 'the licensee must ensure that during the performance of a table, lap, sofa or bed dance;
- (1)Customers must be seated or lying with their hands by their sides or behind their head before a dancer can start to dance
- (2)Customers must remain seated or lying during the entire performance of the dance
- (3)Performers must not sit on or straddle the customer when naked
- 14. Current Conditions 54(3) and 54(4) are deleted

15. Condition 57 is amended to include in the exceptions 'a social greeting such as a handshake, hug or kiss on the cheek'.

.

Committee considered the appropriate locality and its character. The committee was of the view the relevant locality was the late-night activity zone and the character of that locality was predominantly retail and leisure uses.

Committee noted the premises were of long-standing, appeared well-run, with satisfactory policies and police had made no representation regarding the application. It was accepted the police had no objections to the proposal. The committee were aware of the grounds on which the application could be refused and after considering these, felt that, on the evidence provided, no reason to refuse the application had been made out. The committee noted that the licensing policy of Norwich City Council did not contain a stated number of SEV establishments for this locality. The committee considered Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982, The Home Office Guidance and its own statement of policy.

Rights of appeal: The applicant has a right of appeal in respect of the decisions of committee, to be exercised within 21 days of being advised of the decision appealed against. The right of appeal is at first instance to the Magistrates' Court.

Dated	November 2017
Signed	Chair
Signed	Oriali

Report to Licensing Committee Item

30 November 2017

**Report of** Head of citywide services

Subject Hackney Carriage Fare Review

5

#### **Purpose**

To ask members to determine the level of fares charged for the hire of Norwich city council licensed hackney carriages.

#### Recommendation

That members consider the application submitted by the Norwich Station Taxi Association for an increase in hackney carriage fares in accordance with Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

#### **Corporate and service priorities**

The report helps to meet the corporate priority of a safe and clean city and the service plan priority of protecting the interests of the public through the administration of the licensing function.

#### **Financial implications**

None.

Ward/s: All wards

Cabinet member: Councillor Maguire – safe city environment

#### **Contact officers**

Tony Shearman, the environmental protection, licensing 01603 212278 and markets manager

#### **Background documents**

None

## The Report

- 1. An application has been received from the Norwich Station Taxi Association requesting an increase to the current hackney carriage fares, a copy of which is attached at Appendix A.
- 2. The previous application for an increase in hackney carriage fares was considered by committee on the 17 March 2014. That application took account of inflation that specifically affected the taxi trade until the end of December 2013. This application takes into account the period until the end of September 2017 and, if successful, is intended to come into effect on 1 January 2018.

#### **Norwich Hackney Trade Association proposals**

- 3. Members will note from Appendix A that the Norwich Station Taxi Association is not proposing to amend the existing tariff structure or the existing initial hiring charge or 'flag drop' for each of the four tariffs but is seeking a reduction in respect of the distance travelled for both the 'flag drop' and the distances travelled for the subsequent 20p unit charge. The application also seeks to reduce the periods of waiting time for the 20p unit charge. The maximum soiling charge remains the same. Attached at Appendix B to the report is a chart that compares the present and proposed hiring charges for each of the tariffs.
- 4. Attached at Appendix C is a chart showing the cost of different journey distances at the present and proposed rates of fare. When calculating the cost of the journeys, the Head of Financial Services has taken into account that when a part distance falls into the next 20p unit charge (or 'part thereof' as shown on the existing fare chart at Appendix D) then that 20p unit is attributed to the cost of the journey.

### The legislation

5. By virtue of Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, a district council may fix the rate of fares within the district in respect of the hire of hackney carriages. The previous review came into effect in April 2014 and a copy of the current fare chart detailing the permitted rates is attached at Appendix D.

#### Calculation of inflation increase affecting taxi trade to March 2017.

- 6. The National Retail Price Index is formulated from a multitude of sources, one of which is "Transport and Vehicles". It is this section of the R.P.I. which the City Treasurer, based upon guidelines set by the Licensing Sub-Committee on 19 October 1987, is using to obtain comparative figures.
- 7. The Transport and Vehicles general cost index is formed by finding the average inflation figures from seven sub-headings and these are:-

purchase of motor vehicles

motor insurance

maintenance of motor vehicles

petrol and oil

rail fares

road transport fares

vehicle excise licences.

