



City of Westminster Licensing Sub-Committee

Meeting:	<i>Licensing Sub-Committee</i>
Date:	<i>23 November 2023</i>
Classification:	<i>General Release</i>
Premises:	<i>Sunset Strip, Basement to First Floor, 30 Dean Street, London, W1D 3SA</i> <i>23/05797/LISEVR</i>
Wards Affected:	<i>West End</i>
Financial Summary:	<i>None</i>
Report of:	<i>Operational Director for Premises Management</i>

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The council has received an application for the renewal of the sex establishment licence under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 (as amended by the Policing and Crime Act 2009) for Sunset Strip, Basement to First Floor, 30 Dean Street, London, W1D 3SA. The report sets out the application details, representations, policy and legal context along with other considerations that the Committee requires to determine this application.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That following consideration of the information given orally at the hearing and in writing by the applicants and objectors to:
 - 2.1.1 Grant the application in full
 - 2.1.2 Grant the application subject to the standard conditions and/or any modifications to any part of the application and imposition of any additional conditions proposed by a party to the hearing, or
 - 2.1.3 Refuse the application

3. Relevant History

- 3.1 Sunset Strip has operated as a sex establishment since 2012. Following the grant of the sex establishment licence in 2012, annual renewal applications on behalf of Mr Anthony Curran and Mr Declan Forde have been submitted and granted under delegated authority save for the renewals submitted in 2017, 2019 and 2021 which were granted by Licensing Sub-Committee on 11 January 2018, 13 February 2020 and 12 January 2022 respectively.
- 3.2 The last renewal application for this licence was submitted on 15 September 2022.
- 3.3 On 14 March 2023 an application to transfer the licence Mr Anthony Curran and Mr Declan Forde to Sohomead Limited was received. The application was granted under delegated authority on 11 April 2023. This licence (reference 23/01573/LISEVT) expired on 30 September 2023. A copy of this licence is attached as **Appendix A**.
- 3.2 A copy of the full sex establishment licence history for this premises since 2012 is attached as **Appendix B**.

4. Application being considered

- 4.1 On 4 September 2023 Sohomead Limited applied to renew the sexual entertainment venue premises licence to provide striptease, pole dancing and table dancing involving full and partial nudity between the hours of 09:00 to 01:00 on each of the days Monday to Saturday and 09:00 to 23:00 on Sunday.
- 4.2 The applicant has not requested to change the relevant entertainment or to remove any standard conditions to the licence if this application is granted. A copy of the application form is attached as **Appendix C**.
- 4.3 As a valid application has been received prior to the expiry of the SEV Premises Licence, the licence is deemed to continue until it is determined by the Council.

5. Objections

- 5.1 The application has received 2 objections from the Licensing Authority and the Metropolitan Police Service. The representations and supporting documents appear at **Appendix D**
- 5.2 There have not been any objections received from any interested parties.

6. Licensing Act 2003 Premises Licence

- 6.1 The premises also have the benefit of a premises licence. The current premises licence reference is 23/01570/LIPT and a copy of the premises licence appears at **Appendix F**

7. Policy Considerations

7.1 Suitability of applicant – SU1

The applicant has stated that no relevant offences have been committed. In addition, the Police and the Council's Licensing Inspectorate have carried out fit and proper persons checks and have not made any objections to the application.

7.2 SEV carried on for the benefit of another person – SU2

The Police and the Council's Licensing Inspectorate have undertaken appropriate checks and have made no comments.

7.3 Appropriate number of SEV in a locality – NO1

The appropriate number of sexual entertainment venues in the relevant localities is 25 in the Westminster core CAZ north. As the premises are currently licensed this application, if granted, will not exceed 25.

7.4 Character of the relevant locality – LO1

Dean Street is a small street in Soho with both pedestrian and vehicular access. Within a 100 metre radius of the premises, there is a resident count of 229.

7.5 Use of premises in the vicinity – LO2

The main use of the premises in the immediate vicinity are commercial. There is one sex shop within a 100 metre radius of the premises. There are no schools, or places of worship within a 100 metre radius of the premises. A map of the relevant locality is attached to this report as **Appendix G**.

7.6 Layout, character or condition of the venue – LO3

The premises is spread over the basement, ground floor and first floors however no SEV activities takes place on the ground or first floors.

8. Legal Implications

8.1 The Licensing Sub-Committee may determine to:

- (a) Grant the application in full
- (b) Grant with additional special conditions which the Licensing Sub-Committee deem appropriate; or
- (c) Refuse the application.

8.2 Before refusing to renew an application, the Licensing Authority shall give the licence holder an opportunity to appear before and of being heard by the Licensing Sub-Committee (Para 10(19) Schedule 3 LG(MP)A1982).

8.3 In considering this application, the Licensing Sub-Committee shall have regard to any observations submitted to them by the Chief Officer of Police and any objections that

have been received in writing within the 28 day consultation period (Para 10(18) Schedule 3 LG(MP)A1982).

- 8.4 The Licensing Sub-Committee may refuse to grant or renew a licence for the following reasons set out in (Para 12(3) Schedule 3 LG(MP)A1982):
- (a) that the applicant is unsuitable to hold a licence by reason of having been convicted of an offence or for any other reason;
 - (b) that if the licence were to be granted the business to which it relates would be managed by or carried on for the benefit of a person, other than the applicant, who would be refused the grant of such a licence if he made the application himself;
 - (c) that the number of sex establishments, or of sex establishments of a particular kind, in the relevant locality at the time the application is determined is equal to or exceeds the number which the authority consider is appropriate for that locality;
 - (d) that the grant or renewal of the licence would be inappropriate, having regard:
 - (i) to the character of the relevant locality; or
 - (ii) to the use to which any premises in the vicinity are put; or
 - (iii) to the layout, character or condition of the premises, vehicle, vessel or stall in respect of which the application is made.

An applicant whose application for the grant or renewal of a licence is refused on either ground specified in paragraph (c) or (d) above shall not have the right to appeal to the magistrates' court.

- 8.5 If the Licensing Sub-Committee determine to grant a Sexual Entertainment Venue licence, the licence will be subject to the Standard Conditions for Sexual Entertainment Venue licences, unless the Sub-Committee determines that certain Standard Conditions should be expressly excluded or varied (Para 13(4) Schedule 3 LG(MP)A1982).
- 8.6 Should the Licensing Sub-Committee determine to refuse the application for the renewal of a licence under Paragraph 12(3)(a) or (b) Schedule 3 LG(MP)A 1982, the applicant may appeal to the Magistrates' Court within 21 days beginning with the date on which the applicant is notified of the refusal of his application (Para 27(1) Schedule 3 LG(MP)A1982).

9. Human Rights and Equality Issues

- 9.1 In making a decision consideration will need to be given to the applicant's rights under the European Convention on Human Rights. The right to peaceful enjoyment of possessions (Article 1 of the First Protocol) and freedom of expression (Article 10) may be relevant.
- 9.2 The Council in its capacity as Licensing Authority has a duty to have regard to its public sector equality duty under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010. In summary section 149 provides that a Public Authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to-
- (a) eliminate discrimination harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
 - (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it; and
 - (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristics and persons who do not share it.

- 9.3 Section 149 (7) of the Equality Act 2010 defines the relevant protected characteristics as age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation.
- 9.4 An Equalities Impact Assessment has been conducted and the Council believes that the granting of this application for the sexual entertainment venue licence renewal for Sunset Strip will not have an adverse impact or unlawfully discriminates against any protected characteristics.

Appendices

- A - Copy of existing sex establishment licence
- B - Sex establishment licence history
- C - Application form
- D – Objections
- E – Applicant supporting documents
- F - Copy of premises licence
- G – Map of locality

If you have any queries about this Report or wish to inspect any of the background papers please contact: Kevin Jackaman on 020 7641 6500 or at kjackaman@westminster.gov.uk

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982
Policing and Crime Act 2009
Sexual Entertainment Venues Statement of Licensing Policy 2012
Sexual Entertainment Venues Guidance and Procedure effective 17 February 2012
Home Office Guidance March 2010

SEX ESTABLISHMENT LICENCE
Sexual Entertainment Venue

Premises licence number:	23/01573/LISEVT
Original Reference:	12/02487/LISEVN

The CITY OF WESTMINSTER, under the provisions of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 as amended by the Policing and Crime Act 2009

hereby licences: Sohomead Limited
30 Dean Street
to use the premises: London
W1D 3RZ

as a Sexual Entertainment Venue.

This licence commences on 01 October 2022 and will expire on 30 September 2023.

Relevant Entertainment (namely table dancing and pole dancing and involves implied nudity, full and partial nudity) may be provided during the following times:

Monday to Saturday	09:00 to 01:00
Sunday	09:00 to 23:00

Relevant Entertainment may only be provided in the permitted areas outlined in red shown on the plans attached at Appendix 1.

This licence is granted subject to the conditions attached at Appendix 2.

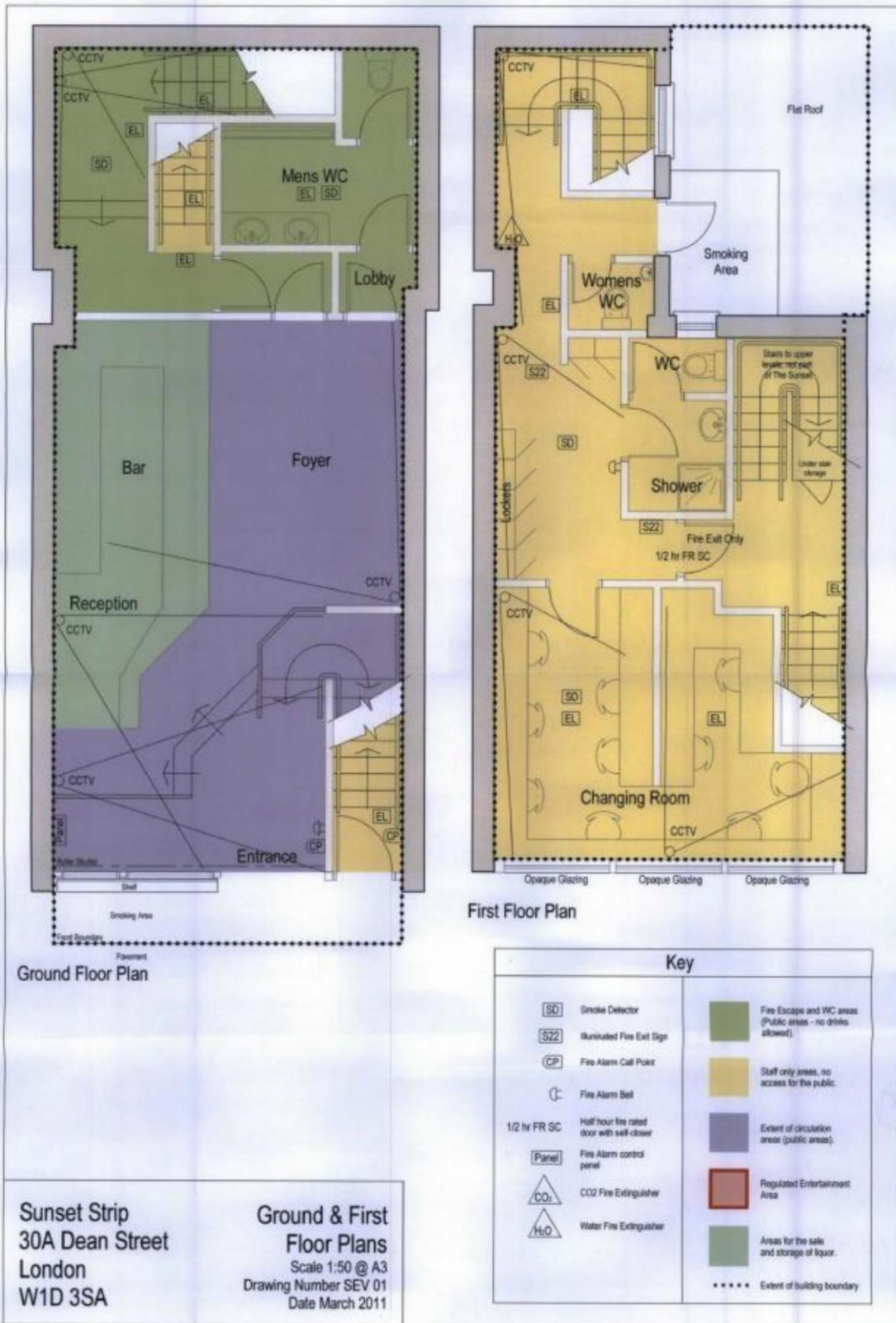
DATE: 11 April 2023

SIGNED: 

**On behalf of the Director – Public Protection
and Licensing**



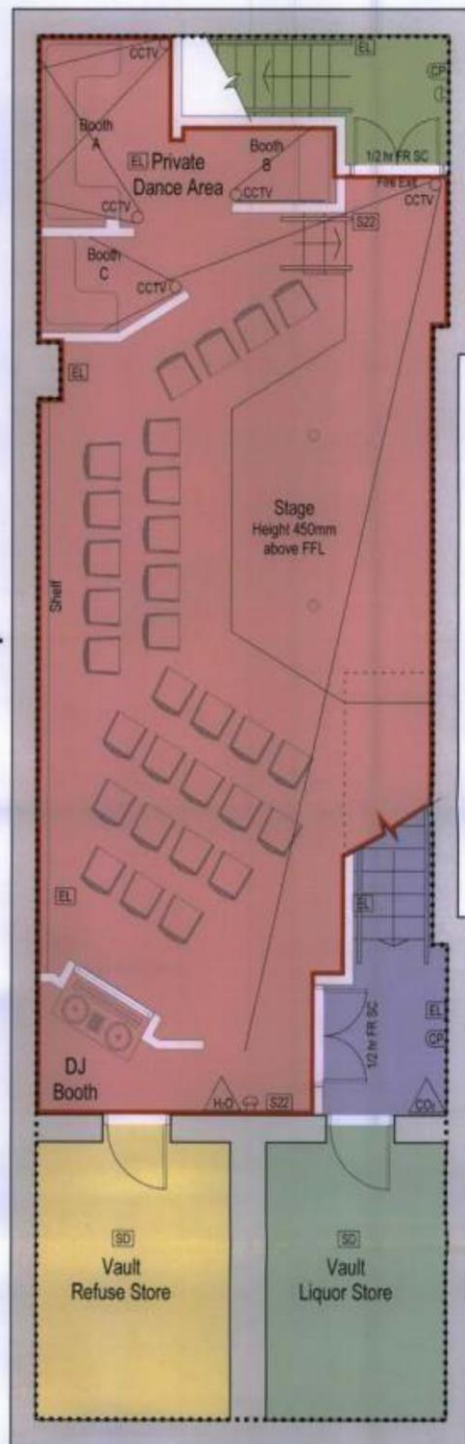
Appendix 1- Plans





Front Elevation

Key		
SD	Smoke Detector	Fire Escape and WC areas (Public areas - no drinks allowed).
S22	Illuminated Fire Exit Sign	Staff only areas, no access for the public.
CP	Fire Alarm Call Point	Extent of circulation areas (public areas).
Bell	Fire Alarm Bell	Regulated Entertainment Area
1/2 hr FR SC	Half hour fire rated door with self-closer	Areas for the sale and storage of liquor.
Panel	Fire Alarm control panel	Extent of building boundary
CO ₂	CO ₂ Fire Extinguisher	
H ₂ O	Water Fire Extinguisher	



Basement Plan

Sunset Strip
30A Dean Street
London
W1D 3SA

Basement Plan &
Front Elevation
Scale 1:50 @ A3
Drawing Number SEV 02
Date March 2011

Appendix 2 – Conditions

Standard Conditions:

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 Metropolitan Police Crime Prevention Officer 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
 - (j) any breach of licence condition 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.

