



## **Licensing Consultancy and Assessment**

**Sophisticats – 5 - 7 Brewer St, London W1F 0RF**

**Author:** Ian Smith MSyl – Director Shield Associates

**For:** Victoria Shapiro - Capital Real Estate Partners LLP

### **1. Introduction**

1.1. I retired from the Metropolitan Police Service as a Detective Superintendent in October 2013 after having completed 30 years exemplary service. I have extensive experience in policing across many challenging London boroughs including Lambeth, Southwark, Croydon and latterly Kingston-Upon-Thames. I am now employed as a Director of a security consultancy company called Shield Associates.

1.2. Shield Associates are a company formed by former senior Metropolitan police officers in 2013. The three Directors all served a minimum of 30 years and were at different times responsible for policing, liaison, partnership working and compliance in relation to licensed premises in the Boroughs of Westminster, Southwark, Sutton, and Kingston-upon-Thames as well as being involved in the planning and coordination of licensing initiatives and compliance strategies across the Metropolitan Police area.

1.3. Shield Associates Directors all served in senior positions within the Metropolitan Police, Ian Smith – Detective Superintendent and Borough Commander, Gary Taylor – Superintendent; Pan-London Licensing and TfL policing lead, and David Gair – Chief Inspector; Public Order and Licensing specialist. All three Directors were responsible for crime and disorder reduction, community confidence, public satisfaction and

licensing related issues and enforcement with specific dedicated licensing teams under their command.

1.4. As part of our licensing response, we undertook problem solving, partnership working and compliance regimes to ensure the safety and security of patrons, staff and the local community in relation to NTE licensed premises, in particular large night-clubs and venues that remained open beyond 0200hrs. This included late-night refreshment houses, liaison with public transport providers and licensed mini-cab activities as part of the larger problem-solving initiatives.

1.5. During my police service I was responsible for overseeing policing operations including crime prevention strategies and enforcement. I was the Deputy Borough Commander at Southwark where I was responsible for implementing crime and disorder strategies across the borough, which saw unprecedented reductions in serious violence and anti-social behaviour. In 2011 I was commended for leading the investigation response into the crimes committed following the London wide disorders.

1.6. My last post in the Metropolitan Police Service was as the Borough Commander for Kingston–Upon–Thames. I was responsible and accountable for all police activity including all licensing operations within the night-time economy. I developed numerous strategies tackling crime, anti -social behaviour and public safety. In my role I had to manage and develop working solutions in addressing crime and disorder at a night-time economy venue known as Oceana (now Pryzm), which was a cause for concern as it was ranked 1<sup>st</sup> across all London boroughs for crime and anti – social behaviour being committed at night-time economy venues.

1.7. The working solutions and activities I put in place saw a 25% reduction in crime at ‘Oceana’, which had a knock-on effect against all crime within Kingston–Upon–Thames town centre and the night-time economy.

1.8. Shield Associates also deliver nationally accredited training for owners, DPS, licensees, security companies, bar staff and workers involved with NTE venues around crime reduction, anti-social behaviour and awareness of their responsibilities under the Licensing Act, forensic awareness, drugs awareness, personal safety and

vulnerable persons. Shield Associates Directors are all members of the Institute of Licensing.

1.9. As a company our aim is to provide independent regulatory support to the Licensing trade, offer problem solving and compliance guidance and support the key objectives of the Licensing Act in reviewing working practices, policies, and procedures to ensure:

- The security and safety of those visiting a venue
- The prevention of crime and disorder
- The prevention of public nuisance
- The protection of young and vulnerable people from harm

1.10. As such we have undertaken comprehensive reviews and audits of licensed premises to ensure compliance and responsible management in support of the licensing objectives. We have delivered training to staff at licensed venues, local Pub-Watch schemes, personal licence holders and SIA door security companies.

As a company, we undertake independent reviews of premises when instructed to do so. In doing so we recognise that our duty is to provide an independent, objective report to the licensing committee, bearing in mind the potential impact of the premises and its hours on the licensing objectives.

1.11. All issues identified in our reports are true to the best of our knowledge and experience. They were either witnessed or experienced by us or told to us in good faith. The opinions expressed in this report are honestly held and correct to the best of our judgement. The fee for this report is not conditional on the outcome of the case in anyway whatsoever.

We have not previously been instructed on behalf of the premises licence holder and have never previously been to any of its premises.

1.12. I am aware of the potential impact of the operation of NTE venues on local communities and have provided reports to licensing committees and courts in relation

to a variety of licensing issues on various occasions both as a police officer and as a Director of Shield Associates.

## **2. Instructions to Shield Associates**

2.1. Victoria Shapiro from Capital Real Estate Partners LLP contacted Shield Associates (SA) on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> July 2022 and requested specialist licensing support in relation to a licensing application for a sexual entertainment venue (SEV) located at 3 - 4 Vere Street, London, W1G 0DH. The licensing hearing is due to take place on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> August 2022 at Westminster City Hall, 64 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6QP.

2.2. Victoria Shapiro indicated that her client who had a building near to the proposed SEV had already formally objected to the new site and licence for the SEV.

2.3. SA agreed to deploy two licensing consultants to conduct an environmental visual impact assessment (EVIA) on the two locations. The purpose of the EVIA was to visit, the area of the proposed venue and the existing venue to assess the environments, highlight any potential issues or differences between the locations and considering any risks associated with establishing a new SEV. The locations involved are:

- Sophisticats 5-7 Brewer St, London W1F 0RF
- 3 - 4 Vere Street, London, W1G 0DH

2.4. SA also agreed to conduct two observation deployments on Sophisticats 5-7 Brewer St, London W1F 0RF on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> August 2022 and Friday 5<sup>th</sup> August 2022 between 22.00 hours and 03.00 hours. The purpose of the deployment was to identify and evidence if any, incidents crime, anti-social behaviour and any breaches of the licensing objectives if witnessed and applicable.

2.5. The SA deployment plan was to assess the environment locations within 500 metres of both Sophisticats in Brewer Street and the site of the proposed SEV at 3 – 4 Vere Street. The plan involved an observation on Sophisticats solely on the first night

and on the second night observations on a small distance of Brewer Street which incorporated Sophisticats. This area was identified as Wardour Street, along Brewer Street and up to the Junction of Rupert Street. This observation looked at Sophisticats and any association with the venue in this short geographical location if any.

### **3. Open-source information**

3.1. SA researched Sophisticats venues and information readily available in the public domain, to assist with their deployment.

3.2. SA were aware that a licensing application for Sexual Entertainment Venue at 3 - 4 Vere Street, London, W1G 0DH, (formerly a Lebanese restaurant known as Maroush) had been made on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of December 2021 by the applicant Clarmans Clubs LTD (Registered at Companies house under number 13810956 on 21/12/2021). The director of this company is shown as John Charles Wythe. The licensing hearing date being Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> August 2022 under reference 21/14650/LISEVN.

3.3. The new licence and hours being applied for in Vere Street was for.

- Monday – Saturday – 10.00 hours – 05.00 hours
- Sunday - 10.00 hours – 00.00 hours

3.4. SA were aware that Sophisticats were operating two sites 5-7 Brewer St, London, W1F 0RF and 34 / 38 Eversholt street, London NW1 1DA. Sophisticats operating at 3 - 7 Brewer Street is licenced under reference 21/09778/LISEVR, the licence commence date being 01/10/2021 and expiring on 30/09/2022 and is licenced to John McKeown clubs. The licensing operating hours are.

- Monday – Saturday – 09.00 hours – 03.00 hours
- Sunday - 09.00 hours – 23.00 hours

3.5. SA discovered allegations had been made previously against John McKeown and his venues both at Brewer Street and Eversholt Street. These allegations were widely reported in the national media and at subsequent licensing hearings. These include allegations that John McKeown had procured persons to deliberately entice dancers at other SEV venues to breach their licence, in order to remove commercial competition from his businesses. It was alleged he had a monopoly on taxis and pedicabs who were paid to deliver his clients to his other venues and allegations were made that those leaving these venues had been 'ripped off'. These allegations were made at a licensing subcommittee hearing on 08<sup>th</sup> October 2020 under licensing reference 20/06824/LIPN. It should be noted that counsel representing Sophisticats Michael Bromley – Martin Q.C asserted that no police investigation had been conducted into these allegations. On this date the Westminster licensing subcommittee **granted** a new premises licence for the venue but introduced some additional conditions, more notably the following.

- **Condition 2** – All staff engaged outside the entrance to the premises, or supervising or controlling queues, shall wear high visibility jackets or vests.
- **Condition 37** – No person on behalf of the premises or on behalf of a person carrying or attempting to carry on a licensable activity at the premises shall cause, permit, employ or allow directly or indirectly through a third party, whether on payment or otherwise, any person(s) to importune, solicit or tout members of the public on any public highway within the specified area outlined below for the purpose of bringing customers to the premises.
- **Condition 38** – For the purposes of this condition, 'Specified Area' means the area encompassed within Shaftesbury Avenue, Piccadilly Circus, Regent Street up to the junction with Pall Mall, Cockspur Street, Trafalgar Square, Strand up to the junction with Bedford Street, Garrick Street, Great Newport Street and Charing Cross Road to the junction of Shaftesbury Avenue.

- **Informative condition** – The applicant will ensure measures are taken to discourage pedicabs operating within the vicinity of the premises late at night.

