

Portsmouth City Council Licensing Department

07 August 2016

Public Health Team

Safer Portsmouth Partnership Portsmouth City Council Civic Offices, Guildhall Square, Floor 2 Core 3-4

Phone:

Ref:'Astoria' license variation

Dear Licensing Manager

Re: Public Health Representation regarding extension of licensable hours for 'Astoria' 37-39 Guildhall Walk Portsmouth Hants PO1 16/03625/LAPREM

This representation is made on behalf of the acting/interim director of Public Health for Portsmouth City Council and concerns the licensing objectives

- Prevention of crime and disorder
- Public Safety
- Prevention of Public nuisance

The Guildhall Walk and its surrounding roads are subject to a cumulative impact policy (CIP) based on continuous incidents of disorder and violence centered largely around the night time economy. Whilst the nature of the CIP does not necessarily require responsible authorities to provide evidence in support of their representations, at the time of writing this representation I have requested and am awaiting a breakdown of ambulance call out data and hospital admissions from the CIP area and will make this data available to the Licensing Committee at the time of any hearing - This data will give the Committee the most accurate picture of how much strain the CIP area places on the City's emergency services at this time.

The effect of adopting a CIP is to create a rebuttable presumption that applications for new premises licenses or variations that are likely to add to the existing cumulative impact will normally be refused, following relevant representations, unless the applicant can demonstrate in their operating schedule that there will be no negative cumulative impact on one or more of the licensing objectives.

It is my belief that the applicants have not demonstrated how their request for extra licensable hours will mitigate any negative impact on the licensing objectives. This is not a criticism on the venue as it operates at the present time, but an acknowledgement that any increase in hours (by any venue) could potentially lead to an increase or exasperation of existing crime, disorder and hospital admissions.

Kind regards

Rob Anderson-Weaver Public Health team PCC

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