



RE: Variation of Current Premises Licence Reference NO. AC0369

Application to Vary a Premises Licence

Description of Proposed Variation: Increase the terminal hour from 03:00 to 04:00 on Friday and Saturday.

Aberdeen City Centre Community Council would like to formally object to the above Application. Our reasons for the objection are stated below.

1. The applied for variation would go against Point 20.3 of the Aberdeen City Licensing Board Statement of Licensing policy which states that: *“In determining the hours of trading, the Board will give full consideration to the Scottish Government guidance under the Act and to the provisions of the Act itself. 21 Each case will be dealt with according to its individual circumstances. The Board will deem up to a maximum of 14 hours continuous trading in any 24 hour period to be reasonable.”*
2. This application also goes against a second section of point 20.3 of Aberdeen City Licensing Board Statement of Licensing policy which states: *“The Board will not normally grant hours beyond 00:00 hours outwith the city centre. The Board will not normally grant hours beyond 02:00 hours within the city centre on weekdays and 03:00 hours on Fridays and Saturdays.”*
3. We feel in agreement with point 20.4 of the Aberdeen City Licensing Board Statement of Licensing policy which states: *“The Board further considers that it would be extremely difficult for any applicant to justify the sale of alcohol prior to 10:00 hours and after 03:00 hours unless there are exceptional circumstances. We feel that there are no exceptional circumstances to justify the extension of the hours beyond those which the policy states.*
4. We feel in agreement with the Licensing Statement point 20.4 that *“The Board considers there is sufficient evidence from the Health Board and Police Scotland to suggest that such extensions of hours for the sale of alcohol could have detrimental effects on both the health of the City’s population and levels of criminal and violent offending, particularly in the City Centre.”*
5. If this variation is granted it would be in direct contradiction to preventing crime and disorder as in the boards own Statement of licencing in section 20.4 it states: *“The Health Board advise that it has been shown in studies that even by reducing closing time by 1-2 hours can lead to reductions in crime and other alcohol related harm. The Health Board also submits that reducing access to alcohol in mornings can also influence reshaping and reforming drinking culture in Scotland.”*
6. We feel that by extending the terminal hour it will have a knock on effect to preparing for the day time economy both from a Cleaning point of view and a policing point of view.
7. Finally, we feel that this would set a precedent that would be contradictory to the most recent licensing Statement and to 4 of the 5 licensing objectives: preventing crime and



disorder, securing public safety, preventing public nuisance and protecting and improving public health.

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