3.6. Sophisticats Camden LTD is registered at companies house under number 04310225. The Sophisticats at Eversholt Street had been taken to a licensing review by Camden police, where their licence had been revoked. Again, allegations had been made and widely reported within the media that patrons attending this venue had been drugged, and subject to fraud on their credit cards. The police indicated there had been 11 allegations of crime recorded against the venue over the previous 18 months with additional allegations being made of prostitution and blackmail taking place. I understand that, following an appeal and a further renewal application, the venue was given a further three months to trade as a sexual entertainment venue, before ceasing to trade in July 2022.

3.7. SA found that John McKeown and John Charles Wythe are both 'live' directors of.

- Sophisticats Camden LTD – Companies house reference 04310225
- John McKeown clubs LTD - Companies house reference 11224347

3.8. It is right to point out that Sophisticants formerly traded in Marylebone Lane. Since those premises closed, Mr McKeown and his former business partner Simon Langer were in dispute, which resulted in legal action between the two in the High Court which, according to the Court of Appeal, found that Mr McKeown had:

“...unfairly prejudiced the interests of the respondent: (i) by causing the Company to sell the business and assets of the "Soho Club" to a company owned by the appellant for the sum of £10,000 in circumstances where the true value of the club was in excess of £800,000; (ii) by acquiring the "Euston Club" for himself in circumstances where the Company required new premises from which to trade the "Marylebone Club"; (iii) by transferring the business and assets of the "Marylebone Club" to companies owned by the appellant at an undervalue; (iv) by using the assets of the Company to make excessive

payments of salary and rent to family and friends; (v) by using assets of the Company to pay the appellant an excessive salary; (vi) by using the assets of the Company to pay invoices relating to the legal costs of the appellant in the present proceedings; and (vii), in the maladministration of the respondent's shareholder loan account.”<sup>1</sup>

3.9 It would appear reasonable to infer that part of the rationale for this application is to replace some of the business lost on the closure of Eversholt Street and Marylebone Lane.

3.10 SA discovered there was a major development taking place with the old site of Debenhams which is located on Oxford Street and Vere Street. The building was purchased for £400 million pounds with the intention in developing the site to create a new retail and office scheme.

#### **4. Police Crime Data**

4.1. SA carried out research on recorded crime for both Brewer Street and Vere Street on the national police crime website. In respect of Vere Street there were no recorded crimes in the previous 6 months up to June 2022.

4.2. SA found that that there were significant crimes recorded along the length of Brewer Street. However, SA concentrated on crimes close to, and near Sophisticats in Brewer Street. The crimes recorded were shown on a small stretch of Brewer Street from the junction with Wardour Street and Rupert Street, about 40 metres in distance. The crime recorded amounted to 341 crimes in the past 6 months up to June 2022. These crimes consisted of allegations of Robbery, Violence/Sexual offences, Theft, Other Theft and Public Order offences. The crimes recorded do not indicate which premises they are attributable to but are confined solely to this particular geographical location.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.bailii.org/ew/cases/EWCA/Civ/2021/1792.html>



## **5. Environmental Visual Impact Assessment summary– Vere Street**

5.1. Vere Street is a quiet street in the heart of the West End that has no licensed venues operating (*Image 1 annexe 'D'*). There are a few licensed venues nearby, however, the latest opening is the Phoenix in Cavendish Square until 0200hrs on Fridays and Saturdays.

5.2. This location albeit quiet during the visit consists of mainly office blocks, with no obvious residential premises. There are plans to redevelop the former Debenhams store with a mixture of restaurants and office space which will increase footfall and vehicular access to the local area.

5.3. The EVA report can be found at Annexe 'A'.

## **6. Environmental Visual Impact Assessment summary – Brewer Street**

6.1. Brewer Street is an extremely busy location with pedestrian and vehicular activity in the locality. The pavements and roads were filled with people, cars, cabs, vans, cycles and pedicabs through the evening and into the early morning. The whole area has a vibrant, noisy, and busy atmosphere. There were a mix of people visiting the area, from same sex groups, mixed groups of varying ages, couples and what appeared to be groups or tourists. In the early part of the evening, SA witnessed people in good spirits and enjoying everything the area offered.

6.2. However, as the evening progressed SA witnessed numerous incidents of anti-social behaviour and public nuisance. These included people openly urinating and vomiting in the street, shouting and engaging in conflict, offering to supply drugs and touting for prostitution, pedicab rides and access into clubs. (*Image 1 annexe 'D'*)

6.3. The EVA report can be found at Annexe 'B'.

## **7. Observation Summary Brewer Street**

7.1. SA deployed and observed activity for two nights on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> August 2022 and Friday 5<sup>th</sup> August 2022 between the hours of 21.00 hours and 03.00 hours. The observations concentrated on Sophisticats in Brewer Street (***Image 2 annexe 'D'***) and the activity taking place outside and in the immediate vicinity up to the first junction of Rupert Street. Both observation logs can be found at Annexe 'C'.

7.2. SA noticed that this observation area was significantly busy with pedestrians, vehicular traffic including private vehicles, taxis and pedicabs. During both night deployments there was extensive drunkenness, and on numerous occasions people found on the floor vomiting both on the footway and on one occasion near Sophisticats. It was clear touts are actively engaged in directing persons to Sophisticats in the street, and this is a breach of one of their licensing conditions. On one occasion SA operatives were approached to go inside the venue. Other touts in the general area were stopping persons and offering services of prostitutes. (***Image 3 annexe 'D'***)

7.3. SA witnessed many persons openly smoking cannabis in the observation area, along with open drug supplying of product. There were incidents of conflict with people squaring up to each other and one incident where a male intimated, he had a knife. On one-night police were in attendance to deal with an assault near to the Sophisticats venue, although it is not known if this incident is attributable to the venue in any way. (***Image 4 annexe 'D'***)

7.4. SA witnessed the observation area which was heavily congested with cars illegally parked outside the venue, often with hazard lights displaying. Pedicabs were a particular problem riding in the middle of the road, music being played loudly and stopping, touting for business. This caused conflict between the pedicabs and drivers of vehicles who were trying to navigate through the obstructions. Further obstructions were being caused by the pedicabs which were regularly meeting together near the venue and at the junction with Rupert Street. A particular male who was viewed on both nights appeared to have a direct association with the pedicabs and the Sophisticats venue. He appeared to be arranging the movement of the cabs and was

constantly scanning the environment and appeared to be surveillance aware. Again, this is another breach of an informative condition on the venues licence.

7.5. SA witnessed high levels of noise caused by shouting by drunk revellers, vehicles sounding their horns and conflict between various persons throughout the deployment. Litter was a constant throughout with rubbish being discarded along the observation area.

7.6. In respect of the Sophisticats venue itself the area directly in front of the venue was clear and roped off. This area was being well managed by two SIA operatives who were displaying their SIA badges, but not wearing high visibility jackets, which is a breach of one of their licence conditions (**Image 2 annexe 'D'**). On some occasions they were joined by a female holding a clip board who sat on a high stool outside, who appeared to be management. The entry and exit operation appeared to be coordinated and on the first night about 30 persons entered with no obvious issues. It is clear the external part of the venue has strong management with a robust admissions policy. This was evidenced throughout the deployment with refusals and ejections. A drunken male was seen being ejected by the security team and there were no incidents of anti-social behaviour at the venue. The ejection of the male for drunkenness is good practice and supportive of the licensing objectives. (**Image 4 annexe 'D'**)

7.7. SA noticed that during the deployment there was no proactive attempt by the security team to move vehicles or pedicabs on from outside their venue, which was causing congestion and adding to the public nuisance. (**Image 6 annexe 'D'**). The venue is clearly using touts to get customers inside their venue and there appears to be a clear organisation with the use of pedicabs and the venue. This was a constant theme over the two-day deployment. Finally, on the second evenings deployment police were in attendance to a small group of persons outside near the venue, one who was injured and being treated by police.

7.8. SA have identified that Sophisticats are in breach of some of their licence conditions imposed on 08<sup>th</sup> October 2020 in relation to the security team's failure to wear high visibility jackets, use of touts on the public highway on behalf of Sophisticats

and the failure to discourage pedicabs operating within the vicinity of the venue. In contrast they appear to be actively supporting pedicabs and organising them for commercial gain. **(See report section 3.5)**

## **8. Conclusions**

8.1. SA are of the opinion that there is a possibility that if the new SEV is located at Vere Street there could be similar issues that were identified in Brewer Street. At this time Vere Street is a very quiet street with no crime being recorded in the past 6 months (up to June 2022).

8.2. SA recognise that there will be a significant increase in footfall both in pedestrian and vehicular access. This will include the public nuisance factor caused by the pedicabs that will ferry persons to and from the new venue, and include the associated problems caused by their music noise, touting, highway obstruction, fraud and conflict with passengers. The concerns of pedicabs were recognised by Westminster council in a recent enforcement operation in July 2022 who highlighted issues that were impacting on the community in terms of blocking pavements, causing accessibility issues, annoying residents and businesses, and charging extortionate fares to visitors.

8.3. The Sophisticat venues have received historical allegations that they had been proactively using pedicabs to move their customers between their venues. During SA deployment there was an obvious connection with the Sophisticats venue and the pedicabs that were operating outside and at the junction with Rupert Street. There was also no intervention by the door security team to move them away from their venue, which is an informative condition of their licence.

8.4. In my professional opinion creating a new SEV in this location creates a clear potential for crime, anti-social behaviour and public nuisance. In expressing that view, I am aware of a claim that Sophisticats traded without problems nearby in Marylebone Lane, a short distance away. However, that does not alter my professional view. It is well-known that Oxford Street is undergoing a major transformation which will bring in a higher degree of activity at night, which will be mirrored by the redevelopment of the Debenhams store for a range of commercial uses, with accompanying footfall. It is just

such a transformation which has the potential to import difficulties from elsewhere, unless the uses comprised in such change are very carefully managed.