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.

Additional Conditions:

24. An SIA trained licensed doorman shall be based in the basement at all times when relevant entertainment is taking place.
25. The maximum number of customers accommodated in the area [private dance area] at any one time shall be 4 persons excluding staff, dancers, or hostesses.
26. In the private dance area entertainment may be provided solely by fully nude dancers to customers seated at tables in the approved part of the premises. No audience participation shall be permitted.
27. The maximum number of persons accommodated within the premises at any one time (including staff) shall not exceed 65 persons.
28. All emergency doors shall be maintained effectively self closing and not held open other than by an approved device.
29. The edges of the treads of steps and stairways shall be maintained so as to be conspicuous.
30. Curtains and hangings shall be arranged so as not to obstruct emergency signs.
31. The approved arrangements at the premises, including means of escape provisions, emergency warning equipment, the electrical installation and mechanical equipment, shall at all material times be maintained in good condition and full working order.
32. The means of escape provided for the premises shall be maintained unobstructed, free of trip hazards, be immediately available and clearly identified in accordance with the plans provided.
33. All exit doors shall be available at all material times without the use of a key, code, card or similar means.
34. Any special effects or mechanical installations shall be arranged and stored so as to minimise any risk to the safety of those using the premises. The following special effects will only be used on 10 days prior notice being given to the Licensing Authority where consent has not previously been given.

- i. pyrotechnics including fire works
- ii. firearms

- iii.lasers
- iv.explosives and highly flammable substances.
- v.real flame.
- vi.strobe lighting.

- 35. No noise shall emanate from the premises nor vibration be transmitted through the structure of the premises which gives rise to a nuisance.
- 36. No relevant entertainment shall be provided at the premises until such time that the premises have been inspected by the Licensing Authority and Environmental Health.

Sex Establishment Licence History**Appendix B**

Licence Number	Application	Determination	Date Granted
12/02487/LISEVN	Application to renew Sexual Entertainment Venue licence	Granted by Licensing Sub-Committee	11.06.2012
13/07301/LISEVR	Application to renew Sexual Entertainment Venue licence	Granted under delegated authority	17.12.2013
14/08306/LISEVR	Application to renew Sexual Entertainment Venue licence	Granted under delegated authority	9.12.2014
15/08431/LISEVR	Application to renew Sexual Entertainment Venue licence	Granted under delegated authority	4.11.2015
16/10306/LISEVR	Application to renew Sexual Entertainment Venue licence	Granted under delegated authority	2.12.2016
17/10883/LISEVR	Application to renew Sexual Entertainment Venue licence	Granted by Licensing Sub-Committee	11.01.2018
18/11617/LISEVR	Application to renew Sexual Entertainment Venue licence	Granted under delegated authority	16.11.2018
19/12460/LISEVR	Application to renew Sexual Entertainment Venue licence	Granted by Licensing Sub-Committee	13.02.2020
20/08821/LISEVR	Application to renew Sexual Entertainment Venue licence	Granted under delegated authority	26.10.2020
21/10396/LISEVR	Application to renew Sexual Entertainment Venue licence	Granted by Licensing Sub-Committee	12.01.2022
22/08759/LISEVR	Application to renew Sexual Entertainment Venue licence	Granted under delegated authority	31.10.2022
23/01573/LISEVT	Application to transfer Sexual Entertainment Venue licence	Granted under delegated authority	11.04.2023
23/05227/LISEVV	Application to transfer Sexual Entertainment Venue licence	Awaiting determination	N/A

Westminster City Council

Application for a sexual entertainment venue licence

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982

Application is hereby made and the necessary fee will be sent for a:

New Licence	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Transfer of Licence	<input type="checkbox"/>	Licence search
Renewal of Licence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Licence number <input type="text" value="23/01573/LISEVT"/>
Variation of Licence	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Part 1 - Application Details

Name of premises

Address of premises

Postcode

The application is being made -

If application is made on behalf of an individual:

Title	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Name	<input type="text"/>	Occupation (during preceding six months)
Surname	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Date of birth	<input type="text"/>	Telephone number

If application is made on behalf of a corporate or incorporated body:

Name of applicant body:

Is this an unincorporated or body corporate? Unincorporated Body corporate

Registered / principal office address:

Postcode

Company number

Full names of directors and other persons responsible for the management of the body, including the names of managers, company secretary and similar officers and the manager of the establishment

Please continue by answering the questions you are asked below -

Part 2 - Licence Details

What hours and what days are you applying for?

What *relevant* entertainment will be performed?

For variation applications - what does the variation consist of?

Is only part of the building to be licensed?

No

Yes Please provide details

Will any part of the premises be used for the exhibition of moving pictures?

No

Yes Please provide details

Does the applicant presently use the premises as a sex establishment?

No

Yes If yes, when did the use commence?

If not, what is the present use?

Supporting Material Checklist - *tick to confirm*

- I understand that I am required to send this application with a plan showing the area to be licensed and the statutory declarations for the applicants, the directors of the company applying for the licence and any other person who will be responsible for the management of the licensed premises.

I confirm that no changes have taken place since the last renewal



All supporting material should be sent / provided to the address shown on the declaration.

