

12 MAR 2020

Representation in relation to Review of Premises Licences for 18A Sheep Street, Northampton, NN1 2LU and 18B Sheep Street, Northampton, NN1 2LU

I am writing in relation to the Review of the two Premises Licences at 18A Sheep Street, Northampton, NN1 2LU and 18B Sheep Street, Northampton, NN1 2LU and would like to put forward my representations as an interested party.

My name is [REDACTED] and I am the freeholder of the two above mentioned properties. The properties have been let out by way of a Lease to a third party and whilst I do not have any link or relationship with the business, which is run from the two properties, as you will appreciate I do have an interest in the property.

I have let out the properties on a leasehold basis and this has only been possible due to having a Premises Licences in place. In the event that the Premises Licences are revoked, then the value of the property will diminish and potentially lead to an empty property which will become attractive to undesirables congregating around it.

As the landlord of the property, whilst I am not the Premises Licences holder, I do wish to assist all responsible authorities and ensure that the Licencing Objectives are promoted. In this particular case I wish to work with the responsible authorities and ensure that in particular, in this example, the objective of Prevention of Crime and Disorder is upheld.

Circumstances surrounding the events of 12th December 2019

I have discussed the matter with those who occupy the properties and run the business and have been provided with the following explanations:

1. Malaysian female – I have been informed that one of the members of staff shares a residential property with this individual and she attended the premises to discuss an issue with them about the residential property, which they share, from the particular member of staff (I think this may be related to an issue with the electricity at their place of residence).
2. The Albanian male – I am told is one of many who congregate outside the rear of the restaurant along with other rough sleepers. The chef sometimes provides left over food to these rough sleepers. On this occasion the chef provided [REDACTED] individual with some food, who entered the premises to eat the food provided to [REDACTED]

The above explanations have been provided to me by those who occupy the premises and run the business.

I have also been informed (but cannot verify this) that both of these individuals were released immediately by the Home Office Officers on the same evening. I also understand that to date no further action has been taken in relation to these and the occupant of the premises has not received any sanctions from the Home Office in relation to this.

Intention to Proceed Forward

I am currently in the process of granting a new lease for 18A and 18B Sheep Street to [REDACTED]. I am hopeful that the lease will be finalised and entered into very shortly.

I have also been assured that the new tenant will imminently either be applying for a new licence or to transfer the current licences and change the DPS to themselves in the first instance, with a view to vary the licences in due course.

At the time of sending this Representation, I am not aware of whether the tenant will be making their applications by themselves or if they will be obtaining specific independent licencing advice in relation to this.

I can confirm that other than a Landlord and Tenant relationship, there is no other link between myself and [REDACTED]. I can also confirm that there is no relationship, business or otherwise, between the new tenants and Alex Sefoll.

In the unlikely event that the new tenant is not successful, then I would request the Licencing Authority to ensure that the Premises Licences are not revoked and in an effort to work with all the responsible authorities, I am willing to take back control of the property personally and will be willing to consider any conditions to be placed on the Licence providing they are practicable and workable, and take full responsibility for any activities at the property until such a time that a suitable tenant can be found.

I hope that you will put some weight onto my representations and would urge that rather than revoke the Premises Licences, the Licencing Authority either takes no further action, or, imposes conditions which are practicable and workable to ensure that the premises can continue to run as a restaurant and not put the properties at risk of becoming empty and potential anti-social behaviour hot spots.

I am also very concerned that if the Premises Licences are revoked and the property cannot be re-let to another business, then this property will become another empty property not just within the parade of already empty units in Sheep Street, but also within a Town Centre that is already suffering from lack of business occupancy and an already high number of empty units. I do not wish for this property to be added onto that list.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Dated:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]