

Tel: [REDACTED]
Fax: [REDACTED]

30th September 2013

Peter Davenport
Principal Licensing Officer
City of London
PO Box 270
Guildhall
London
EC2P 2EJ

Dear Mr Davenport,

Peony, 46 Gresham Street, London, EC2V 7AY
Variation – Hours and Conditions

Police object to the variation as we believe it could undermine the Crime Prevention Objective. The potential for Crime and Disorder and Public nuisance is significant with the anticipated business plan.

From the Crime & Disorder section, there is a clear statement of intention to use the venue for Promoted Events. Our concern that the venue moves from daytime restaurant business to one which might reasonably be described as a Night Club is a leap too far.

The venue does not lend itself well to that type of enterprise. The floor space is very small and the potential for unrest increases in these circumstances. The small pavement will cause queue problems. The search requirement will introduce delays and increase the potential for customer unrest and associated disorder, notwithstanding the fact that there is little or no room to search in any case.

It is difficult to envisage a situation where restaurateurs can successfully move to a position of nightclub owners; especially in light of the type and size of the premises. Dancing normally features at Promoted Events and again the size of the venue (even with alterations) suggests that patron close proximity with movement is another recipe for disquiet.

A suggested condition to be applied to the licence that would assist in promoting the licensing objectives: No Promoted Events may be held on the premises. " A promoted event is an event involving music and/or dancing where the musical entertainment is provided at any time by a disc jockey or disc jockeys one or some of whom are not employees of the licensee (premises licence holder) and/or the event is (independent of the licensee) promoted to the general public"

I refer now to sections E, F, G and H and the non standard timings relating to New Years Eve. The traditional position of New Years Eve (in the City of London) has moved on from being merely an annual celebration to its current position of a major public order event for police, with all the planning and resourcing that entails. As any additional premises requirements can be satisfied with the use of a Temporary Event Notice, which determines the timings and nature of any event/extension to normal trading;

***A suggested alteration that would assist in promoting the above objectives:
Delete the phrase 'The terminal hour on New Years Eve shall be the start of hours for licensable activities on New Years Day' from sections E, F, G and H***

Yours sincerely,