8.5 In the light of my own experience as a police officer and a licensing consultant, and what I have seen of Sophisticats trading nearby in Brewer Street, the plain risk is that similar issues will be replicated in Vere Street. In saying this, I do of course acknowledge that Sophisticats is only one element creating undesirable impacts in Brewer Street, but its impacts are distinctive and are those known to be associated with sex uses in the Capital. Given the importance of the redevelopment of Oxford Street, my respectful opinion is that this is inadvisable in the locality of the application site.

### **Annexe 'A'**



### **Shield Associates - Licensing Environmental Visual Assessment**

**Venue: 3-4 Vere Street, London, W1G 0DG**

**Date/Time of Visit: 04/08/2022 – 2100 to 03.00hrs**

#### **1. Instructions to Shield**

To conduct an environmental visual assessment of the area in the vicinity of 3-4 Vere Street, the proposed location for a sexual entertainment venue (SEV).

#### **2. Location and History of Venue**

The venue at 3-4 Vere Street was, until recently, operating as Maroush, a licensed Lebanese restaurant set over two floors (basement and ground). The restaurant has

closed, and the premises are currently vacant. There is office space above for four floors. The building was apparently renovated for business use in 2000. Vere Street is a short street running South to meet Oxford Street from the junction with Henrietta Place. The street is one way from Henrietta Place to Oxford Street for vehicular traffic.

### **3. Surrounding late-night licensed venues, establishments, and environment**

Shield Associates (SA) carried out an environmental visual assessment of the local area to identify what other licensed venues were available to the local community and visitors to the area. There are a few venues located approximately 500m 3-4 Vere Street as follows:

- Be At One Bar, 94 Wimpole Street – Pub/bar open until 0100hrs Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays.
- The Phoenix, 37 Cavendish Square – Pub/bar open until 0200hrs Fridays and Saturdays
- Spread Eagle, 8 Woodstock Street – Pub open until 2330hrs
- Radisson Blue Hotel, Berkshire Lounge Bar, 350 Oxford Street – Open to residents 24 hours.

There is a coffee/juice street bar at the end of Vere Street open until 2130hrs and an American Candy shop in Oxford Street open until 2300hrs. There are also several late-night licensed venues slightly further afield. The proposed site of the new venue is approximately 100m from Oxford Street.

### **4. Footfall and ambience of vicinity**

Pedestrian and vehicular throughput along Vere Street was relatively light during the visit. The street is mostly occupied by office premises and there were no commercial venues open at 2130hrs along Vere Street. It is hard to identify any residential properties, however, there are a few major developments in close proximity to Vere Street. The old Debenhams site (running along the West side of Vere Street) is being re-developed and according to information posted online the new look property will include both retail and office space. The House of Fraser building located a short

distance from Vere Street on Oxford Street is also being redeveloped into six floors of offices, a rooftop restaurant with a pool, gym and ground floor retail space. There are several apparently large-scale developments in the local area.

Oxford Street is a busy shopping street and as such has a busy throughput of both pedestrian, vehicular and public transport movement throughout the day and night. This is occasionally complemented by the pedicabs transport options that also operate in the area along.

As mentioned, Vere Street by comparison is a quieter and less used street, with no current licensed venues operating.

#### **5. Transport links and access issues**

There are excellent transport links in the near vicinity with a variety of bus routes running along Oxford Street, Bond Street underground station withing easy walking distance, black taxi cabs, pedicabs as well as on call mini-cab options. The area is well served by public and private transport options and there are no critical access issues.

#### **6. Potential impact of venue on local residents and community (witnessed & experienced)**

As mentioned, Vere Street is currently a quiet street in the heart of the West End that has no licensed venues operating. There are a few licensed venues nearby, however, the latest opening is the Phoenix in Cavendish Square until 0200hrs on Fridays and Saturdays.

An SEV opening at the proposed site until 0500hrs would clearly increase the footfall in the street as well as vehicular traffic. It may well also attract more of the pedicabs and associated anti-social behaviour that can be associated with such modes of transport.

## Annexe 'B'



### Shield Associates - Licensing Environmental Visual Assessment

**Venue: Sophisticats, 5-7 Brewer Street, W1F 0RF**

**Date/Time of Visit: 04/08/2022 – 2200 to 0300hrs**

#### 1. Instructions to Shield

To conduct an environmental visual assessment of the area in the vicinity of Sophisticats, 5-7 Brewer Street, the location of a sexual entertainment venue (SEV).

#### 2. Location and History of Venue

Sophisticats in Brewer Street was formerly known as The Shadow Lounge, a Gay members club that closed in 2016. In April 2017 a variation of premises licence was made to City of Westminster by the current operators to extend the licensing hours until 0300hrs for the venue that was already operating as a sexual entertainment venue (SEV).

Brewer Street sits in the heart of Soho, a vibrant and busy area of London within the City of Westminster Council. It is surrounded by licensed venues, massage parlours, late night entertainment venues and refreshment houses.



### **3. Surrounding late-night licensed venues, establishments, and environment**

Shield Associates carried out an environmental visual assessment of the local area to identify what other licensed venues were available to the local community and visitors to the area. There are numerous venues located approximately 500m from Sophisticats (opening times show latest opening) that include:

- Wok to Walk, 4 Brewer Street – Compact fast-food outlet open until 0100hrs
- SNOG frozen yoghurt, 9 Brewer Street – Late night refreshment venue open until 0000hrs
- Soho Original Adult Store, 12 Brewer Street – Adult entertainment store open until 2300hrs
- Randall & Aubin, 16 Brewer Street – Seafood restaurant open until 2200hrs
- El Camion, 25-27 Brewer Street – Late night diner and Cocktail bar open until 0300hrs
- Simply Pleasure, 29-31 Brewer Street – Adult entertainment store open until 0100hrs
- Duke of Argyll, 37 Brewer Street – Pub open until 2300hrs
- Bill's, 36-44 Brewer Street – Restaurant open until 0000hrs
- Soho Residence, 83-85 Wardour Street – Cocktail bar open until 0300hrs
- Village Soho, 81 Wardour Street – Café disco bar open until 0300hrs
- Las Vagas, 89-91 Wardour Street – Amusement arcade open until 0100hrs
- Moo, 99 Wardour Street – Steakhouse and bar open until 0000hrs
- Freedom Bar, 60-66 Wardour Street – Cocktail bar open until 0300hrs
- The Duke of Wellington, 77 Wardour Street – Pub open until 0000hrs
- Friendly Society, 79 Wardour Street – Bar open until 2330hrs (0000hrs Saturdays)
- Blacklock, 24 Great Windmill Street – Bar & restaurant open until 2300hrs
- Be At One Bar, 20 Great Windmill Street – Bar open until 0000hrs
- The Thin White Duke, 22B Great Windmill Street – Bar open until 0000hrs
- Archer Street bar, 3-4 Archer Street – Bar open until 0100hrs
- Bocca Di Lupo, 12 Archer Street – Restaurant open until 2300hrs

- The White Horse, 45 Rupert Street – Pub open until 2300hrs
- Rupert Street Bar, 50 Rupert Street – Bar open until 0000hrs
- The Yard Bar, 57 Rupert Street – Bar & Courtyard open until 0000hrs
- Paradise Soho, 61 Rupert Street – Restaurant open until 2300hrs

There are also three large theatres nearby: Great Windmill Theatre, Apollo Theatre and Gielgud Theatre. There are also numerous massage parlours in the close vicinity along Brewer Street, Wardour Street, Rupert Street, Archer Street and Great Windmill Street.

As mentioned, Brewer Street sits within the heart of Soho and as such there are a plethora of licensed bars, pubs, restaurants, entertainment venues, refreshment outlets and nightclubs slightly further afield within the area.

#### **4. Footfall and ambience of vicinity**

Pedestrian and vehicular activity in the area for the duration of our visit was very busy. The pavements and roads were filled with people, cars, cabs, vans, cycles and pedicabs through the evening and into the early morning. The whole area has a vibrant, noisy, and busy atmosphere. There were a mix of people visiting the area, from same sex groups, mixed groups of varying ages, couples and what appeared to be groups or tourists. In the early part of the evening, SA witnessed people in good spirits and enjoying everything the area offered.

However, as the evening progressed SA witnessed numerous incidents of anti-social behaviour and public nuisance. These included people openly urinating and vomiting in the street, shouting and engaging in conflict, offering to supply drugs and touting for prostitution, pedicab rides and access into clubs.

In addition, congestion and in particular problems caused by pedicabs who were riding in the middle road, stopping to tout, holding up traffic which caused conflict and amplified the noise by shouting and sounding of car horns by frustrated vehicle drivers.

SA witnessed bottle necks caused by vehicles parking along Brewer Street, especially near the junction with Rupert Street where pedicabs were meeting and cars parking to collect or drop off passengers.

SA noticed after spending some time in the area was that there is a distinct 'street' community who all seem to know each other. They include those trying to promote/encourage people into strip clubs, drug dealers, street prostitutes and general 'hangers on' who stay in the vicinity during the night chatting to door-teams and each other.

## **5. Transport links and access issues**

There are excellent transport links in the near vicinity with a variety of travel options in the extended area of Soho. The most used would appear to be black taxi and mini cabs. Also used are the pedicabs that are prolific in the vicinity of the venue. There are London underground stations within easy walking distance as well as all-night bus routes nearby. The area is well served by public and private transport options and there are no critical access issues.