8. After discussion with the trade, it was agreed to remove rail fares and road transport fares as it was agreed that these headings had little or no bearing on the Norwich Taxi Trade and to include:-

radio rental

radio repairs

rents

wages

rates

When members considered a review of hackney carriage fares in 1991, the rates heading was replaced with the amount of community charge payable by two people living in Norwich. As a result of further statutory changes, this heading has been amended to include the amount of council tax payable by two people living in Norwich.

9. Attached at Appendix E is a table showing the % change on the nine headings set out above between March 2014 and September 2017. The combined cost increase on these headings during this period was 11.29%.

#### **Comments of the Head of Finance**

- 10. It is not possible to determine an absolute percentage increase represented by this application, without ascertaining the exact distances travelled and tariffs applicable to all journeys undertaken by hackney carriage drivers over the course of a year. We can say, on Tariff 1, however, that for a journey of 3 miles the increase for this application amounts to 4.88% and the average across the midrange of 1.75-5 miles is 5.17%, excluding waiting time.
- 11. As members will see from Appendix E the specific inflation guideline to September 2017 is 11.29%.
- 12. Members will have to consider these factors when making a decision as to whether this increase in hackney carriage fares is reasonable.

#### Comparison with other local authorities

13. Attached at Appendix F to the report is a table comparing, over five selected journey distances, the existing and proposed charges for licensed Norwich city council hackney carriages against those fares set by neighbouring and some comparable local authorities.

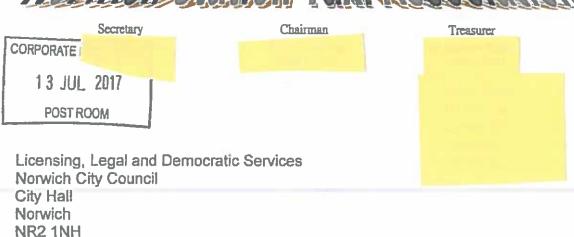
#### Conclusion

- 14. The Head of finance has calculated that the cost increase based upon the guidelines set by the Licensing sub-committee for the period March 2014 to September 2017 was 11.29%. Based on the application submitted by the Norwich Hackney Trade Association, the increase of a journey of 3 miles on Tariff 1 (the distance estimated to be an average journey) would be 4.88%.
- 15. Under the provisions of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, you may fix the rates or fares applicable within the City, for time and distance, and all other charges in connection with the hire of a hackney carriage.
- 16. Should you wish to recommend approval of a fare increase then a notice must be published in at least one local newspaper setting out the proposed fares. Subject to no objection being received within a specified period (which shall not be less than 14 days), the new fares will then come into operation.
- 17. Representatives of the Norwich Station Taxi Association have been invited to attend your meeting.

#### **Equality / Anti-Poverty Implications**

18. All hackney carriages licensed by the city council are wheelchair accessible and are also designed for use by the ambulant disabled. Hackney carriages also provide an alternative to other forms of public transport that may not be readily available or accessible.





Dear Sir.

12th July 2017

#### 2017 HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARES REVIEW

I write formally to request increases in the scale of permitted maximum fares for hackney carriages. The changes shown below are those decided upon at a recent meeting of the Norwich Station Hackney Association.

We recognise that historically this letter would be written and dispatched to you by the Norwich Hackney Trades Association but whilst the NHTA are fully supportive of this application they are unfortunately unable to take the lead on this occasion. As there is an urgency about this application we respectfully request that it is accepted on behalf of the whole Norwich hackney trade.

You will be aware the last fares increase was requested in November 2013 and the request was for taximeters to be programmed (chipped) up to January 2nd 2018. Checks having been made with the local agent for Digitax (the taximeters used as standard in the Peugeot E7 vehicles) have revealed that those meters require urgent re-calibration. We have been informed that the Digitax meters will fail to recognise any bank holidays after New Years day 2018. Further to this we have also been informed that the 'firmware' used in those meters requires urgent updating to ensure that they remain usable. So urgent action is required to ensure that all taximeters are fully calibrated from early 2018.

Hackney tariffs have not seen an increase since 2014. To remedy this and also to resolve the issues regarding the Digitax meters we therefore apply for a modest 3.6% increase, we believe this request to be more than reasonable.

We would request that every effort is afforded to hopefully conclude the process so as to allow an increase to be implemented as soon as possible. It is also requested that taximeters are programmed (chipped) up to end of April 2021 for this reason we include Christmas and New Year timings for 2018/19, 2019/20 and 2020/21. Obviously BST calendar changes should also be accommodated within the programming.

