Memo To: Licensing  

At: Community Safety

From: Michael Anderson

Date: 02 August 2018

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Reference: Prem2148 – Presco Food & Wine

Subject: Application for a Premises Licence, Prem2148 - Presco Food & Wine, 67 Stockwell Road, London, SW9 9PY

The Community Safety Team, a responsible authority for the purpose of the Licensing Act 2003, hereby makes an representation to an application pertaining to the granting of a new premises Licence for Presco Food & Wine, 67 Stockwell Road, London, SW9 9PY for the Supply of Alcohol and Opening Times 06:00hrs-03:00 hrs. Monday to Sunday.

This representation is made on the grounds of the Prevention of Public Nuisance, Prevention of crime and disorder and Protection of children from harm as the Community Safety Team is of the opinion that the proposed hours for licensable activities is likely to result in public nuisance and that the Applicant (Sohrab Sherafghani) a known associate of persons involved in Presco Food & Wine when it's licence was revoked.

The Community Safety Team feels that granting the application as it currently stands will have a negative impact on the residents who live in the vicinity to this premises in terms of noise and anti-social behaviour in the form of attaching drug use, street drinking, non-compliance with conditions and employing individuals who do not have right to work in the UK.

The Community Safety Team are also mindful of previous concerns, raised by neighbouring residents relating to noise and disturbance caused by patrons of the premises and is not convinced (nor have the confidence) that the applicant / management team will not operate this premises in a community minded way, nor adhere to conditions set with the licence nor the licencing objectives.

Summary
The Lambeth Community Safety Area Team ask:

1. A change of applicant, as we have not confidence that the applicant is not connected with previous management / licensees of Presco Food & Wine, 67 Stockwell Road, London, SW9 9PY during or prior to the license being revoked.
2. The proposed hours for licensable activities to be amended to Monday to Sunday 10:30hrs-23:00hrs.
3. The premises is required to employed ‘Proof of Age’ for any sale that takes place where there is suspicion that the customer may be under 25 (Challenge 25). The following are the only forms of identification that will be accepted by the shop staff: -
   a. A photo driving licence.
   b. A valid passport
   c. A PASS proof of age card.
4. The Premises Licence Holder will work with People Force International, or similar agency and conduct checks on staff on the Home Office website to verify identification, visas and right to work documentation. Records will be kept and copies of any such documentation will be kept at the premises and will be made available to Police, Immigration, or Council Officers on request.

5. All documents for members of staff will be retained at the premises for a period of 12 months post termination of employment, at the premises and will be made available to Police, Immigration, or Council Officers on request.

6. All beers, ales, lagers and ciders and anything similar that are sold/ supplied in a can to be sold in packs of four (4) minimum at all times.

7. There will be no sales/ supplies of beers, ales, lagers or ciders or anything similar of 6% ABV or above.

8. There shall be no sale of cider in vessels over 1 litre.

9. The premises shall prominently display signage informing customers that I.D is required for sales of alcohol and tobacco.

10. Staff to be trained with regards to intoxication, CCTV (operation of) and license conditions. Refresher training to be conducted every quarterly.

11. A staff member from the premise who is conversant with the operation of the CCTV system must be on the premises at all times that the venue is open to the public. This staff member must immediately be able to show police or local authority officer’s contemporaneous and recent data or footage on request.

12. The Premises are to use all reasonable efforts to provide police and local authority officers with recordings from the CCTV system on request (e.g. by supplying recordings on DVD, CD, tape etc. and any software needed to play the footage if necessary)

Yours faithfully

Michael Anderson
Senior Community Safety Area Officer
Dear Peter,

I am glad to see the sale of alcohol is agreed (reduced from 3am) to 10:00 - 23:00 - Monday – Sunday

However my concerns are that this premises has a chequered history of offences, illicit stock, street drinking/drug use, non-compliance with conditions and illegal workers, after years of problems finally resulting in the revocation of the alcohol licence. The premises is on a main road, densely populated and in a sensitive area of Lambeth. I do not want to see more problems, and am concerned about harm in the future.

