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City Of London Licensing Department PO Box 230 Guildhall London EC1V 2 EJ The London Fire Commissioner is the fire and rescue authority for London

Date 7 June 2018 Our Ref 00-0000

Dear Sir/Madam

## **LICENSING ACT 2003**

## Premises: Gremio de London Limited -26A Savage gardens London EC3N 2AR LN/200506202

The London Fire Commissioner (the Commissioner) is the fire and rescue authority for London. The Commissioner is responsible for enforcing the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 (The Order) in London.

With reference to the review of licence **the Commissioner wants to make a representation** to the Licensing Authority in relation to this application on grounds of Public Safety .

The applicant has been informed that the Commissioner will be making a representation to the Licensing Authority.

The items that are of concern to the Commissioner are detailed on the attached schedule.

- The premises is accessed via a set of double doors in to a lobby area then ascends a staircase and turns in to a club type area- low ceilings due to it being a mezzanine area.
- The premises is built inside a railway arch .There are two sets of fire doors at the rear both leading on to a single stair that has irregular stair treads risers and goings.
- Restricted secondary escape route on to a raised terrace area with only a 600 wide access leading to a staircase that leads down and turns towards the front of the premises. ( information from submitted plans) The new external terrace area has temporary support Acro props that support the main structure these are intruding in to the escape route.
- The escape route has been included in the licensable area and this area is not a sterile area, with extract cooking ducting that is not protected as well as numerous air condition units that are not protected and some are open .See yellow Guide places of entertainment section C3 Recommendations are set out C3.01, c3.02 and C3.03, the travel distance for this second escape route is over 18 m to a final place of safety even though two directions of travel have been provided they merge before final exit.`

- The escape passage way then proceeds towards the initial entrance lobby where the two flows meet again .
- The secondary escape route is **not** under the sole control of the one tenant on the top floor ,(two other doors one of which is a fire escape door from Ladbroke , the other is an access door from the Bavarian Beer House who often have the door open in to the escape passageway and do store items outside there back door.)
- I have inspected the ground floor premises in the past and witnessed the poor state of the escape route .
- The passage way is cluttered with air conditioning units and other equipment, also quite dark with trip hazards etc.
- The premises also have a large outside area that is going to be decked out ,its only one meter from residential premises, the decking in this location will present a fire hazard within the light well of the premises and is in close proximity to residential premises , this area will no doubt be used as a smoking area and as such no procedure or management of the outside area has been mentioned in the application. Several; fire have occurred within the London Fire Brigade area as a result of discarded smoking materials under decked areas.
- I have discounted the largest fire doors and this leaves the single escape route which if made slightly wider could provide escape for 220 persons on a 1050 wide escape route however. The narrowing of the escape route and more importantly the merging escape routes the London Fire Brigade I believe the figure should be a lot less. ( when it was a restaurant they only had around 80 people in the premises )
- In using the yellow guide "Places of entertainment" table 6 refers to escape routes and minimum widths, after the section stating ground floor premises, it goes on to say all other premises Not less than two exits should be provided each 1050 mm and a safe capacity is recommended as 150. (this would also include staff)

Please advise me, at your earliest convenience, of the date and time of the Licensing Committee Hearing.

Should these matters be resolved to the satisfaction of this Commissioner at least 2 days prior to the Licensing Committee Hearing the representation will be withdrawn.

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