Declaration Page

Important

It is an offence, liable on conviction to a fine up to level 5 on the standard scale, under section 158 of the licensing act 2003 to make a false statement in or in connection with this application

Fee

The non-returnable fee for this application is and must be submitted with this application.

An additional fee of will be payable before any approval is issued

Declaration

I hereby declare that the information given on this form is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

I understand we are required to send / provide the sum of , being the fee for this application.

Confirmation *Date* *Name*
Capacity

Contact details for correspondence, leave blank if due to be provided premises address

Title	<input type="text" value="Ms"/>	
Name	<input type="text" value="Lana"/>	
Surname	<input type="text" value="Tricker"/>	
Postal address	<input type="text" value="Lt Law
18 Soho Square
London"/>	Telephone number <input type="text" value=""/>
	Postcode <input type="text" value="W1D 3QL"/>	Email address <input type="text" value=""/>

Supporting Material Return Address

Please send all supporting material to the address below. Specific documents will be returned to the correspondence address after a decision has been made regarding the application.

Licensing Authority objection

Dear Sirs

I am authorised on behalf of the Licensing Authority of Westminster City Council to carry out its functions in considering Sex Establishment applications made under the provisions of Part II, Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982.

I write in relation to the application submitted for the renewal of a sexual entertainment licence at Basement to First Floor, 30 Dean Street, London, W1D 3SA which was made by Sohomead Limited.

The Licensing Authority has serious concerns in regards to several breaches of conditions that were witnessed by the council's city inspectors on two of their inspections after following up on an anonymous complaint. The complaint was received into the Licensing Service on the 2nd of September stating a series of allegations concerning conduct of staff and management at Sunset Strip. The Council's City Inspectors Mr Leroy Adedeji and Mr James Joyce carried out a visit on the 15th and 16th of September 2023 and witnessed breaches of the licence. Please see attached as Appendix A, observations memo of the list of conditions breached, Appendix B a statement from Mr Leroy Adedeji and Appendix C a statement from Mr James Joyce.

The Licensing Authority intends to call on both of the council's city inspectors as a witness.

Should the Licensing Authority wish to provide further submission they will do so before the hearing.

Please accept this as a formal objection.

Licensing Authority supporting documents

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

(C.J. Act 1967,s,9; M.C. Act 1980, ss5A(3)(a) and 5B, Criminal Procedure Rules 2005, r27.1(1))

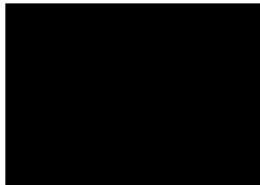
Statement of: Heath RICHARDS

Age of witness: **Over 21**

Occupation of Witness: **Team Manager**

This statement, consisting of 4 (four) pages signed by me, is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.


Signed:




Dated: 14 February 2023

I am employed by Westminster City Council as a Team Manager in the Public Protection and Licensing Department, 15th Floor, City Hall, 64 Victoria Street, SW1E 6Q. I have held enforcement roles with the City Council since 2006 and am authorised for the purpose of the Licensing Act 2003 and Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982, and as amended by the 2009 Act.

On Saturday 11 February 2023 at 21.00 hours, I was on duty on DEAN STREET, SOHO W1 with senior city inspector, Ian DOWNES. My intention was to visit the premises known as SUNSET STRIP, located at 30 DEAN STREET, LONDON W1D 3SA to carry out full inspections of both the premises licence and also the Sexual Entertainment Venue (SEV) licence.

On arrival at the premises, I was met by the person in charge, 

 The first thing I noted was that The SEV licence on display at the entrance to the premises had expired on September 30 2019.

I then asked [REDACTED] if she knew how to operate the CCTV system in line with condition 11 of the SEV licence. She said she could and then proceed to show me footage of the private booths on two random dates which I had selected. These were.

- January 28 2023, and then
- February 5 2023.

On the first date in January at 21.58 hours and the second in February at 00.17 hours I noted that there was physical contact between the dancer and customer. I pointed this out to [REDACTED] and then I made reference to condition 22 of the SEV licence which states the following:

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.

[REDACTED] then who immediately paused the video and proceeded to write down on a piece of paper the name of the female performers who had been captured on CCTV. She then said she will take the matter up with the females concerned.

I tried to view footage of other private dances however the quality of the imaging was of a very poor quality, thus making such viewing very difficult. Furthermore, I noted that some of the cameras were not working. I then inspected the incident logbook which bore incidents of note, but the fact that some of the CCTV cameras were not operational or working was not noted in the log, which was a requirement under Condition 12 of the SEV Licence.

Condition 5 of the SEV Licence required clear display of menus, drinks prices and any performer fees. This literature was required to be on the bar counter and tables. However, I noted there were no menus or otherwise of any description or type located anywhere within the premises.

I then looked at the bar area and was aware that in accordance with Mandatory Condition 9(iii) of the premises licence, smaller measure of wine by the glass were required to be made available in a 125ml measure to customers and there was also the requirement that this measure was clearly displayable to all customers. Neither of which were in place at the time of the inspection.

I informed [REDACTED] that due to the number of irregularities found, a re-inspection was necessary. She in turn gave assurances that all of the highlighted matters would be addressed on my next visit. The details of this inspection were then sent to the legal representative acting for the premises, Ms Lana Tricker.