## **6. Potential impact of venue on local residents and community (witnessed & experienced)**

As mentioned, Brewer Street is in the heart of Soho, known for its 24-hour party atmosphere and vibrant nightlife. Noise from visitors, vehicles and partygoers is in line with what would be expected in this part of London. In our opinion Sophisticats location is unfortunate as it falls within an area that attracts high volumes of people and vehicular traffic. This, however, certainly attracts pedicabs and an element of the street population that some might describe as 'seedy'. Street prostitutes and drug dealers were seen operating withing sight of the venue. However, within Soho, this activity is not noticed as readily as it might be in other parts of London.

## Annexe 'C'



### Incident Log – Brewer Street 4<sup>th</sup> August – 5<sup>th</sup> August 2022, 2100 – 0300 hours

Date	Time	Location	Details
4 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	2130	Sophisticats Club (SC)	Door staff set up rope barriers and signage, initially 2 SIA security staff at the location.
4 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	2140	Brewer Street O/S SC	Black taxis cabs begin to line up in the road o/s SC venue.
4 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	2158	SC	Black taxi arrives o/s venue, 2 males exit the vehicle and are shown into the venue without incident, doors immediately closed behind them.
4 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	2200	Brewer Street	Traffic starts to generate issues with flow of traffic, considerable number of pedicab riders outside and close by to venue. Upon walking past venue, they are clearly touting for customers offering them 'Strip club?'.
4 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	2214	SC	Black taxi pulls up o/s venue, 2 males exit vehicle and enter the venue. This is done without incident and the doors are closed behind them.
4 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	2220	SC	6 males enter the venue on foot, no incidents of note, they enter the venue, and the doors are closed behind them.
4 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	2222	SC	2 males enter the venue on foot. No incidents of note.
4 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	2224	SC	2 males exit a black taxi o/s venue and enter club
4 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	2232	Brewer Street	Observed 2 males approaching people in the street and appeared to be touting for them to attend SC. One male in a black T shirt approx. 50 years old, One male in a green jumper approx. 40 years old. Both males were present in or around the venue for the duration of the observations.

4 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	2235	OS Venue	White Uber stops o/s venue, 1 male enters premises
4 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	2240	OS SC	Black Taxi stops o/s venue, 1 male enters venue without incident.
4 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	2245	OS SC	Pedicabs begin to congregate in larger numbers close to the venue, this causes traffic flow issues and leads to more vehicle noise (horns sounding).
4 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	2253	SC	2 males are shown out of venue. 1 male is extremely intoxicated (Blue Hoodie) and is being supported by his associate (white shirt) and the security staff. (Image 4) He is placed into a taxi accompanied by another male and they leave the venue.
4 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	2331	SC	2 males leave venue on foot, no incidents of note.
4 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	2338	SC	Black taxi arrives O/S SC, 1 male enters club, no incidents.
4 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	2355	SC	Male exits venue on foot, no issues noted
5 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	0007	SC	2 males enter the venue on foot, No incidents.
5 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	0015	SC	Black taxi stops O/S venue, 3 males enter the venue.
5 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	0043	SC	1 male exits the venue, leaves on foot.
5 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	0044	SC	Black Taxi stops at location, 2 males enter the venue.
5 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	0046	SC	2 males leave the venue without incident.
5 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	0049	SC	1 male exits the premises without incident.
5 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	0054	SC	2 males exit the premises without incident.
5 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	0137	SC	2 males leave the venue, no incidents of note.
5 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	0152	SC	1 male leaves the venue on foot, no issues.
5 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	0200	SC	Front of house door team appear to have been rotated.
5 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	0215	SC	2 males enter club on foot.
5 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	0222	SC	2 males, (mid 20s) enter club on foot.

5 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	0222	SC	2 males leave the venue on foot.
5 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	0228	SC	5 males enter the premises on foot, no Issues of note.
5 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	0240	SC	2 males leave venue on foot.
5 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	0242	SC	1 male leaves venue on foot.
5 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	0300	Brewer Street	Observation concluded.

### **Other points of note.**

Brewer Street is a vibrant and busy part of London, there was several incidents of anti-social behaviour (shouting, conflict, urinating, vomiting,). Public nuisance being caused by pedicabs obstructing highway and touting. Witnessed drug use and persons offering to supply drugs. This was largely in the environs of the venue.

SC is located next to Village Soho (VS) this venue has a smoking area outside and adjacent to the club. SC manage their roped area sufficiently.

Touts did operate in the area during our observations. We witnessed at least 2 people encouraging and ushering men towards SC. They were visible throughout the night.

Pedicabs were offering men rides to strip clubs. SA noticed pedicabs parked up outside SC at various times during the observations.

The traffic was increased in Brewer Street due to people being dropped off outside SC. This caused traffic build up in Brewer Street on numerous occasions. There are many vehicles which seem to just cruise the area. We noted at least 5 vehicles doing this – they had nothing to do with SC

The area was still busy with both footfall and vehicles at 0300hrs.



Incident Log – Brewer Street 5<sup>th</sup> August – 6<sup>th</sup> August 2022, 2215 – 0300 hours

Date	Time	Location	Details
5 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	2215	Brewer Street	Observations of the environs of SC commence. Area is busy generally, SC has placed its rope barriers and signage up, 2 SIA security staff are on duty.
5 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	2225	Brewer Street	It appears that a white male, 50s, wearing a dark trench coat, black glasses, grey hair is organising the Pedicabs. This appears to be linked with the patrons who are refused access to SC. He was witnessed on numerous occasions in communication with the front of house staff at SC
5 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	2245	Brewer Street	At this stage no patrons have been admitted to the venue (SC) although we have noticed an increase presence in Pedicabs and touts this evening.
5 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	2250	SC	A group of males on foot approach the venue, they are refused entry by the door staff – reason unknown.
5 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	2310	Brewer Street opposite SC	Approached by a tout who asked us if we wanted to go to a strip club, pointed in the direction of SC, we declined.
5 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	2315	Brewer Street j/w Rupert St	A group of IC3 males are in the locality, we overhear 1 threaten a member of the public with a knife. No knife seen.
5 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	2320	Brewer Street environs	A number of males clearly all connected are in essence 'on patrol' in Brewer Street, on a couple of occasions our deployment team were paid attention to. Although this was not hostile.
5 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	2345	Brewer Street	Area seems to become increasingly busy with pedestrian traffic, but louder and much more active with both vehicles and pedicabs. This was

			causing obvious frustrations to the motorists who were impacted upon.
6 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	0047	SC	3 members of staff o/s venue with 1 female. No patrons seen entering. SIA staff remain vigilant with a sterile rope barrier in place.
6 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	0052	Brewer Street	Male with dark coat seen patrolling street. Then returns to Rupert Street junction.
6 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	0052	Brewer Street, o/s SC	Same male (Dark coat) seen positioned at club entrance, speaking to another male, who we believe is a tout.
6 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	0057	Brewer Street Pavement o/s Village Soho	Female intoxicated collapsed on the pavement, other members of the public are assisting her.
6 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	0138	o/s SC	Police in attendance to what appeared to be an assault in the street. We have no indication it was to do with the venue.
6 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	0200	Brewer Street	Mobile patrol of area, shows evidence of ASB (loud music from Pedi Cabs, Touts and lots of vehicular traffic) in environs of SC. The venue itself appeared to have allowed limited patrons inside during the times of our patrols.
6 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	0215	Brewer Street	Mobile patrols of the area show no decrease in footfall. I would suggest that the regular pub going clientele have now departed leaving a more chaotic section of the public. Evidence of drug dealing has been witnessed as well as street-based sex workers.
6 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	0230	Brewer Street	Continued noise and traffic flow issues, no reduction in pedestrians – incidents of drunken shouting and anti-social behaviour being witnessed. Pedicabs remain in operation.
6 <sup>th</sup> August 2022	0300	Brewer Street	Mobile Patrols terminated.





This deployment focused on the environmental issues we believe are a causation of the premises in Brewer Street, including Sophisticats. SA would suggest that externally the venue has strong management and structure. It is clear the admission policy is robust.

SA would suggest that there is a direct link between the pedicab enterprise, touting and SC. The same people we observed appear interlinked and were seen on both nights. SA would suggest that the people being touted should they fit the criteria were admitted to SC. If not, they were taken away by Pedicab to a nearby 'Clip joint' type venue. SA would also make an assumption that black taxi drivers were also involved in bringing clients to the venue that fit the entry criteria. Although this in itself is not illegal.

There was overt evidence of drug dealing in the environment as well as obvious street-based sex workers.

SA witnessed the more 'seedy and chaotic' section of the community in this area post-midnight, although it is fair to say there are many late-night venues in the area that are a draw for certain people.

