



PC Gillian Pearce
9 Holbeach Road
Catford
SE6 4TW

Email:
Gillian.D.Pearce@met.police.uk
Your ref: Olivers food 4 life

13th December 2023

Oliver's food 4 life 12 Brockley Cross Brockley SE4 1BE

Further to the police objection of 8th November 2023 for the above premise.

Police have now had the opportunity to visit the premise and speak with the applicant, however, this has only served to heighten concerns.

The applicant has informed police that she has an expectation of having up to 60 people in the basement at any one time as well as a DJ. When it was explained that 60 people in such a small space would be very tight she demonstrated they could stand along the walls. Police have concerns that the applicant is looking to have a nightclub in her basement and cram as many people in as possible causing a fire risk and also risk of people being trampled or over come with smoke inhalation in any event of a fire. It has been suggested to the applicant that she does not have vertical drinking in line with Lewisham Boroughs statement of licensing policy and also that she have a select number of tables and chairs for her patrons to use so that they can eat at the same time as drinking. This would fall more in line with what she is asking for on her application of have an entertainment space where she can have open debates and small gatherings.

The applicant has stated she does not want to have tables and chairs and is open to having SIA if she has more than 30 people in the basement. However, police ask why would a restaurant require SIA and also SIA are neither fire officers or paramedics so the risk of having 60 people crammed into a small basement that has no windows and doors on that level is not diminished.

On the plan the applicant has submitted there is a kitchen. When this was mentioned to the applicant that a kitchen in the basement would also add to a fire risk the applicant stated it is not used as a kitchen and is used as a store room. This again is not reflected in her application and an oven could easily be added after the licence is

agreed. The room is set up as a kitchen even if there is not currently an oven in there.

The applicant has also stated she would like a DJ to be used in the basement and it was put to the applicant the noise this would generate for the neighbours and local residents of this terraced property. The applicant stated she would not want to cause a nuisance but does not provide a plan to prevent this. Police would imagine a DJ in such a confined space which is no larger than the average lounge in a residential house would cause a tremendous noise and nuisance for the neighbours or flat above.

The basement is reached by a narrow steep flight of stairs from the street (or through the shop) and another that leads from the basement up to the only single toilet in the venue and a small court yard. There is a metal gate over the door that leads to the court yard (another fire risk) and a metal locked gate that leads out of the back of the court yard.

With only one toilet at the venue patrons may be inclined to find somewhere else to go to the toilet if there is a queue. With up to 60 patrons at the venue this could be a regular problem, again causing nuisance to the local residents.

Directly outside the front of the premise is a pedestrian crossing. The applicant is asking for deliveries. Police have asked the applicant where her delivery drivers will park as there is concern of mopeds driving across the pavement and parking on the pavement as there is limited parking available outside the shop. The applicant states a venue along from her has deliveries but this does not answer where the applicants own delivery drivers will park or how she will manage this so that it is not a danger to pedestrians using the crossing.

Police have contacted the London Fire Brigade and asked them to visit the venue and so far have received an email stating the basement is not suitable and we await a full report.

Police maintain the objection under the original Licensing Objectives set out below:

Prevent crime and disorder
Public safety
Prevent public nuisance
Protect children from harm.

Kind regards

PC Gillian Pearce
Licensing officer
Lewisham

Lewisham Police Licensing acknowledge receipt of an application for a new premises licence for a food takeaway with an events space in the basement. The proposed operating hours range from 9am through to 2am

the following day. Alcohol will be on sale from 12pm to 2am. It is unknown what the proposed capacity will be for the basement area.

Police would like to object to this application under the following Licensing objectives:

- Prevent crime and disorder
- Public safety
- Prevent public nuisance
- Protect children from harm

After considering the application, conditions offered by the applicant and taking into account the proposed use for this venue.

location of the proposed premises and its environs Police licensing feel that the proposed premises will undermine not only the Licensing objectives but also greatly affect the local residences and the quality of their lives. The applicant has failed to take into account and address the negative impact that this venue will have. The extensive hours proposed will impact greatly on the lives of those in the surrounding areas, giving very little respite for residents. Further to this, there are already several venues in the immediate surrounding area which is at saturation point with this kind of venue.

Dear

Yours sincerely,