

Date 25th May 2017
Enquiries to 01224 557047
Our Ref 20171055
Email: grampian.phalcohollicensing@nhs.net

Ms Arlene Dunbar
Team Lead
Legal and Democratic Services
Corporate Governance
Aberdeen City Council
Business Hub 6, Level 1 South,
Marischal College, Broad Street
Aberdeen AB10 1AB

Dear Ms Dunbar

**Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 – Application for a variation to a Premises Licence
Revolution, 25 Belmont Street, Aberdeen, AB10 1JS**

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

Protecting and Improving Public Health.

The premises propose to change the terminal hour for consumption on the premises on a Friday and a Saturday to 02:00 hours.

The Aberdeen City Licensing Board Statement of Licensing Policy, 2013-2016 states at Section 20.7, paragraph 4:

“Premises in the City that provide significant entertainment (to the satisfaction of the Board) may apply and be granted later hours..” “The Board regards significant entertainment to be entertainment which is of such a nature to be the principal attraction for patrons to attend the premises and where alcohol is served to patrons only as an ancillary accompaniment to their attendance and/or participation in the entertainment provided. The Board considers in these cases that the entertainment is the principal reason for patrons attending the licensed premises and that the consumption of alcohol would therefore be ancillary to such entertainment.”

I am not aware that this application has identified sufficient activity that would indicate “significant entertainment”. There is no plan to provide a dance facility and the only additional feature I can identify is to provide patrons with a further hour in which to consume alcohol. The restricting of trading hours for on-sales licences premises has been

found to limit the availability of alcohol after midnight. Policy measures targeting the physical availability of alcohol are one of the most effective ways to reduce alcohol-related harm¹.

Since 1997, a five fold increase in the rates of hospital stays as a result of the harmful use of alcohol has been recorded for Aberdeen City Council residents. This category includes conditions such as alcohol induced irritation of the stomach, chronic disease of the heart muscle due to alcohol, mental and behavioural disorder that occur as a result of alcohol (such as depression, anxiety etc). Over this time period, there has been a steady increase in the number of admissions due to alcoholic liver disease.

The Scottish Public Health Observatory (ScotPHO) Health & Wellbeing Profiles for Aberdeen City identify Alcohol related hospital stays as being “statistically significantly “worse” than the National average².

I would therefore request that the application for an extension to the terminal hour of these premises is refused.

For these reasons, and in terms of Section 22(1) (a) of the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005, the Public Health Directorate of NHS Grampian submits this letter of objection as the granting of the application would be inconsistent with one or more of the licensing objectives, namely Protecting and Improving Public Health.

Yours sincerely

Dr Tara Shivaji
Consultant in Public Health

Heather Wilson
Health Improvement Officer (Alcohol & Drugs)

¹ http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/148114/1/9789241564854_eng.pdf

² <https://scotpho.nhsnss.scot.nhs.uk/scotpho/homeAction.do>