**Annexe 'D' - Images**

<b>Number</b>	<b>Image</b>	<b>Report reference</b>
1	<p>Vere street</p> 	5.1
2	<p>Sophisticats Brewer Street</p> 	7.1, 7.6

3

Drunkenness near to Sophisticats

7.2



4

Ejection from Sophisticats

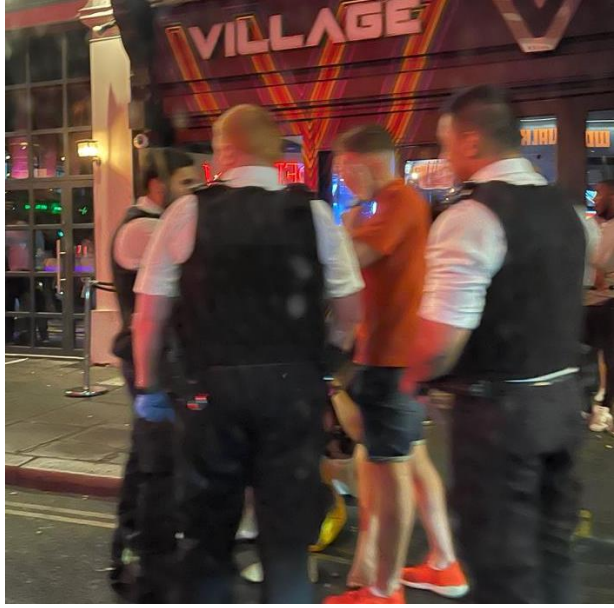
7.6



5

Injury near to Sophisticats police attendance

7.4



6

Pedicabs in Brewer Street near venue

7.7





Ian Smith MSyl  
Director  
Shield Associates

12th August 2022



## VERE STREET



Corner of Vere Street and Oxford Street, looking north



Vere Street looking north, entrance to Brazilian Consulate at 3 Vere Street on right hand side





Vere Street looking north, 3-4 Vere Street on right hand side



View of 3-4 Vere Street and 1 Chapel Place from the west side of Vere Street





View of Vere Street looking south towards Oxford Street, 1 Chapel Place on the left hand side



View of Vere Street looking south towards Oxford Street, St Peter's Church on the left hand side





**City of Westminster**  
64 Victoria Street, London, SW1E 6QP

Schedule 12  
Part A

WARD: West End  
UPRN: 010033547588

Premises licence

Regulation 33, 34

Premises licence number:

22/07163/LIPT

Original Reference:

21/07616/LIPN

**Part 1 – Premises details**

**Postal address of premises:**

3 - 4 Vere Street  
London  
W1G 0DQ

**Telephone Number:** Not Supplied

**Where the licence is time limited, the dates:**

Not applicable

**Licensable activities authorised by the licence:**

Performance of Dance  
Exhibition of a Film  
Performance of Live Music  
Playing of Recorded Music  
Late Night Refreshment  
Sale by Retail of Alcohol

**The times the licence authorises the carrying out of licensable activities:**

**Performance of Dance**

Sunday to Tuesday: 10:00 to 02:00  
Wednesday to Saturday: 10:00 to 05:00

*Seasonal Details:* On the morning that GMT changes to BST 1 hr will be added to the terminal hr of any activities and to the closing time after 1am

**Exhibition of a Film**

Sunday to Tuesday: 10:00 to 02:00  
Wednesday to Saturday: 10:00 to 05:00

*Seasonal Details:* On the morning that GMT changes to BST 1 hr will be added to the terminal hr of any activities and to the closing time after 1am

**Performance of Live Music**

Sunday to Tuesday: 10:00 to 02:00  
Wednesday to Saturday: 10:00 to 05:00

*Seasonal Details:* On the morning that GMT changes to BST 1 hr will be added to the terminal hr of any activities and to the closing time after 1am

**Playing of Recorded Music**

Sunday to Tuesday: 10:00 to 02:00  
Wednesday to Saturday: 10:00 to 05:00

*Seasonal Details:* On the morning that GMT changes to BST 1 hr will be added to the terminal hr of any activities and to the closing time after 1am

**Late Night Refreshment**

Sunday to Tuesday:	23:00 to 02:00 (Mezzanine & Ground Floors)
Wednesday to Saturday:	23:00 to 05:00 (Mezzanine & Ground Floors)
Sunday to Tuesday:	23:00 to 02:00 (Basement Floor)
Wednesday to Saturday:	23:00 to 05:00 (Basement Floor)

*Seasonal Details:* On the morning that GMT changes to BST 1 hr will be added to the terminal hr of any activities and to the closing time after 1am

**Sale by Retail of Alcohol**

Sunday to Tuesday:	10:00 to 02:00 (Mezzanine & Ground Floors)
Wednesday to Saturday:	10:00 to 03:00 (Mezzanine & Ground Floors)
Sunday to Tuesday:	10:00 to 02:00 (Basement Floor)
Wednesday to Saturday:	10:00 to 03:00 (Basement Floor)

*Seasonal Details:* On the morning that GMT changes to BST 1 hr will be added to the terminal hr of any activities and to the closing time after 1am

**The opening hours of the premises:**

Sunday to Tuesday:	09:00 to 02:00
Wednesday to Saturday:	09:00 to 05:00

*Seasonal Details:* On the morning that GMT changes to BST 1 hr will be added to the terminal hr of any activities and to the closing time after 1am

**Where the licence authorises supplies of alcohol, whether these are on and/or off supplies:**

Alcohol is supplied for consumption both on and off the Premises.

**Part 2**

**Name, (registered) address, telephone number and email (where relevant) of holder of premises licence:**

Clarmans Clubs Ltd  
48 Warwick Street  
London  
W1B 5AW

**Registered number of holder, for example company number, charity number (where applicable)**

13810956

**Name, address and telephone number of designated premises supervisor where the premises licence authorises the supply of alcohol:**

**Name:** Mr Terry Alan Barnes

***Please note: It is the policy of the Licensing Authority not to display the address details of a designated premises supervisor.***

**Personal licence number and issuing authority of personal licence held by designated premises supervisor where the premises licence authorises for the supply of alcohol:**

**Licence Number:** 5870/06/00660/LAPERS  
**Licensing Authority:** London Borough of Sutton

**Date:** 18 August 2022

**This licence has been authorised by Kevin Jackaman on behalf of the Director - Public Protection and Licensing.**

## Annex 1 – Mandatory conditions

1. No supply of alcohol may be made at a time when there is no designated premises supervisor in respect of this licence.
2. No supply of alcohol may be made at a time when the designated premises supervisor does not hold a personal licence or the personal licence is suspended.
3. Every supply of alcohol under this licence must be made or authorised by a person who holds a personal licence.
4.
  - (1) The responsible person must ensure that staff on relevant premises do not carry out, arrange or participate in any irresponsible promotions in relation to the premises.
  - (2) In this paragraph, an irresponsible promotion means any one or more of the following activities, or substantially similar activities, carried on for the purpose of encouraging the sale or supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises—
    - (a) games or other activities which require or encourage, or are designed to require or encourage, individuals to;
      - (i) drink a quantity of alcohol within a time limit (other than to drink alcohol sold or supplied on the premises before the cessation of the period in which the responsible person is authorised to sell or supply alcohol), or
      - (ii) drink as much alcohol as possible (whether within a time limit or otherwise);
    - (b) provision of unlimited or unspecified quantities of alcohol free or for a fixed or discounted fee to the public or to a group defined by a particular characteristic in a manner which carries a significant risk of undermining a licensing objective;
    - (c) provision of free or discounted alcohol or any other thing as a prize to encourage or reward the purchase and consumption of alcohol over a period of 24 hours or less in a manner which carries a significant risk of undermining a licensing objective;
    - (d) selling or supplying alcohol in association with promotional posters or flyers on, or in the vicinity of, the premises which can reasonably be considered to condone, encourage or glamorise anti-social behaviour or to refer to the effects of drunkenness in any favourable manner;
    - (e) dispensing alcohol directly by one person into the mouth of another (other than where that other person is unable to drink without assistance by reason of a disability).
5. The responsible person must ensure that free potable water is provided on request to customers where it is reasonably available.
6.
  - (1) The premises licence holder or club premises certificate holder must ensure that an age verification policy is adopted in respect of the premises in relation to the sale or supply of alcohol.
  - (2) The designated premises supervisor in relation to the premises licence must ensure that the supply of alcohol at the premises is carried on in accordance with the age verification policy.
  - (3) The policy must require individuals who appear to the responsible person to be under 18 years of age (or such older age as may be specified in the policy) to produce on request, before being served alcohol, identification

bearing their photograph, date of birth and either—

- (a) a holographic mark, or
- (b) an ultraviolet feature.

7. The responsible person must ensure that—

- (a) where any of the following alcoholic drinks is sold or supplied for consumption on the premises (other than alcoholic drinks sold or supplied having been made up in advance ready for sale or supply in a securely closed container) it is available to customers in the following measures—
  - (i) beer or cider: ½ pint;
  - (ii) gin, rum, vodka or whisky: 25 ml or 35 ml; and
  - (iii) still wine in a glass: 125 ml;
- (b) these measures are displayed in a menu, price list or other printed material which is available to customers on the premises; and
- (c) where a customer does not in relation to a sale of alcohol specify the quantity of alcohol to be sold, the customer is made aware that these measures are available.

A responsible person in relation to a licensed premises means the holder of the premise licence in respect of the premises, the designated premises supervisor (if any) or any individual aged 18 or over who is authorised by either the licence holder or designated premises supervisor. For premises with a club premises certificate, any member or officer of the club present on the premises in a capacity that which enables him to prevent the supply of alcohol.

8(i) A relevant person shall ensure that no alcohol is sold or supplied for consumption on or off the premises for a price which is less than the permitted price.