I revisited Sunset Strip on March 25, 2023, at 20.17 hours and was met by the designated premises supervisor, [REDACTED]. I explained the reason for my visit and asked him in the first instance to show me some random dates of footage covering the private booths as I wanted to establish overall compliance with condition 22.

[REDACTED] was not entirely competent with operating the CCTV and he went on to say that the system had just been upgraded. We viewed two dances, and I noted compliance with condition 22.

We then discussed the earlier highlighted issues and I noted that these had been addressed with the exception of the drinks menu which simply had on it the word 'shots'. I pointed out that it was not clear that spirits (or shots) were available in smaller measures. [REDACTED] agreed and promised to ensure that the wording of

the menu would be updated to include measures available in either 25ml or 35m measure and that these would specifically relate to gin, rum, vodka, and whisky.

I then left the premises at 21.10 hours.

Signed:



Dated: 14 February 2023

City of Westminster

Memorandum

TO Karyn Abbott

REFERENCE 23/01573/LISEVR

FROM Leroy Adedeji
City Inspectors, 15th Floor, City Hall

DATE 26 SEPTEMBER 2023.

RE: Sunset Strip, 30 Dean Street, London W1D 3SA

On Friday 15th September 2023 at 23:30hrs, a planned Sex Establishment Venue inspection was conducted on Sunset Strip, 30 Dean Street London W1D 3SA. The premises had also applied for a renewal of their Sex Establishment Licence. An anonymous complaint/email received 2nd September 2023 by the Licensing Service stating a series of allegations concerning the conduct of staff and management at Sunset Strip was also investigated. A colleague – City Inspector James Joyce and I arrived at the venue and was met by the designated premises supervisor and premises licence holder – [REDACTED]. He was advised of our visit and our intention to carry out an inspection. Since the venue have both premises and SEV licences, I decided to conduct both inspections.

We proceeded to the basement of the venue where private dancing was taking place. At 23:45hrs, we witnessed a dancer in one of the private dancing booths, the customer was sat, and we saw him touching and caressing the dancer's thighs and legs. This continued for about 30 seconds while we try to get the attention of the duty Manager – [REDACTED]. During our inspection and a tour of the venue, a series of questions regarding noted breaches were raised and the duty manager became very argumentative. The following breaches on the SEV licence were noted and the DPS was unable to answer our questions. [REDACTED] admitted that he can't operate or have any knowledge of the CCTV cameras in the venue.

Condition 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.

Condition 16.

Relevant Entertainment shall be given only by Performers and the audience shall not be permitted to participate in the relevant entertainment.

City of Westminster

Memorandum

Condition 17.

There shall be no physical contact between Performers whilst performing.

Condition 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.

Condition 24.

An SIA trained licensed doorman shall be based in the basement at all times when relevant entertainment is taking place.

The above breaches were raised with [REDACTED] but he became very dismissive and started raising his voice. He explained that a member of staff that can operate the cameras will be coming in at around midnight. At 00:10hrs, 16th September 2023, a member of staff known as [REDACTED] walked into the premises and engaged with us. He was advised that we will return later the same day to request for CCTV footage.

On Saturday 16th September 2023 at 22:10hrs, my colleague – James Joyce and I arrived at the venue and was met by the duty Manager – [REDACTED]. She explained that either [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] was on duty. She added that the establishment was expecting [REDACTED] at around Midnight or before the end of the trading hours. We proceeded to the basement and at 22:15hrs, we noted a customer in the private dancing booth touching and grooming the dancer. Upon seeing us the lady quickly stopped the customer's further advances. We returned to the ground floor of the venue and had a conversation with [REDACTED]. She admitted she was not able to operate the CCTV cameras and unable to provide the code of conduct setting out rules and regulations between licence holder and performers whilst performing. The incident log was also inspected, and it was not up to date. I pointed to [REDACTED] the breaches on their SEV licence. In addition to the breaches spotted on Friday 16th September 2023, the following breaches were noted.

Condition 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;***

City of Westminster

Memorandum

- (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*
- (j) any breach of licence condition by a performer*

Condition 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.

Condition 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.

Condition 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.

We left the venue at 22:35hrs and returned at midnight. We waited for [REDACTED] and he arrived at 00:15hrs. He was given two x 16GB Westminster City Council issued USB memory sticks. He was asked to download 2 weeks of CCTV footage of all the private dancing booths dating 2nd September to 16th September 2023. The memory sticks were handed over to me at 00:35. I asked [REDACTED] about conditions 12, 13, 14 and 15 and he could not give definite answers. He explained that the documents requested are stored in an office away from the venue. At 01:40hrs, 17th September 2023 the two memory sticks were sealed and stored in the evidence safe on the 15th Floor.

On Wednesday 20th September 2023, in the presence of Westminster Police Licensing officers, attempts were made to view the footage downloaded by [REDACTED]. All we viewed on both memory sticks were footage of the ladies changing room between 05:30am and 09:00hrs. In the company of Police licensing officer – Steve Muldoon, we returned to the venue at 15:10hrs and was met by [REDACTED]. I narrated what happened on Saturday 16th September 2023 and the CCTV footage downloaded by his staff [REDACTED]. PC Steve Muldoon asked [REDACTED] if he can operate the CCTV cameras and hard drive. He responded that he is not conversant with the camera. PC Steve Muldoon explained to [REDACTED] that it was a breach, and a member of staff needs to be on the premises who is always conversant with the operation of the CCTV system.