#### **TARIFF CHANGE DETAILS**

We propose no changes to any flagdrop prices we propose simple adjustments to the present approved yardages to achieve an increase in the region of 3.6% for all tariffs. No increase is sought for waiting times, which reduces the overall value of the increase package. The detail is as follows:

#### DISTANCE

Tariff 1	£3.00 for 40 yards, then 20p for each 194 yards
Tariff 2 (evenings)	£3.20 for 40 yards, then 20p for each 181 yards
Tariff 3 (Sundays & nights)	£3.40 for 70 yards, then 20p for each 169 yards
Tariff 4 (Christmas & New Year)	£5.40 for 90 yards, then 20p for each 147 yards

#### **WAITING TIME**

Tariff 1	20p for each 48 seconds
Tariff 2 (evenings)	20p for each 43 seconds
Tariff 3 (Sundays & nights)	20p for each 30 seconds
Tariff 4 (Christmas & New Year)	20p for each 24 seconds

#### **TIMINGS**

i	All tariffs	No change

#### **CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR TIMINGS**

24 December 2018	Monday	To 18:00 hours	Normal Tariffs
		from 18:00 hours	Tariff 4
25 December 2018	(Tues)Christmas Day	All day	Tariff 4
26 December 2018	(Wed)Boxing Day	All day	Tariff 4
27 December 2018	Thursday	To 06:00 hours	Tariff 4
		from 06:00 hours	Normai
			Tariffs
31 December 2018	Monday	To 18:00 hours	Normal
			Tariffs
		from 18:00 hours	Tariff 4
01 January 2019	(Tues)New Years Day	All day	Tariff 4
02 January 2019	Wednesday	To 06:00 hours	Tariff 4
	J	from 06:00 hours	Normal
			Tariff

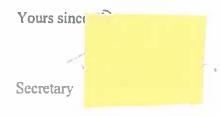
24 December 2019	Tuesday	to 18:00 hours	Normal Tariffs
		from 18:00 hours	Tariff 4
25 December 2019	(Wed)Christmas Day	all day	Tariff 4
26 December 2019	(Thurs)Boxing Day	all day	Tariff 4
27 December 2019	Friday	to 06:00 hours	Tariff 4
		from 06:00 hours	Normal
			Tariffs
31 December 2019	Tuesday	to 18:00hours	Normal
			Tariffs
		from 18:00 hours	Tariff 4
1 January 2020	New Years Day	all day	Tariff 4
2 January 2020	Thursday	to 06:00	Tariff 4
	-	from 06:00	Normal
			Tariffs

24 December 2020	Thursday	To 18:00	Normal Tariffs
<u> </u>		from 18:00 hours	Tariff 4
25 December 2020	(Fri)Christmas Day	all day	Tariff 4
26 December 2020	(Sat)Boxing Day	all day	Tariff 4
27 December 2020	Sunday	to 18:00 hours from 18.00 hours	Tariff 4 Normal Tariffs
31 December 2020	Thursday	to 18:00 from 18:00 hours	Normal Tariffs Tariff 4
01 January 2021	(Fri)New Years Day	all day	Tariff 4
02 January 2021	Saturday	to 06:00 from 06:00	Tariff 4 Normal Tariffs

#### OTHER

Other public holidays	Tariff 3 (no change)
Soiling charge	Maximum of £80 (no change)

Please do not hesitate to contact me if clarification is needed on any point before presenting your report to councillors.



## **HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARE COMPARISON CHART (1)**

TARIFF 1 (DAY RATE)		
PRESENT	£3.00 for first 40 yards	Then 20p per 205 yards
	£3.00 for first 36.5 metres	Then 20p per 180 metres
PROPOSE	2 £3.00 for first 40 yards	Then 20p per 194 yards
	£3.00 for first 36.5 metres	Then 20p per 177 metres
		The state of the s
TARIFF 2 (EVENINGS)		
PRESENT	£3.20 for first 40 yards	Then 20p per 191 yards
	£3.20 for first 36.5 metres	Then 20p per 174 metres
PROPOSEC	£3.20 for first 40 yards	Then 20p per 181 yards
	£3.20 for first 36.5 metres	Then 20p per 166 metres
TARIFF 3 (SUNDAYS A	ND NIGHTS)	
PRESENT	£3.40 for first 90 yards	Then 20p per 178 yards
	£3.40 for first 82 metres	Then 20p per 155 metres
PROPOSED	£3.40 for first 70 yards	Then 20p per 169 yards
	£3.40 for first 82 metres	Then 20p per 155 metres
TARIFF 4 (CHRISTMAS	S AND NEW YEAR)	
PRESENT	£5.40 for first 90 yards	Then 20p per 147 yards
	£5.40 for first 82 metres	Then 20p per 134 metres
PROPOSED	£5.40 for first 90 yards	Then 20p per 147 yards
	£5.40 for first 82 metres	Then 20p per 134 metres

The upper row showing each present and proposed tariff in bold type gives the exact yardage upon which the fare is based, or is proposed to be based.