8(ii) For the purposes of the condition set out in paragraph 8(i) above -

- (a) "duty" is to be construed in accordance with the Alcoholic Liquor Duties Act 1979;
- (b) "permitted price" is the price found by applying the formula -

$$P = D + (D \times V)$$

Where -

- (i) P is the permitted price,
  - (ii) D is the amount of duty chargeable in relation to the alcohol as if the duty were charged on the date of the sale or supply of the alcohol, and
  - (iii) V is the rate of value added tax chargeable in relation to the alcohol as if the value added tax were charged on the date of the sale or supply of the alcohol;
- (c) "relevant person" means, in relation to premises in respect of which there is in force a premises licence -
    - (i) the holder of the premises licence,
    - (ii) the designated premises supervisor (if any) in respect of such a licence, or
    - (iii) the personal licence holder who makes or authorises a supply of alcohol under such a licence;
  - (d) "relevant person" means, in relation to premises in respect of which there is in force a club premises certificate, any member or officer of the club present on the premises in a capacity which enables the member or officer to prevent

the supply in question; and

- (e) "value added tax" means value added tax charged in accordance with the Value Added Tax Act 1994.
- 8(iii). Where the permitted price given by Paragraph 8(ii)(b) above would (apart from this paragraph) not be a whole number of pennies, the price given by that sub-paragraph shall be taken to be the price actually given by that sub-paragraph rounded up to the nearest penny.
- 8(iv). (1) Sub-paragraph 8(iv)(2) below applies where the permitted price given by Paragraph 8(ii)(b) above on a day ("the first day") would be different from the permitted price on the next day ("the second day") as a result of a change to the rate of duty or value added tax.
- (2) The permitted price which would apply on the first day applies to sales or supplies of alcohol which take place before the expiry of the period of 14 days beginning on the second day.
9. All persons guarding premises against unauthorised access or occupation or against outbreaks of disorder or against damage (door supervisors) must be licensed by the Security Industry Authority.
10. Admission of children to the premises must be restricted in accordance with the film classification recommended by the British Board of Film Classification or recommended by this licensing authority as appropriate.

## Annex 2 – Conditions consistent with the operating Schedule

10. The number of persons accommodated at the premises shall not exceed the following (excluding staff):
  - Mezzanine - 60
  - Ground Floor - 110
  - Basement - 225With no more than 285 persons on the premises at any one time
11. Substantial food and non-intoxicating beverages, including drinking water, shall be available in all parts of the premises where alcohol is sold or supplied for consumption on the premises.
12. With the exception of persons attending a pre-booked private function (where a guest list will be held and available for inspection by the responsible authorities for 31 days after the event), the supply of alcohol on the ground floor and mezzanine floor of the premises shall only be to a person seated taking a substantial table meal there and for consumption by such a person as ancillary to their meal.

For the purpose of this condition a 'Substantial Table Meal' means - a meal such as might be expected to be served as the main midday or main evening meal, or as a main course at either such meal and is eaten by a person seated at a table, or at a counter or other structure which serves the purposes of a table and is not used for the service of refreshments for consumption by persons not seated at a table or structure servicing the purposes of a table.

Notwithstanding this condition customers are permitted to take from the premises part consumed and resealed bottles of wine supplied ancillary to their meal.
13. Waiter/waitress service shall be provided throughout the premises
14. Menus shall be displayed in the basement and food shall be readily available to be served in this area at all times;
15. In the basement the sale of alcohol shall be ancillary to the provision of regulated entertainment.
16. There shall be no designated dance floor at the premises
17. There shall be a minimum of two door supervisors employed at the premises from 21:00. There shall be a minimum of four door supervisors employed at the premises from 22:00.
18. Any events at the premises shall be risk assessed and should the risk assessment deem it necessary the requisite number of SIA licensed door supervisors shall be on duty at the premises whilst the event/operation is taking place and up to at least 30 minutes after the event has finished. The risk assessment shall also include a dispersal policy for the event/operation. The risk assessment and dispersal policy shall be retained and available for inspection by the Licensing Authority and the Police for 31 days after the event/operation
19. All external doors and windows must be closed after 01:00 except to allow access for staff and customers
20. The premises shall install and maintain a comprehensive CCTV system as per the minimum requirements of the Westminster Police Licensing Team. (b) All entry and exit points will be covered enabling frontal identification of every person entering in any light condition. (c) The CCTV system shall continually record whilst the premises is open for licensable activities and during all times when customers remain on the premises and will include the external area immediately outside the premises entrance. (d) All recordings shall be stored for a minimum period of 31 days with date and time stamping. (e) Viewing of recordings shall be made available immediately upon the request of Police or authorised officer throughout the entire 31-day period

21. A staff member from the premises who is conversant with the operation of the CCTV system shall be on the premises at all times when the premises is open. This staff member must be able to provide a Police or authorised council officer copies of recent CCTV images or data with the absolute minimum of delay when requested
22. There shall be a personal licence holder on duty on the premises at all times when the premises are authorised to sell alcohol.
23. A noise limiter must be fitted to the musical amplification system and maintained in accordance with the following criteria: (a) the limiter must be set at a level determined by and to the satisfaction of an authorised Environmental Health Officer, so as to ensure that no noise nuisance is caused to local residents or businesses, (b) The operational panel of the noise limiter shall then be secured by key or password to the satisfaction of the authorised Environmental Health Officer and access shall only be by persons authorised by the Premises Licence holder, (c) The limiter shall not be altered without prior written agreement from the Environmental Health Consultation Team, (d) No alteration or modification to any existing sound system(s) should be affected without prior knowledge of the Environmental Health Consultation Team, and (e) No additional sound generating equipment shall be used on the premises without being routed through the sound limiter device.
24. No noise generated on the premises, or by its associated plant or equipment, shall emanate from the premises nor vibration be transmitted through the structure of the premises which gives rise to a nuisance.
25. No fumes, steam or odours shall be emitted from the licensed premises so as to cause a nuisance to any persons living or carrying on business in the area where the premises are situated.
26. All sales of alcohol for consumption off the premises shall be in sealed containers only, and shall not be consumed on the premises, save for alcohol consumed at the outside tables and chairs shown on the licence plan, which shall be by waiter or waitress service, served only to a person seated taking a substantial table meal there and for consumption by such a person as ancillary to their meal.
27. Notices shall be prominently displayed at all exits requesting patrons to respect the needs of local residents and businesses and leave the area quietly.
28. Notices shall be prominently displayed at any area used for smoking requesting patrons to respect the needs of local residents and use the area quietly
29. A direct telephone number for the manager at the premises shall be publicly available at all times the premises is open. This telephone number and/or is to be made available to residents and businesses in the vicinity.
30. A copy of the premises' dispersal policy shall be made readily available at the premises for inspection by a police officer and/or an authorised officer of Westminster City Council.
31. Patrons permitted to temporarily leave and then re-enter the premises on the street, e.g. to smoke or make a phone call, shall be limited to (15) persons at any one time.
32. All waste shall be properly presented and placed out for collection no earlier than 30 minutes before the scheduled collection times.
33. No waste or recyclable materials, including bottles, shall be moved, removed from or placed in outside areas between (23.00) hours and (08.00) hours on the following day.
34. During the hours of operation of the premises, the licence holder shall ensure sufficient measures are in place to remove and prevent litter or waste arising or accumulating from customers in the area immediately outside the premises, and that this area shall be swept and or washed, and litter and sweepings collected and stored in accordance with the approved refuse storage arrangements by close of business.



35. There shall be no striptease or nudity, and all persons shall be decently attired at all times, except when the premises are operating under the authority of a Sexual Entertainment Venue licence.
36. A Challenge 25 proof of age scheme shall be operated at the premises where the only acceptable forms of identification are recognised photographic identification cards, such as a driving licence, passport or proof of age card with the PASS Hologram.
37. An incident log shall be kept at the premises and made available on request to an authorised officer of the City Council or the Police. It must be completed within 24 hours of the incident and will record the following: (a) all crimes reported to the venue (b) all ejections of patrons (c) any complaints received concerning crime and disorder (d) any incidents of disorder (e) all seizures of drugs or offensive weapons (f) any faults in the CCTV system, searching equipment or scanning equipment (g) any refusal of the sale of alcohol (h) any visit by a relevant authority or emergency service.
38. There shall be no sales of hot food or hot drink or alcohol for consumption off the premises after 23.00 hours..
39. No deliveries to the premises shall take place between (23.00) and (08.00) hours on the following day.
40. All emergency exit doors shall be available at all material times without the use of a key, code, card or similar means.
41. All emergency doors shall be maintained effectively self-closing and not held open other than by an approved device.
42. The edges of the treads of steps and stairways shall be maintained so as to be conspicuous.
43. Curtains and hangings shall be arranged so as not to obstruct emergency safety signs or emergency equipment.
44. All fabrics, curtains, drapes and similar features including materials used in finishing and furnishing shall be either non-combustible or be durably or inherently flame-retarded fabric. Any fabrics used in escape routes (other than foyers), entertainment areas or function rooms, shall be non-combustible.
45. The certificates listed below shall be submitted to the licensing authority upon written request. (a) Any permanent or temporary emergency lighting battery or system (b) Any permanent or temporary electrical installation (c) Any permanent or temporary emergency warning system
46. Flashing or particularly bright lights on or outside the premises shall not cause a nuisance to nearby properties, save insofar as they are necessary for the prevention of crime.
47. No licensable activities shall take place at the premises until the premises has been assessed as satisfactory by the Environmental Health Consultation Team at which time this condition shall be removed from the Licence by the licensing authority.
48. Prior to the licence taking effect, the plans as deposited will be checked by the Environmental Health Consultation Team to ensure they are accurate reflection of the premises constructed. Where the premises layout has changed during the course of construction new plans shall be provided to the LFEPA, Environmental Health Consultation Team, the Police and the Licensing Authority
49. No licensable activities shall take place at the premises until premises licence 09/01218/LIPV (or such other number subsequently issued for the premises) has been surrendered.
50. The premises may remain open for the sale of alcohol, regulated entertainment and