City of Westminster

Memorandum

██████████ explained that he was expecting ██████████ to resume duties and train other staffs on the operation of the CCTV systems. ██████████ arrived at the venue at 16:40hrs and PC Steve Muldoon asked him series of questions regarding the operation of the CCTV system. He was handed over the 2 x 16gb USB memory sticks to download footages of all the private dancing booths. The dates requested are 25th and 26th August 1st, 2nd, 8th, 9th, 15th and 16th September 2023. The 2 memory sticks are securely stored in the evidence safe on the 15th floor awaiting viewing by officers.

A remedial letter was sent to ██████████ and Ms Lana Tricker concerning the findings of our inspections.

Based on the above alleged breaches, City Inspectors will object to the renewal of the SEV licence.

Please, if you have any queries concerning the information provided, do not hesitate to contact me or Heath Richards.

This concludes my evidence in this matter.

██████████
Leroy Adedeji
City Inspector

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

*(Criminal Procedure Rules, r. 27.2;
Criminal Justice Act 1967, s. 9, Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, s.5B)*

Page 1/4

This statement, consisting of four pages each signed by me, is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.

My name is Leroy Adedeji, I have worked for Westminster City Council since April 2003, and I am employed as a City Inspector. I am an authorised officer under The Licensing Act.

On Friday 15th September 2023 at 23:30hrs, a planned Sex Establishment Venue inspection was conducted on Sunset Strip, 30 Dean Street London W1D 3SA. The premises had also applied for a renewal of their Sex Establishment Licence. An anonymous complaint/email received 2nd September 2023 by the Licensing Service stating a series of allegations concerning the conduct of staff and management at Sunset Strip was also investigated. A colleague – City Inspector James Joyce and I arrived at the venue in plain clothes and was met by the designated premises supervisor and premises licence holder – [REDACTED] He was advised of our visit and our intention to carry out an inspection. Since the venue have both premises and SEV licences, I was the lead officer for the inspections and City Inspector – James Joyce was assisting me.

We proceeded to the basement of the premises where there are three private dancing booths. In one of the private dancing booths, James Joyce and I witnessed a white male of slim build rubbing and caressing the legs and thighs of a white female dancer, using both his hands. The white female was wearing very little, or no clothing while being touched by the white male. A closed-circuit TV camera is situated at the entrance of the private booth. The white female dancer made no attempt to stop the white male from touching her. We both observed the touching for approximately 30 seconds.

During the inspection, we noted several breaches of their licencing conditions. We both noted severe building decline of the fire exit from the basement to the ground floor. The emergency stairwell was part blocked with several items. The operating hinges of the basement fire door were broken.

We returned to the ground floor where the bar is situated and explained in more detail the breaches to the [REDACTED]. As we highlighted the licensing breaches to the [REDACTED], he became agitated and very argumentative. The DPS kept looking for loopholes in the SEV licence as to attempt to wriggle out of the breaches we had noted.

I requested [REDACTED] to produce CCTV footage of the previous night 14th September 2023, he replied "I don't know how to use the CCTV system". I asked him again to view the current recordings CCTV system and he replied, "I don't know how to operate the CCTV system" At approximately 00:10 on Saturday 16th of September an employee of the premises [REDACTED] walked into the premises and joined the conversation. Both [REDACTED] and the DPS [REDACTED] argued and insisted that some touching was allowed in their private booths. Both [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] stated that previous Westminster licensing officers allowed some touching in booths. The DPS became more agitated and stated that he was going to report City Inspector James Joyce for his conduct while talking to him.

As we discussed all the breaches noted, [REDACTED] stated he would be available to download the requested CCTV footage on Saturday 16th of September when he was next on duty. He advised that he would be on duty from Midnight on Saturday 16th September and invited us back to collect the downloaded CCTV footage. We departed the premises at 00:35hrs.

On Saturday 16th September 2023 at 22:10hrs, my colleague – James Joyce and I arrived at the venue and was met by the duty Manager – [REDACTED]. The purpose of our visit was to follow up on Friday 15th of September's visit and to establish if any improvements had been made to the premises. [REDACTED] explained that either [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] was on duty. She added that the establishment was expecting [REDACTED] at around Midnight or before the end of the trading hours.

While I was having a conversation with [REDACTED] who admitted having worked at the premises for six years, James Joyce proceeded to the basement for inspection of the private dancing booth. A white male SIA member of staff attempted to stop James Joyce from entering the basement by blocking the stairway entrance leading to the basement. I later joined James Joyce in the basement and witnessed the inappropriate touching of a female Dancer in one of the private dancing booths.

We both returned to the ground floor via the fire escape from the basement and found no effort had been made to fix the poor structure or removing the several items blocking the emergency exit stairwell. James Joyce asked [REDACTED] if she could operate the premises CCTV system, she replied "No, I do not know how to use it" I continued, and asked [REDACTED] to view the work documents of the 14 girls on the premises, but she was unable to do so. We departed the premises at approximately 22:35 and advised the SIA doormen that we will return at midnight when [REDACTED] will resume duty.