The metered 'equivalent' shown on the lower row is rounded to the nearest metre and shown for comparison purposes only.

## **HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARE COMPARISON CHART (2)**

JOUF	RNEY DISTANCE	_	IFF 1 RATE		IFF 2 G RATE		IFF 3 AND NIGHTS	TARI	
	(kilometres)	PRESENT	PROPOSED	PRESENT	PROPOSED	PRESENT	PROPOSED	PRESENT	PROPOSED
		£	£	<u>£</u>	£	3	£	٤	£
0.5 MII	LE (0.805)	4.00	4.00	4.20	4.20	4.40	4.40	6.60	6.60
0.75 MII	LE (1.207)	4.40	4.40	4.60	4.80	4.80	5.00	7.20	7.20
1 MIL	LE (1.609)	4.80	4.80	5.20	5.20	5.40	5.40	7.80	7.80
1.25 MIL	ES (2.012)	5.20	5.40	5.60	5.60	5.80	6.00	8.40	8.40
1.5 MILI	.ES (2.414)	5.60	5.80	6.00	6.20	6.40	6.60	9.00	9.00
1.75 MIL	_ES (2.816)	6.00	6.20	6.40	6.60	6.80	7.00	9.60	9.60
2 MILI	.ES (3.219)	6.40	6.60	7.00	7.20	7.40	7.60	10.20	10.20
2.5 MILI	.ES (4.023)	7.40	7.60	7.80	8.20	8.40	8.60	11.40	11.40
3 MILI	.ES (4.828)	8.20	8.60	8.80	9.00	9.40	9.60	12.60	12.60
3.5 MILI	.ES (5.633)	9.00	9.40	9.80	10.00	10.40	10.80	13.80	13.80
4 MILI	ES (6.437)	10.00	10.40	10.60	11.00	11.40	11.80	15.00	15.00
4.5 MILE	ES (7.242)	10.80	11.20	11.60	12.00	12.20	12.80	16.20	16.20
5 MILE	ES (8.047)	11.60	12.20	12.40	13.00	13.20	13.80	17.40	17.40
6 MILE	ES (9.656)	13.40	14.00	14.40	15.00	15.20	16.00	19.80	19.80
7 MILE	ES (11.265)	15.00	15.80	16.20	16.80	17.20	18.00	22.20	22.20
8 MILE	ES (12.875)	16.80	17.60	18.00	18.80	19.20	20.00	24.60	24.60
10 MILE	ES (16.094)	20.20	21.20	21.60	22.80	23.20	24.20	29.40	29.40
12 MILE	ES (19.312)	23.60	24.80	25.40	26.60	27.20	28.40	34.20	34.20
15 MILE	ES (24.140)	28.80	30.20	31.00	32.40	33.00	34.60	41.20	41.20

## Hackney carriage fares



The city council has fixed the maximum fare that you may be charged in this taxi. The rate depends on the day and time of your journey as shown below. Before beginning your journey you should check that the taximeter is in the 'for hire' position. When the 'hired' position is selected the appropriate first charge will be displayed. After that it will increase according to the distance travelled or time spent waiting. You cannot be asked to pay more than the meter shows at the end of your journey. If you think you have been overcharged ask the driver. If you are still not satisfied or if you have any other complaint about this taxi please advise the council by using the contact form on www.norwich.gov.uk or by telephoning 0344 980 3333. You will need to know either the number of the taxi or the number on the driver's badge.

Please ensure that the taximeter is in the 'for hire' position before the start of your journey

Tariff 1 Day rate:	6am–6pm	First 40 yards (or part thereof)	£3.00
Thereafter for each 205 yards		(or part thereof)	20p
Waiting time each 48 seconds		(or part thereof)	20p

Tariff 2 Evening rate:	6pm–11pm	First 40 yards (or part thereof)	£3.20
Thereafter for each 191 yards		(or part thereof)	20p
Waiting time each 43 seconds		(or part thereof)	20p

Tariff 3 Sunday rate and night rate: 11pm–6am	First 90 yards (or part thereof)	£3.40
Thereafter for each 178 yards	(or part thereof)	20p
Waiting time each 30 seconds	(or part thereof)	20p

Tariff 4 Christmas/New Year:	First 90 yards (or part thereof)	£5.40
From 6pm 24/12/2014 to 6am 27/12/2014 From 6pm 31/12/2014 to 6am 02/01/2015		
Thereafter for each 147 yards Waiting time each 24 seconds	(or part thereof) (or part thereof)	20p 20p

Remainder of public holidays charged at tariff 3.

