

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: MOP - Representation 3
Date: 10 October 2022 21:34:36

THIS IS AN EXTERNAL EMAIL

Dear Sirs,

For almost 25 years I have been the owner of [REDACTED] in Sovereign House above the proposed entertainment venue.

I am writing to object to the Licence Application submitted by Sisi's for 7-9 St Bride Street.

These premises are unsuitable for the use are outlined by the applicant since in essence they are seeking to establish an operation as close as possible to the model of a nightclub with the maximum amount of music they can obtain permission for, the latest hours for serving alcohol they can obtain permission for etc et cetera. The commercial logic is easily understood and in a suitable location there might be no cause for objection but it is entirely inappropriate for the base of a residential building.

It's impossible to imagine how these numbers might be catered for in this type of premises without causing considerable disturbance to residents and the local population through noise pollution, customers milling around outside to smoke and chat, and most significantly after closing time. To an extent these were all issues with the previous use of the building as a restaurant despite it operating within much more restrained parameters than those currently being proposed and it would appear inevitable that these problems would be multiplied severalfold.

My experience as both a resident and someone who socialises in the City is positive in that serious antisocial behaviour is very rare and the variety of venues to socialise is also a great asset for residents who are of course overwhelmingly outnumbered by those visiting the area, primarily to work. Nevertheless, concentrations of low-level antisocial behaviour in particular spots can make life unpleasant for residents and a nightclub style venue in a residential building is highly likely to fall into that category in my considered opinion. Although most "headline" hazards such as the noise generated from within and in the area immediately surrounding are fairly obvious there are numerous other highly probable risks of antisocial behaviour which may sound petty but nevertheless detract from residents' quality of life in ways which might not be considered reasonable expectations even to those of us who choose to live at the heart of a major city. A pertinent example is that the recessed entrance to the lobby of our building already stinks most of the time as pretty much the only (slightly) secluded space in the area where far too many choose to relieve themselves after an evening out – judging by the timings perhaps especially those who have lingered for a chat, a smoke, or to finish a final "takeaway" pint in a plastic glass – before taking a tube or bus home. Given that when most pubs have closed people who have been drinking have no access to public conveniences (the City appears to have no late evening provision at all for the tens of thousands socialising as far as I'm aware) this is understandable and unsurprising whilst also being very unwelcome and very unpleasant. Bringing the type of establishment proposed to the foot of our building will inevitably exacerbate this particular problem as well as creating the disturbance, noise pollution and potentially small crowds milling around when it closes.

It's difficult to envisage what restrictions/licence conditions to the proposal could ameliorate the operation of the establishment to bring it within parameters which it might

be reasonable to expect residents to tolerate.

Bearing in mind the inevitable consequences of what is effectively a significant change of use I would urge you to reject the application for this type of venue in this location and trust that the applicants will take the trouble to find more suitable premises in the City for their purposes which would almost certainly be in a building which is not primarily residential.

Yours faithfully,

Mark Hurren