From:
To:
Subject: MOP Representation 1
Date: 27 September 2022 12:11:56

## THIS IS AN EXTERNAL EMAIL

To whom it may concern

I am writing to comment on the licence application for 7-9 St Bride's Street EC4A 4AS (the "Premises") as amended.

I live in Sovereign House, with my family, in a flat directly above the applicant's Premises. The applicant's ceilings are my floors. Over the years we have experienced Pizza Express and also Omninos on the Premises. I understand that the previous licence for the Premises was for service of food and drink until 10pm, so a terminal hour of midnight is a material change.

I **object** to the terminal hour of midnight, 7 days a week. The Corporation of London Statement of Licensing Policy 2022 ("Licensing Policy") states that residents have a reasonable expectation that their sleep will not be unduly disturbed between 11pm and 7am. Granting any licence past a terminal hour of 11pm will give rise to a public nuisance and is not in line with the Licensing Policy.

I **object** to the licence being granted for 7 days a week. Previous tenants of the Premises have not been open on Sundays. I note that the City of London Distillery is not open on a Sunday and other establishments close earlier. The Premises is within the Fleet Street Conservation Area and being open on a Sunday until midnight does not feel appropriate for the special historic and ceremonial nature of the area.

I **object** to service of alcohol without a meal having to be purchased. Stating that substantial food is available when alcohol is being served, is clearly not that same. Serving alcohol without food, is changing the Premises from a restaurant to a bar. This increases the likelihood of any public nuisance.

## **PUBLIC NUISANCE**

I have lived in Sovereign House for over 19 years and this is how I believe public nuisance will arise, should a licence with a terminal hour of midnight be granted, seven days a week, without a requirement for food to be served with alcohol:

- 1. Dispersal of 100 patrons at midnight (or likely around 12.30am when drinks have been finished) will be difficult given seating area on St Bride's Street. Patrons will spill out and cause a public nuisance, namely lots of noise, antisocial behaviour, littering and smoking. I note that most of the bedrooms on Sovereign House face St Brides Street and any additional noise, disturbance and cigarette smoke is unwelcome especially this late.
- 2. Clearing up after 100 patrons in a restaurant takes time and is noisy- the clearing up phase in Omninos (the previous tenant) was even noisier than the music played for patrons. The banging, vibrations, disposing of glass and music played after hours caused a huge amount of disturbance to me and my school aged children before and after 11pm. Omninos

stopped serving food and alcohol at 10pm but the clearing up phase lasted usually until midnight or 1am. A terminal hour of midnight would suggest to me that clearing up would not finish until 1 or 2am which is unacceptably late.

3. Any music played at all after 11pm will give rise to an unacceptable public nuisance. Sovereign House has 15 flats with residents who work genuinely long hours both at home, at school and in the City and as the Policy states we have a reasonable expectation that our sleep is not unduly disturbed between 11pm and 7am. As it is, any music played will come straight through the Premises ceilings and into my home but after 11pm it is completely unacceptable with school aged children trying to sleep. In my experience of Omnino's (the previous tenant) travelled right into my flat and regularly required me to request the music to be turned down. We already have triple glazing and white noise machines but in the past this has not proven effective enough for our sleep not to be disturbed regularly. Clearly the later this happens, the worse the nuisance. There does not appear to be an acoustic report available demonstrating there will be no noise breakout from the Premises (paragraph 93 of the Policy).

## **COND TIONS**

I do not believe this licence should be granted, however, if it is I would ask that these conditions are considered:

- 1. terminal hour of a maximum of 11pm six days a week (paragraph 29 of the Policy);
- 2. no Sunday opening;
- 3. Alcohol shall only be sold to a person sitting down eating a meal and for consumption with that meal (MC26);
- 4. no consumption of drinks to be permitted outside the premises (MC17);
- 5. no sales of alcohol for consumption off the premises (MC28);
- effective sound proofing must be fitted and any noise generated by amplified music should be controlled by a noise limiting device; (paragraph 93 and 94 of the Policy);
- 7. speakers for the music system, must be fitted properly in locations least likely to allow vibrations and noise to travel up to Sovereign House and the DJ and their equipment must be in a location least likely to cause nuisance to Sovereign House (MC14);
- 8. all doors and windows to be kept closed at all times save for entry or exit (MC13);
- 9. no promoted events allowed (MCO2); and
- 10. licence holder shall make a contact telephone number available to nearby residents to be used in

the event of complaints arising (MC19).

Thank you for taking this into consideration.

Yours faithfully Susannah Bond

Sent from Outlook