For cleaning following the soiling of the interior of the vehicle – a charge not exceeding £80.

For payment of fares by credit or debit card an additional fee of 5% of the fare chargeable.

#### **Adrian Akester**

Head of citywide services Norwich City Council, City Hall, Norwich NR2 1NH

April 2014

## **HACKNEY CARRIAGE FARE INCREASE APPLICATION**

# <u>CALCULATION OF THE PERCENTAGE COST INCREASE ON THE NINE SELECTED ITEMS BETWEEN</u> <u>MARCH 2014 & SEPTEMBER 2017</u>

	ITEM	MARCH 2014 £	% CHANGE	SEPTEMBER 2017 £	SOURCE / BASIS OF INFORMATION
1)	20% OF COST OF TAXI VEHICLE (BASED ON FIVE YEAR LIFE)	6,599	68.51	11,120	VEHICLE SUPPLIERS
2)	MAINTENANCE OF VEHICLES	3,509	9.23	3,833	WWW.ONS.GOV.UK/RPI
3)	PETROL AND OIL	8,285	-10.21	7,439	WWW.ONS.GOV.UK/RPI
4)	MOTOR INSURANCE	3,858	0.68	3,826	NORWICH UNION INSURANCE CO.
5)	ROAD FUND LICENCE	280	78.57	500	WWW.DVLA.CO.UK
6)	RADIO RENTALS AND REPAIRS	354	-25.14	265	COMMUNICATIONS SUPPLIERS
7)	COUNCIL TAX	1,050	8.76	1,142	BAND A PROPERTY
8)	HOUSING RENTS	9,135	8.31	9,894	WWW.ONS.GOV.UK/RPI
9)	NATIONAL WAGES	31,504	7.44	33,848	WWW,ONS.GOV,UK/AWE (AVERAGE EARNINGS INDEX FOR THE WHOLE ECONOMY)
		64,574	•	71,867	

11.29

#### **APPENDIX F**

## HACKNEY CARRIAGE DAY RATE FARE CHARGES

#### **COMPARISONS WITH OTHER AUTHORITIES**

NAME OF LOCAL AUTHORITY		SELECTED JOURNEY DISTANCES				
		1 MILE	2 MILES	3 MILES	5 MILES	10 MILES
		£	£	£	5	£
NORWICH CITY COUNCIL	PRESENT	4.80	6.40	8.20	11.60	20.20
	PROPOSED	4.80	6.60	8.60	12.20	21.20
BRECKLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL		3.00	4.80	6.60	10.20	19.20
CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL		4.60	6.40	8.20	11.80	20.80
COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCIL		4.40	6.80	8.30	11.00	18.20
IPSWICH BOROUGH COUNCIL_		4.20	6.00	7.80	11.20	19.80
KINGS LYNN AND WEST NORFOLK BOROUGH COUNCIL		4.00	5.76	7.52	11.04	19.84
NORTH NORFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL		5.10	6.90	8.70	12.30	21.30
YORK CITY COUNCIL		4.40	6.20	8.00	11.60	20.60



**Minutes** 

#### **REGULATORY SUB COMMITTEE**

14:00 – 14:55 18 September 2017

Present: Councillors Button (chair), Brociek-Coulton, Jones (B), Malik and

Raby.

#### 1. Declarations of interest

Councillor Jones declared that she knew one of the objectors on item 2 (below) socially but they had not discussed the case and she was not predisposed in any way.

2. Highways act 1980: application for licence to place tables and chairs on the highway - Warings Lifestyle 20 Westlegate Norwich NR1 3LR

(The applicant was not present for this item.)

The licensing assistant presented the report.

Members discussed how the table and chairs would fit into the designated area shown in the plan with the products which could be seen outside the premise in the photos supplied with the application. They raised concerns regarding access to the alleyway to the side of the premises. The area for seating was discussed and to preserve access to the alleyway an amendment was agreed to the area by members.

**RESOLVED** unanimously, to grant the licence for tables and chairs on the highway for one year, as per the amended plan appended to these minutes.

**CHAIR** 

