

From:

Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2024 5:29 PM

To: Licensing <Licensing@lewisham.gov.uk>

Subject: Alcohol and entertainment license 379 New Cross Road / Mez Mangal Restaurant / Cest La Vie Bar

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to object to the application for on and off premises alcohol and entertainment license for the (basement) premises of the Mez Mangal Restaurant 379 New Cross Road (formerly the Cest La Vie Bar).

The area in which the bar is situated is a small but dense residential area with families with young children, older adults and residents who do not speak much English. When this premises was converted to a bar last year it saw an immediate a significant increase in criminality (stabblings, gang fights, drug dealing openly on the road), emergency services callouts, obstruction of the junction of Pagnell Street and New Cross Road junction (leading to beeping traffic, revving engines etc) and anti-social and noise disturbance. On one occasion I found two people having sex over my bins at my front gate who had been hanging around the bar entrance earlier in the night. The disturbance was considerable, unreasonable and unfair. Frequently events would be booked to start on a Sunday, Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday afternoon and would persist into the small hours of the morning.

In addition to the social nuisance the property itself is not well sound insulated (most of it in fact is outdoors and covered only by temporary roofing materials) and the bass from even moderately loud music carries into the residential buildings across the road. . The building is also situated underneath an arcade of residential flats, and opposite a block of flats and the customers of the bar could be clearly heard throughout the night. On many occasions I had to leave my property early in the evening (when I could see there was an event on) to sleep elsewhere so that I could be fit to treat my patients the following day. I, like a lot of the residents, start my day very early (5-6am) and even when music is turned off at 11.30 (which it never was previously) that significantly eats into sleep hours for early risers. The properties on the road have bedrooms that face onto the forecourt/car parking area of the bar, meaning we had to endure severe disruption to sleep.

I am very concerned about the use of this premises as a bar in this dense residential area and the impact it is likely to have on residents and possibly children who attend the school across the park (I notice that theoretically the premises could be in operation during school hours, the associated problems outlined above then possibly impacting on children in the area). I ask that this license be declined on the following grounds:

- Prevention of Public Nuisance

- Protection of children from harm
- Public Safety
- Prevention of Crime and Disorder

I have been in contact with Richard Lockett from the Safer Communities Service about this issue previously and would very much like to avoid a repetition of what we endured over the last year.

Thanks for your time and any help you can offer,