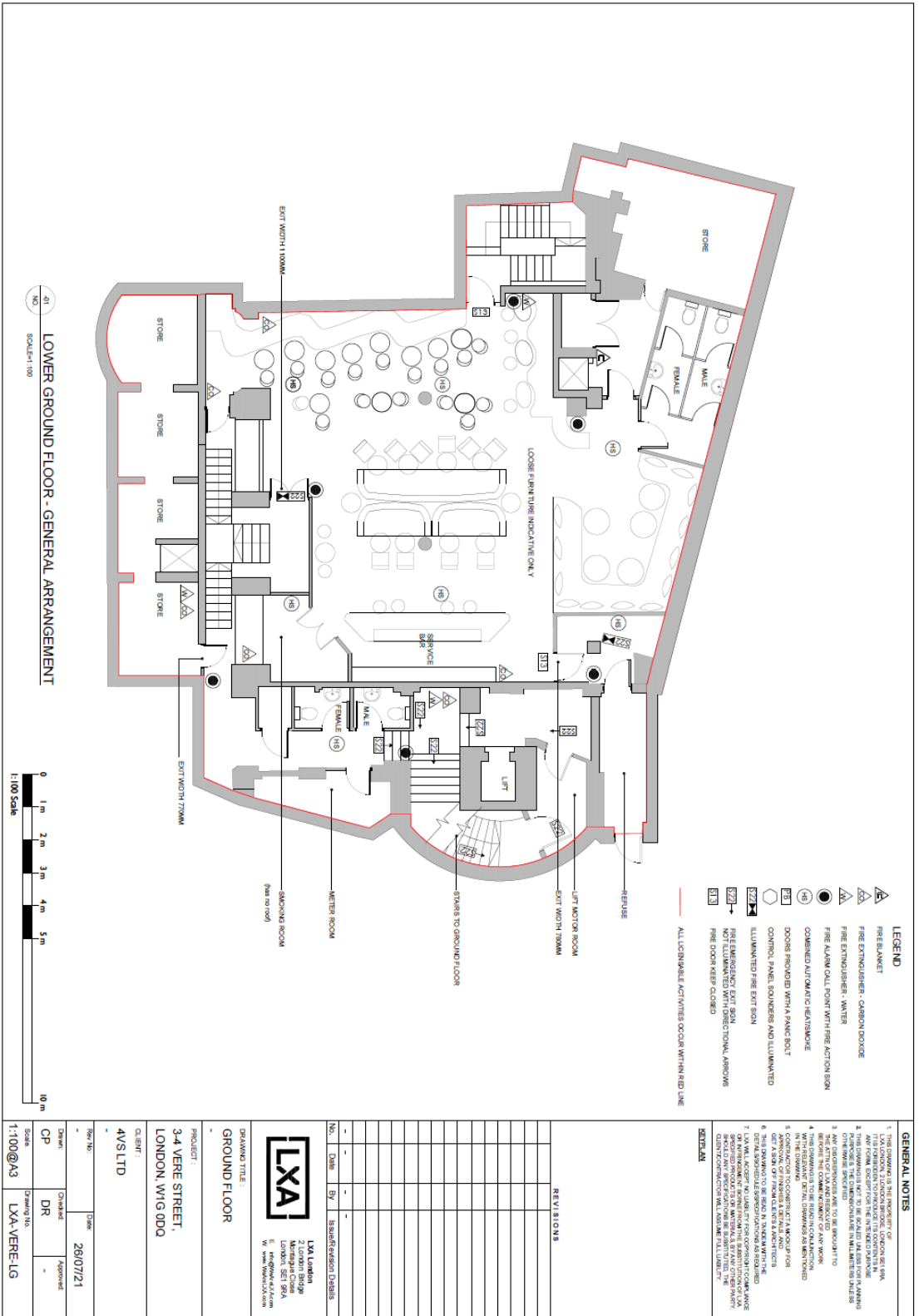
the provision of late-night refreshment from the terminal hour for those activities on New Year's Eve through to the commencement time for those activities on New Year's Day.

51. On the morning that Greenwich Mean Time changes to British Summer Time one hour will be added to the terminal hour of any activities and to the closing time for the premises where the existing terminal hour for the activities and/or closing hour for the premises ends after 01.00 hours.

**Annex 3 – Conditions attached after a hearing by the licensing authority**

None









**City of Westminster**  
64 Victoria Street, London, SW1E 6QP

**Premises licence  
summary**

Regulation 33, 34

**Premises licence number:**

22/07163/LIPT

**Part 1 – Premises details**

**Postal address of premises:**

3 - 4 Vere Street  
London  
W1G 0DQ

**Telephone Number:** Not Supplied

**Where the licence is time limited, the dates:**

Not applicable

**Licensable activities authorised by the licence:**

- Performance of Dance
- Exhibition of a Film
- Performance of Live Music
- Playing of Recorded Music
- Late Night Refreshment
- Sale by Retail of Alcohol

**The times the licence authorises the carrying out of licensable activities:**

**Performance of Dance**

Sunday to Tuesday:	10:00 to 02:00
Wednesday to Saturday:	10:00 to 05:00

*Seasonal Details:* On the morning that GMT changes to BST 1 hr will be added to the terminal hr of any activities and to the closing time after 1am

**Exhibition of a Film**

Sunday to Tuesday:	10:00 to 02:00
Wednesday to Saturday:	10:00 to 05:00

*Seasonal Details:* On the morning that GMT changes to BST 1 hr will be added to the terminal hr of any activities and to the closing time after 1am

**Performance of Live Music**

Sunday to Tuesday:	10:00 to 02:00
Wednesday to Saturday:	10:00 to 05:00

*Seasonal Details:* On the morning that GMT changes to BST 1 hr will be added to the terminal hr of any activities and to the closing time after 1am

**Playing of Recorded Music**

Sunday to Tuesday:	10:00 to 02:00
Wednesday to Saturday:	10:00 to 05:00

*Seasonal Details:* On the morning that GMT changes to BST 1 hr will be added to the terminal hr of any activities and to the closing time after 1am

**Late Night Refreshment**

Sunday to Tuesday: 23:00 to 02:00 (Mezzanine & Ground Floors)

Wednesday to Saturday: 23:00 to 05:00 (Mezzanine & Ground Floors)  
Sunday to Tuesday: 23:00 to 02:00 (Basement Floor)  
Wednesday to Saturday: 23:00 to 05:00 (Basement Floor)

*Seasonal Details:* On the morning that GMT changes to BST 1 hr will be added to the terminal hr of any activities and to the closing time after 1am

**Sale by Retail of Alcohol**

Sunday to Tuesday: 10:00 to 02:00 (Mezzanine & Ground Floors)  
Wednesday to Saturday: 10:00 to 03:00 (Mezzanine & Ground Floors)  
Sunday to Tuesday: 10:00 to 02:00 (Basement Floor)  
Wednesday to Saturday: 10:00 to 03:00 (Basement Floor)

*Seasonal Details:* On the morning that GMT changes to BST 1 hr will be added to the terminal hr of any activities and to the closing time after 1am

**The opening hours of the premises:**

Sunday to Tuesday: 09:00 to 02:00  
Wednesday to Saturday: 09:00 to 05:00

*Seasonal Details:* On the morning that GMT changes to BST 1 hr will be added to the terminal hr of any activities and to the closing time after 1am

**Where the licence authorises supplies of alcohol, whether these are on and/or off supplies:**

Alcohol is supplied for consumption both on and off the Premises.

**Name and (registered) address of holder of premises licence:**

Clarmans Clubs Ltd  
48 Warwick Street  
London  
W1B 5AW

**Registered number of holder, for example company number, charity number (where applicable)**

13810956

**Name of designated premises supervisor where the premises licence authorises for the supply of alcohol:**

Name: Mr Terry Alan Barnes

**State whether access to the premises by children is restricted or prohibited:**

Restricted

Date: 16 January 2022

This licence has been authorised by Kevin Jackaman on behalf of the Director - Public Protection and Licensing.



**Sex Establishment licence history**

**Appendix F**

No history exists in respect of the premises

1. Whilst Relevant Entertainment is taking place no person under the age of 18 shall be on the licensed premises and a clear notice to that effect shall be displayed at the entrance in a prominent position so that it can be easily read by persons entering the premises.
2. Whenever persons under the age of 18 are admitted to the premises there will be no promotional or other material on display within the premises which depicts nudity or partial nudity.
3. The licence or a clear copy shall be prominently displayed at all times so as to be readily and easily seen by all persons using the premises.
4. No provision of relevant entertainment, or material depicting nudity or relevant entertainment, shall be visible from outside the premises.
5. Menus and drinks price lists shall be clearly displayed at the front entrance of the club, reception area, tables and bar at such a position and size as to be easily read by customers. This price list shall show all consumable items and any minimum tariff including charges and fees applicable to Performers.
6. Except with the consent of the Licensing Authority, no advertisements of any kind (including placard, poster, sticker, flyer, picture, letter, sign or other mark) shall be inscribed or affixed at the premises, on the surface of the highway or on any building, structure, works, street furniture, tree or any other property or be distributed in the street to the public that advertises or promotes the relevant entertainment at the premises.
7. The licence holder or other person concerned in the conduct or management of the premises shall not seek to obtain custom by means of personal solicitation or touting, nor enter into any agreement with a third party to do so.
8. Adequate toilets, washing and changing facilities for use by the Performers shall be provided.
9. Either the licence holder or a named responsible person shall be present throughout the time the Relevant Entertainment takes place.
10. The premises will install and maintain a comprehensive CCTV system as per the minimum requirements of a Westminster Police Licensing Team that ensures all areas of the licensed premises are monitored including all entry and exit points will be covered enabling frontal identification of every person entering any light condition. All cameras shall continually record whilst the premises is open for licensable activities and during all times when customers remain on the premises. All recordings shall be stored for a minimum period of 31 days with date and time stamping. Recordings shall be made available immediately upon the request of Police or authorised officer throughout the preceding 31 day period together with facilities for viewing
11. A staff member from the premises who is conversant with the operation of the CCTV system shall be on the premises at all times when the premises is open to the public and

this staff member should be able to show Police recent data and footage with the absolute minimum of delay of the request.

