

Date 24th March 2016
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Eric Anderson
Solicitor
Legal and Democratic Services
Corporate Governance
Aberdeen City Council
Business Hub 6, Level 1 South,
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Aberdeen AB10 1AB

Dear Mr Anderson

**Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 – Application for a Variation of Premises Licence
The Mounthooly Sports Bar, 70 Hutcheon Street, Aberdeen, AB25 3TB**

I refer to the above application and in terms of Section 22(1) (a) of the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 and make the following objection under the licensing objective:

Protecting and improving public health

The applicant seeks to extend the opening hours of the premises to 01:00 on a Friday and Saturday. Paragraph 20.3 of the Aberdeen City Council Statement of Licensing Policy states:

“The Board will not normally grant hours beyond 00:00 outwith the city centre.”

As The Mounthooly Sports Bar is situated outwith the city centre and has no purpose built function suite facility I do not feel it meets the required criteria for a late opening extension.

I also wish to make the following representation under the licensing objective:

Protecting children from harm

The applicant seeks to allow children and young persons admission to the window area of the premises until 8pm, so long as accompanied by an adult. I am concerned that children and young people could be exposed to a drinking environment where no food is consumed under the current wording of the variation. I suggest it would be more appropriate to quantify the statement provided in paragraph 6(b) of the Operating Plan to give more clarity to staff and patrons. As I result I suggest that the following statement be

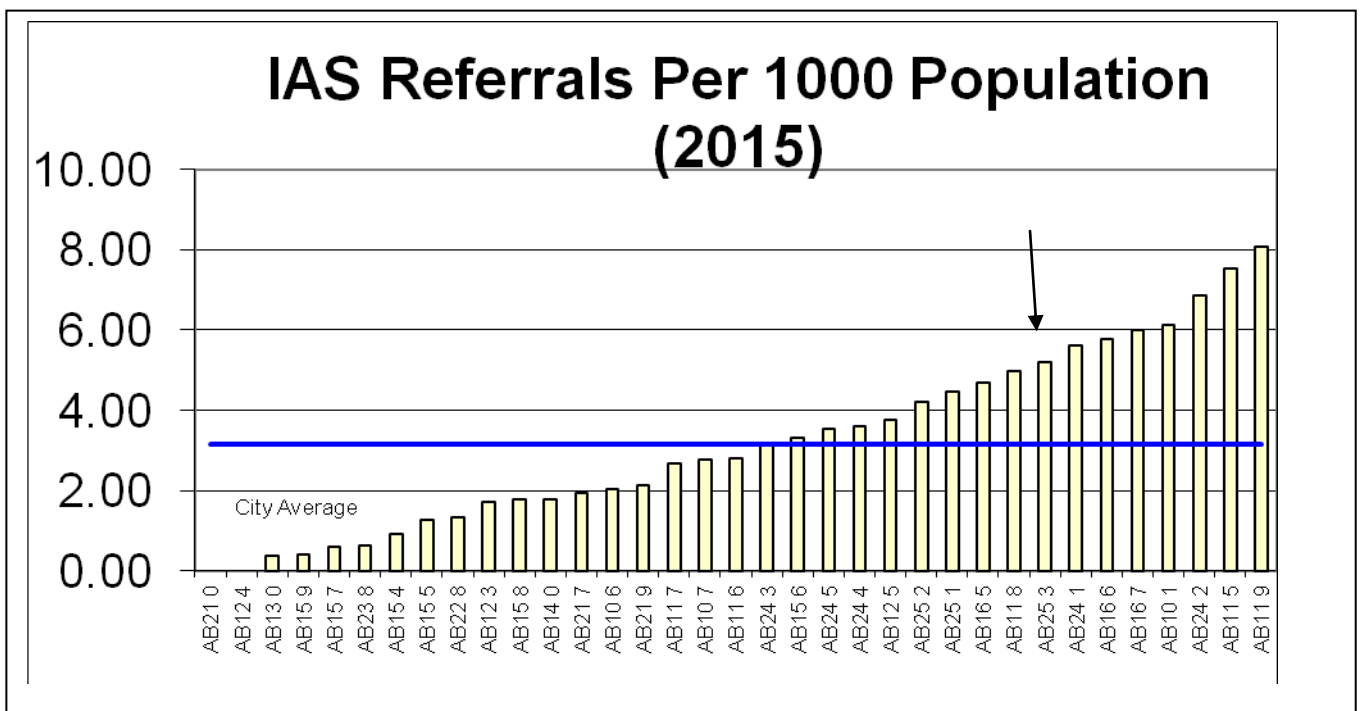
considered.

Proposed change of wording:

“Children and young people will be permitted access to the window area of the premises until 8pm so long as they are accompanied by an adult. The child, young person or the adult must be consuming a meal from the bar menu.”

In making this statement I wish to convey the preferred option of eating food with drinking alcohol and setting a good example to children and young people. If only the children require food I would suggest that there are unlicensed alternatives that could be accessed.

This particular post code area has seen an increase in the number of referrals made to the Integrated Alcohol Service during 2014 and 2015. Although the premises expects to attract trade from a wider area on football match days I would expect the local community will also be customers and their health should also be considered.



For these reasons, and in terms of Section 22(1) (a) of the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005, the Public Health Directorate of NHS Grampian feels the granting of the license under the proposed terms would be inconsistent with the Protecting and Improving Public Health and Protecting Children & Young People from harm licensing objectives.

Yours sincerely

Dr Tara Shivaji
Consultant in Public Health

pp Heather Wilson
Health Improvement Officer (Alcohol & Drugs)