The situation at the moment is that there is a new application before me. Bearing the history in mind there is no evidence or information that the new applicant is not linked with the previous management? Information – for example that the business has been sold and there is a ‘new broom’ new people in place so to speak? That the applicant is experienced in managing off licensed premises? That the applicant has no connections with previous management, PLH, DPS, Staff? etc. The applicant lives in Harrow and appears to be part of a Health and Safety training company, I cannot see the connection with a Licensed Premises in Lambeth. He also does not disclose on his application (Page 9) which Licensing Authority issued his personal licence. He does mention free portable (sic) water, this is not normally a condition for an off licence premises? I would have thought that the applicant would/should have known that.

I believe if the new applicant has no connections whatsoever with the previous management, then my attitude may change however in the absence of any information or evidence I believe the onus is upon the applicant to put his case before the Committee, where questions maybe asked. I will give a full summary of all the previous incidents and offences to the Committee. Lambeth do not want to be put in the position again of having a problematic licensed premises, and using scarce resources having enforcement visits, reports, reviews, appeals etc. again and again. I have attached some proposed conditions, the applicant may wish to consider, however I understand that this premises was leased to Mr Abdul Ghafar, and was then previously sub-let. Is the Landlord of this premises aware of this application? If Mr Ghafar is still the lease holder then there is a clear connection with the previous Management, and I ask that this application is refused.

Thank you,

Bernard Conny
Trading Standards Officer
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Protection of Children from Harm

1. The premises shall operate a proof of age scheme (minimum Challenge 25). Under such scheme the only forms of acceptable identification will be photographic identification cards, such as driving licences, passports or proof of age cards bearing the “PASS” mark hologram.

This list of approved identification may be amended or revised from time to time in accordance with guidance issued by the Secretary of State or with the Police and Lambeth Council.

2. Signage advertising the aforementioned proof of age scheme shall be prominently displayed throughout the premises with a particular emphasis on the alcohol display area and checkout locations.

3. All staff members engaged, or to be engage, in selling alcohol on the premises shall receive full training pertinent to the Licensing Act, specifically in regard age-restricted sales, and the refusal of sales to persons believed to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

Induction training must be completed prior to any sales being made by an individual and company refresher training shall be provided at least every six months.

All such training is to be fully documented and signed by not only the employee but the person delivering the training. Training records shall be kept at the premises and made available upon request to either Police Officers or an authorised Officers of Lambeth Council.

4. An incident log or logs shall be maintained and kept at the premises; the logs shall record the following:
   - Crimes reported
   - Complaints received
   - Incidents of disorder
   - Faults with the CCTV system
   - Alcohol refusals
   - Visits from relevant authorities or emergency services

   Such log/s shall be available to a Police Officer or Officer of Lambeth Council upon request.

Prevention of Crime and Disorder

5. The Premises Licence Holder shall install and maintain a comprehensive CCTV system. The system shall cover all entry and exit points from the premises and be capable of allowing the Police to be able to performing frontal recognition of customers who enter the premises. Images recorded shall be retained for a minimum of 31 days and shall be both date and time stamped.
Recordings shall be made available upon request to the Police or an Officer of Lambeth Council.

The Premises Licence Holder shall ensure that at all times when the premises are open there is a staff member working in store who is conversant with the CCTV system.

6. The premises shall not sell ales, beer, lager or cider or similar above 6.5% abv (alcohol by volume).

7. Any cans or bottles of ales, beers, lagers, cider or similar will be sold in a minimum of 4.

8. There will be no sales of bottles of “white cider” with an ABV of 6.5% or higher, from the premises.

9. No paper or plastic cups will be kept behind the counter, and they are not to be sold or given away with alcohol.

10. The Licence Holder will join the Lambeth Business Crime Reduction Partnership

11. The Premises Licence Holder will work with People Force International, or similar agency and carry out checks on the Home Office website to verify identification, visa and right to work documentation.

12. No new member of staff will be able to work at the premises (including any trial period) unless they have provided satisfactory proof of identification and right to work.

13. All documents for members of staff will be retained for a period of 12 months post termination of employment and will be made available to Police, Immigration, or Council Officers on request.

Prevention of Public Nuisance

14. The premises shall display signage which informs customers of the presence of the CCTV system and that recording is in operation.

15. No open vessels containing alcohol shall be allowed off the premises.

Public Safety

16. The premises shall have a written fire risk assessment, with firefighting equipment regularly serviced and in date.