

London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority runs the London Fire Brigade

Date 6 December 2016
Our Ref 00-010548
Your Ref Maddison Rooftop Restaurantreview of Licence

Peter Davenport
Senior Licensing Manager
Markets and Consumer Protection
PO Box 270
Guildhall
London Fire Brigade EC2P 2EJ

Dear Sir/Madam

## **LICENSING ACT 2003**

Premises: Maddison Rooftop Restaurant, 1 New Change London EC4M 9AF

With reference to the premises licence review notification received from City of London Police Inspector Simon Douglas on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2016, concerning the above premises, I can advise that **the Fire Authority will make a representation** to the licensing committee about the Public Safety objective.

The items that are of concern to this authority are detailed on the attached statement of Fire Safety Inspecting Officer Nigel Bedford and contain a detailed history of the occupier of the premises known as Maddison 1 New change.

Any queries regarding this letter should be addressed to the person named below. If you are dissatisfied in any way with the response given, please ask to speak to the Team Leader quoting our reference.

Yours faithfully,

for Assistant Commissioner (Fire Safety)

Directorate of Operations FSR-AdminSupport@london-fire.gov.uk

Reply to Nigel Bedford

## LONDON FIRE AND EMERGENCY PLANNING AUTHORITY

STATEMENT OF WITNESS (Criminal Justice Act 1967, Section 9, Magistrates' Court Act 1980, Section 102; Magistrates' Courts Rules 1984, Rule 70)

## STATEMENT OF WITNESS

Statement of:

NIGEL HAINES BEDFORD

Age if under 18 (if over 18 insert "over 18"): Over 18

Profession or Occupation of Witness: FIRE SAFETY INSPECTING OFFICER

Address: London Fire Brigade Headquarters . 169 Union Street London SE1 0LL

This statement consisting of 3 page(s), signed by me, is true to the best of my knowledge and belief, and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.
Signature of Witness:
Signature Witnessed by:
Dated:

- 1. I NIGEL HAINES BEDFORD, am a Fire Safety Inspecting Officer for the LONDON FIORE BRIGADE. I am attached to the North East Area Fire Safety team . I was previously employed as an operational Fire fighter and served at a variety of stations, over a twenty three year period, in a variety of job roles . I re joined the London Fire Brigade in 2007, when I started my current placement as a fire safety inspecting officer, I have been on numerous training courses and I am currently trained to level four Fire Safety certificate by the Fire Protection Association .
- 2. The fire authority enforce using the legislation Regulatory (Fire Safety) order 2005
- 3. I have been asked to provide a statement of the LONDON FIRE BRIGADES dealings with the premises known as MADDISON at 1 NEW CHANGE LONDON EC4M 9AF LFB file number 00-010548.
- 4. The company called D and D took over the premises early 2014 after the previous company were placed in administration, all the fire safety records had been removed from the premises by the administrator's. No fire safety manuals or management plans were in place for the premises at the time of an inspection on 30th May 2014 .
- 5. During the inspection of 30th May 2014 various deficiencies were noted that resulted in an Enforcement notice being issued to rectify the deficiencies with a three month time limit to get the works carried out. The defects included ,maintenance of the means of escape from the rear of the restaurant area where the floor was damaged and lifting , the serving of drinks from the escape rout area where tables were being used for dispensing drinks at busy times , storage in the means of escape rout which included about 100 chairs and rubbish bags ,fire doors not closing or working correctly .

Signature :	Signature Witnessed by

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- 6. The premises was again inspected on 7th August 2014 and all issues previously highlighted had been rectified and audit trail of works carried out was available for inspection.
- 7. The premises has been inspected as part of the LONDON FIRE BRIGADE peak activity schedule these are carried out once per year unless concerns or a fire occurs in the premises.
- 8. On 11th April 2016 a peak activity inspection was carried out due to concerns being bought to the attention of the fire authority about a means of escape from the roof terrace area not being managed correctly with no key being available to open a fire door . I inspected the fire door at this time , a key was available and an electronic override had also been fitted to the door to allow the door to be opened in an emergency.
- 9. No defects were found on this inspection and discussions with D and D management at the time resolved the issue about the secondary means of escape from the roof terrace.
- 10. On the 4th May 2016 a small fire had occurred in electrical equipment on the roof area that was extinguished by a member of staff using a portable fire extinguisher .The LONDON FIRE BRIGADE were not called to the incident , I am unsure from records of how we were informed about this incident .
- 11. Fire safety inspecting officer ROBERT HAWTIN attended and gave advice about the electrical installation, as well as completing a satisfactory audit at the time.
- 12. On the 1st December 2016 at 16;00 hrs I was accompanied by PC DANIEL WHITE of the CITY POLICE LICENSCING TEAM we attended the MADDISON roof terrace area and carried out a peak activity inspection in the run up to the CRISTMAS.
- 13. I introduced my self to the front desk and explained the purpose of my inspection and exhibited my warrant card for inspection , the duty manager was called over who I believe was called MR GREG BOTELHO .
- 14. I inspected the rear means of escape route from the main restaurant , a few minor issues were discussed with the manager concerning a door not locked shut and storage of coats and hand bags of customers in the escape route .This was resolved after discussion with the duty manager . I was then invited to question any member of staff in the kitchen about fire safety
- 15. I proceeded to ask a member of kitchen staff what he would do if the deep fat fryer was alight to which he replied "Nothing I would just leave the kitchen " he appeared to be laughing and joking not taking my question seriously.
- 16. The manager told the employee this is serious "what would you do!" The member of staff said he would leave again, I prompted the staff member by asking how would you raise the alarm, he laughed and said tell the manager.
- 17. I asked what the device on the wall was for (I was pointing at a suppression system that discharges an extinguishing agent over the deep fat fryers to extinguish a fire).
- 18. The staff member was not sure and thought that the device raised the alarm.
- 19. I ended the discussion, the manager assured me that at the end of the shift all staff would be retrained again in fire safety and how to raise the alarm and extinguish a small fire in the kitchen by use of the suppression system.

Signature:

Signature Witnessed by:

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- 20. The impression that I got of the staff was that they did not respect the manager and were treating the inspection and questioning as a joke.
- 21. The manager did apologise about the staff member, we carried on our inspection and discussed other safety issues concerning the newly installed outside Christmas scene furniture and its suitability for the outside roof terrace area.
- 22. The manager again assured me that the fire safety training would be going ahead tonight after we left , and I left the premises at 16:30 hours

Signature:

Signature Witnessed by: