

From: [Audrey Williams](#)
To: [M&CP - Licensing](#)
Cc: [AMW](#)
Subject: Application by The University of Chicago Booth School of Business Objection
Date: 24 November 2022 11:51:01

THIS IS AN EXTERNAL EMAIL

Dear Licensing Team

In respect of: The University of Chicago Booth School of Business - Licensing Application

I am a resident within the Bart's Square development, EC1A 7BF ("the Square").

The purpose of this email communication is to raise strong objection to the application which has been made by Chicago Booth. This is an extensive application (both for alcohol and entertainment), for what I regard as excessive times (until 3 in the morning), which I urge you to reject.

The premises operated by Chicago Booth at One Bartholomew Close, Bart's Square EC1A 7BL is part of an office environment. It was leased i (I assume) in accordance with various covenants including planning and on the basis that Chicago Booth is an educational institution, thus a suitable tenant. On that basis, it is hard to conceive why this premises and the University now requires a licence to provide music and other entertainment, with the serving of alcohol, 7 days per week until 3 am every day. This surely risks changing completely the nature of the operations in that location with serious consequences for the Square.

St Barts and the surrounding Smithfield area, already has local bars and restaurants as well as local venues for entertainment and these existing establishments should be supported rather than allowing their business to be diverted. In addition, these existing establishments are run professionally for entertainment purposes and managed accordingly (see further below).

Chicago Booth can make use to those local establishments for events, in venues which are in more suitable areas in the City - for example, around Smithfield, rather than in an area/squares which have a heavy residential population and indeed hospital patients in the case of the Hospital square and buildings which are close by.

The application, if granted, will have a serious, detrimental impact on St Barts' Square itself (and potentially the beautiful square in St Barts' Hospital which is easy to access from the Square).

The noise levels are already problematic in the Square, and carry across significantly in this space due to the Square being enclosed by the buildings:

- Butchers' Hall is already located in the square. We accept that it was of course a preexisting guild and that guilds in the City host receptions occasionally. Whenever events are held in Butchers' Hall, the music blasts out and attendees create a lot of noise especially when leaving after an event when the area is quiet; I am concerned about adding to that noise. The same can be said of the existing establishments where licences to provide outdoor seating has already been granted e.g., Stem & Ginger. These at least have an earlier and more civilized time by which they must

close.

- Middlesex Passage and the Square it to which the Passage gives access behind St Barts' Square, is a public right of way which cannot be closed for example overnight. When people walk through that area at night, the noise carries very easily and is amplified because of the surrounding buildings and tunnel effect. As a result, those walking through (often worse when under the influence of alcohol and in groups) disturb a significant number of residents and all apartments/apartment blocks on either side of the Passage.
- In addition, the type of events going into the early morning (live music, late night films, plays) with alcohol hosted by a University, will not be suitably managed for example, by professional licensees, with doormen and security. There is a very high risk of damage and mess to the area and the squares (especially given the consumption of alcohol that will be permitted and not controlled by professional bar staff).

I urge you to reject this application on the grounds of that it will have a serious adverse impact on the area and the peaceful enjoyment of others particularly residents who have formed a fundamental part of the population around whom the Square has been designed.

Yours Sincerely

Audrey Williams