

Chester Hotel

Variation of Current Premises License – Reference No. AC0348

The Chester Hotel has submitted an Application to Aberdeen City Council Licensing Board, a Variation to their existing alcohol licence, to increase the capacity of standing patrons from 4,278 to 6,766.

This Licensing application is not related to Covid and the protection of jobs in this crisis.

The Council has granted the Chester special measures to work within maximum capacity subject to social distancing guidelines. We all support them at this time.

This application is for the future - post Covid. It represents a permanent threat to the neighbourhood.

The application also includes a new High Level Dining Area (Function Suite Roof) for 652 guests. This was previously rejected in 2015 for 286 persons on the grounds that it would have an adverse effect on local amenity - the adverse noise carrying potential of this request was recognised by the Licensing Board.

There is little time to submit an objection. They must be lodged by paper or email by this coming Monday 12th October. Ken Hutcheon, our Queens Cross Council representative requested an extension to this date in order to give residents more time to digest the details of this application and formulate a response. This was not granted.

Numbers of objections are very important. Each adult in a household can submit a separate objection, but it can be a copy i.e. exactly the same wording. It just needs to be signed and submitted separately.

It is difficult to write an objection in such a short time. It is apparent that most people in the neighbourhood have no knowledge of this application. Public information is severely limited.

The application does not appear on the ACC website but can be found on

tellmescotland.gov.uk/notices/Aberdeen-city/licensing-including-processions/00000236017

(a copy is provided on the reverse of this sheet)

If you choose to make an objection the main points should be linked to the huge potential for Public Nuisance. This is an application for 6,766 persons in a hotel in a residential area. This is an increase of 2400 persons – more that 50% over the existing license.

Objections submitted by email should be addressed to: licensing@aberdeencity.gov.uk

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When constructing your objection you should focus on the issues of Public Nuisance and negative impact on the neighbourhood in terms of:

- generated noise
- potential anti-social behaviour due to alcohol
- unsupervised movement of people leaving the hotel on foot after an event
- parking

The sheer numbers in this application would suggest that there are plans for major events beyond normal functions such as weddings and parties. This is completely inappropriate for a hotel in a residential area.

The Chester as a high quality hotel, with function facilities, fine dining and bar is excellent for the community.

However, a large entertainment centre for thousands would severely impact, very negatively, the neighbourhood as we know it.

Objections must be submitted by 12th October.

3000 in
ballroom?