

Appendix D

To the members of the Licensing Committee

I'm writing in reference to Albert Choi and the licence of the Noble House restaurant.

I am not writing in any way to comment on the findings of the Immigration Officials in this case. What I am doing is to put on record the support to the community of Portsmouth that Mr Choi has given so that the committee has a more rounded impression of the impact that Mr Choi has on this community.

From the start can I say that I do not condone any breach of the law, nor of immigration rules.

Mr Choi has made a very significant contribution to the life of this city. I'd like to highlight three areas in my letter to you.

The first has been the support that Mr Choi has given to the city during the Covid outbreak. Mr Choi organised donations of PPE from his contacts in our twin cities in China so that those who were most vulnerable were able to get face masks when they were in short supply.

We have also had a major problem with some members of ethnic minority groups getting vaccinated in Portsmouth. Mr Choi organised and publicised an NHS free vaccination centre for unvaccinated people at the Portsmouth Chinese Association centre in North End.

The second area has been the links that he has built up between Portsmouth and cities in China. In a completely volunteer capacity, he has organised both twinning visits and trade missions to our twin cities in China. He has given his time for free and paid his own flights to help build these links so that links can be made between Portsmouth and China. The University, St John's College and Portsmouth Grammar School have all benefited from the links that Mr Choi has built up.

Finally, Mr Choi has been happy to support various local charities at the Noble House Restaurant. Local good causes have benefited from many thousands of pounds of donations that have come through the events Mr Choi has put on.

In coming to your decision today I hope you can keep in mind these benefits to the local community that Mr Choi has given to the local community and that your decision reflects not only what has gone wrong in this case but also the benefits to the local community that Mr Choi has given.

Yours sincerely

Mr David Fuller