12. An incident log shall be kept at the premises, and made available on request to the Licensing Authority or the Police, which will record the following:
  - (a) all crimes reported to the venue;
  - (b) all ejections of patrons;
  - (c) any complaints received;
  - (d) any incidents of disorder;
  - (e) seizures of drugs or offensive weapons;
  - (f) any faults in the CCTV system or searching equipment or scanning equipment;
  - (g) any refusal of the sale of alcohol;
  - (h) any visit by a relevant authority or emergency service;
  - (i) any breach of licence conditions reported by a Performer
13. The licence holder shall produce a Code of Conduct setting out rules and obligations between the licence holder and performers whilst performing. All Performers shall sign the Code of Conduct in their proper name acknowledging that they have read, understood and are prepared to abide by the said Code of Conduct, and a copy so signed shall be retained by the licence holder and shall be readily available for inspection by the Police and/or authorised persons upon reasonable request.
14. Individual records shall be kept at the premises of the real names, stage names and addresses of all Performers working at the premises. The record will include either a copy of their birth certificate, current passport, EU driving licence or national identity card and shall be made immediately available for inspection by the Police and/or the Licensing Authority upon request.
15. Details of all work permits and/or immigration status relating to persons working at the premises shall be retained by the licence holder and be readily available for inspection by the Licensing Authority, a Police Officer or Immigration Officer.
16. Relevant entertainment shall be given only by performers and the audience shall not be permitted to participate in the relevant entertainment.
17. There shall be no physical contact between Performers whilst performing.
18. Performers will not request or give out any telephone number, address or any other contact information from or to any customer. Any such information given by a customer shall be surrendered to the premises manager as soon as is practicable.
19. Relevant Entertainment shall take place only in the designated areas approved by the Licensing Authority as shown on the licence plan. Arrangements for access to the dressing room shall be maintained at all times whilst Relevant Entertainment is taking place and immediately thereafter.
20. Customers must remain fully clothed at all times. The Performer must not remove any of the customer's clothing at any time.
21. Where relevant entertainment is provided in booths, or other areas of the premises where private performances are provided, the booth or area shall not have a door or

other similar closure, the area shall be constantly monitored by CCTV, and access to the booth or other area shall be adequately supervised. There shall be door staff on duty near the booths at all times when they are in use.

22. Whenever Relevant Entertainment is being provided there shall be no physical contact between Performers and customers or between customers and Performers except for the exchanging of money or tokens at the beginning or conclusion of the performance and only for the purpose of that performance. Clearly legible notices to this effect shall clearly be displayed in each private booth and in any performance area.
23. Performers must redress fully immediately after each performance.
24. The maximum number of persons accommodated at any one time (including staff) shall not exceed (x) persons.
25. The Licence will have no effect until the Licensing Authority are satisfied that the premises is constructed or altered in accordance with the appropriate provisions of the District Surveyor's Association - Technical Standards for Places of Entertainment and the reasonable requirements of Westminster Environmental Health Consultation Team, at which time this condition will be removed from the Licence.
26. Before the premises opens to the public, the plans as deposited will be checked by the Environmental Health Consultation Team to ensure they are an accurate reflection of the premises constructed. Where the premises layout has changed during the course of construction new plans shall be provided to the LFEPA, Environmental Health Consultation Team, the Police and the Licensing Authority.
27. Door staff shall be employed at all times when the premises are open for licensable activity. There shall be a minimum of two door supervisors to be employed at the entrance of the premises after 8pm. All door supervisors at the entrance shall wear yellow high visibility jackets and be in radio contact with Security and management. All security on the premises shall display their SIA licenses at all times.
28. Payment for private dances and the performance time, will be made at a payment desk away from the VIP areas.
29. All transactions will be recorded audibly as well as on CCTV.
30. A maximum of two performers only per customer.
31. All customer receipts must detail the name, address, and contact number of the premises.
32. All alcohol purchased will be itemised individually on the customer receipt.
33. Performers will not be present at the point of payment.
34. Gratuities will be clearly itemised on each receipt given to customer

### **Conditions agreed with Objector 2**

35. There shall be no signage affixed to the premises advertising Relevant Entertainment.
36. Relevant Entertainment may only take place in the basement and not on any other floor of the premises.
37. Except in cases of emergency evacuation, the main entrance/exit doors at ground/mezzanine level shall not be used by performers or for direct access/egress by customers visiting the premises for Relevant Entertainment.
38. The number of persons accommodated in the basement shall not exceed 110 (excluding staff and performers) at any one time.

## **Informative**

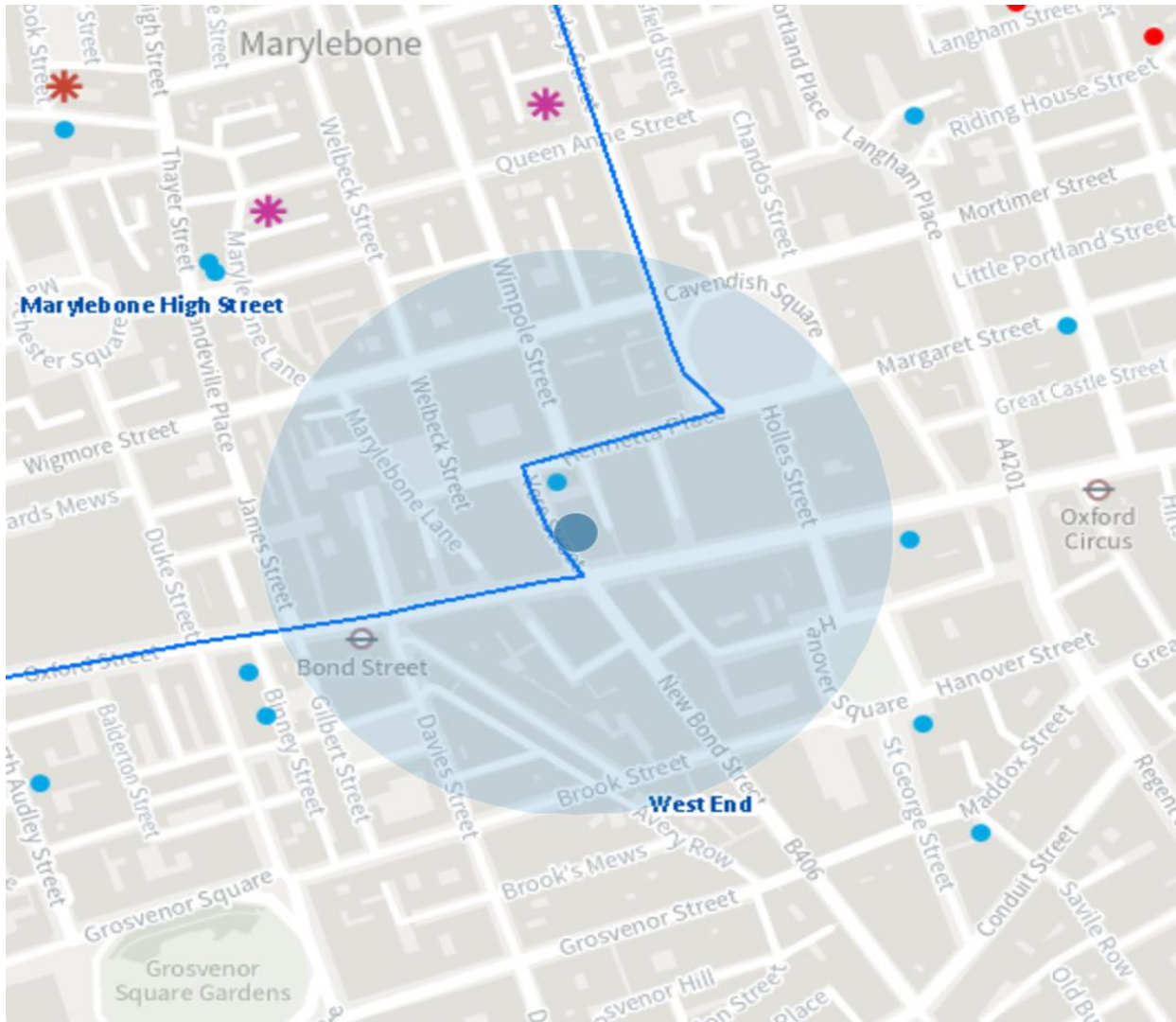
### Definitions

Relevant Entertainment is defined as:

- (a) any live performance or
- (b) any live display of nudity

which is of a nature that, ignoring financial gain, it must reasonably be assumed to be provided solely or principally for the purpose of sexually stimulating any member of the audience (whether by verbal or other means).

Performer is defined as any person operating at a sexual entertainment venue who carries out any activity falling within the definition of Relevant Entertainment.



Resident count: 370  
Sex Establishments: 0  
Schools: 0  
Faith Groups: 1

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