We returned to the premises on Sunday 17th of September at approximately 00:01 and met with [REDACTED] at 00:15hrs. I asked [REDACTED] to provide the code of conduct setting out rules and regulations between licence holder and performers whilst performing. I also requested the documents of all work permits and/or immigration status relating to persons working at the premises. He explained that the documents requested are stored in an office away from the venue. I stated and told him that condition 15 of their SEV licence makes it mandatory that the documents be retained by the licence holder and made readily available.

I gave [REDACTED] Council issued two x 16 gigabytes USB memory sticks and requested CCTV footage of all the private dancing booths from 20th August 2023 to 16th September 2023. [REDACTED] struggled to get the CCTV footage downloaded and I asked if he could download two weeks from the 2nd September to the 16th September. After waiting about ten minutes, he gave me the USB memory sticks. We both left the premises at 00:35hrs on Sunday 17th of September 2023. We returned to City Hall at 01:40hrs and the two x 16 gigabytes USB memory sticks were stored in evidence safe on the 15th floor, Westminster City Council 64 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6QP.

Signed: [REDACTED] (witness)

Date: 25/09/2023

(To be completed if applicable:
being unable to read the above statement I,of
....., read it to him/her before he/she signed it.

Signed: Date:)

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: 23/05797/LISEVR – Sunset Strip, Basement To First Floor, 30 Dean Street, London, W1D 3SA
Date: 13 November 2023 10:37:43
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[LSC Decision 13 Feb 2020.pdf](#)
[Leroy Adedeji Witness Statement Sunset Strip follow up visit 2 05.10.2023.pdf](#)

Dear Sirs

Further to the Licensing Authority's objection dated the 28th September 2023 please find further submissions in regards to the renewal application.

The Licensing Authority are maintaining our objection to this renewal application on the grounds of the applicant being unsuitable to hold an SEV Licence due to the number of continual breaches of the conditions attached to the SEV Licence that has been witnessed by our City Inspectors. A further witness statement is attached from City Inspector Leroy Adedeji from a visit on the 5th October 2023.

Westminster's Statement of Licensing Policy for Sexual Entertainment Venues, Policy SU1 under Paragraph 2.2.4 states

Under the 1982 Act the council has the discretion to refuse applications relating to sexual entertainment venues on the grounds that the applicant is unsuitable to hold a licence by reason of having been convicted of an offence or for any other reason.

Considerations

- (i) The nature, number and frequency of any offences committed by the applicant or companies in which they were a Director
- (ii) The background and history of the applicant in the operation or management of entertainment or licensed premises
- (iii) The history of any association, whether formal or informal, with the management of entertainment or licensed premises
- (iv) The nature of any pending action in relation to an alleged criminal offence committed by the applicant

Furthermore under the Policy in regards to compliance and management paragraph 3.1.1 and 3.1.7 goes on to state

3.1.1 The council considers that responsible management and the implementation of appropriate operating policies at sexual entertainment venues are essential to ensure the promotion of the licensing aims and objectives.

3.1.7 Through standard conditions the council seeks to ensure that sexual entertainment venues are well managed and supervised, restrict the sexual entertainment activities and the manner in which they are permitted to be provided, protect performers, and control the impact of the venue and its customers in relation to its locality.

These continual breaches have happened over a long period of time and I have attached the decision from the Licensing Sub-Committee on the 13th February 2020 for the renewal of the SEV licence where you can find on page 7 highlighted in yellow that the Sub-Committee stated:

The Licensing Sub-Committee was going to grant the renewal on this occasion but wanted to make it clear that if similar breaches of conditions are identified in the future it was highly likely that renewal would be refused.

For the avoidance of doubt back in 2019 the Licence Holder was a [REDACTED] and the Licence has since been transferred to Sohomed Limited but our enforcement visits have found that [REDACTED] is still actively involved in the ongoing management of the premises and has been there on numerous occasions when these breaches have taken place.

Many Thanks

Karyn Abbott
Senior Licensing Officer
Licensing Team
Environment, Climate & Public Protection (ECPP)

Westminster City Council
15th Floor
64 Victoria Street
London SW1E 6QP

[REDACTED]
Call Centre (for general queries) 020 7641 6500



STATEMENT OF WITNESS

(C.J. Act 1967,s,9; M.C. Act 1980, ss5A(3)(a) and 5B, Criminal Procedure Rules 2005, r27.1(1))

Statement of: Leroy Adedeji

Age of witness: **Over 21**

Occupation of Witness: **City Inspector**

This statement, consisting of five pages signed by me, is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.

Signed: [Redacted]

Dated: 9th October 2023

I have worked for Westminster City Council since April 2003 and am authorised for the purpose of the Licensing Act 2003 and Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982, and as amended by the 2009 Act.

On 15 September 2023 at 23.30 hours, I and my colleague, City Inspector James JOYCE visited Sunset Strip, 30 Dean Street London W1D 3SA to carry out a routine inspection of the Premises Licence. During this visit I noted touching occurring between naked private dancers and customers in the private booths. On the 16 September 2023 at 22.10 hours, we visited again to carry out a routine check of the Sex Entertainment Venue Licence. Again, we noted touching between naked private dancers and customers in the private booths during this visit. In both instances, the touching was such that it was of a sexual nature. Subsequently, I requested CCTV footage of both days from one of the duty managers, [Redacted]. Before I left the premises, I handed him two x 16gb USB memory sticks and asked for footage of all the private dancing booths dated 2nd September to 16th September 2023. [Redacted] downloaded footage which I then collected on 17 September 2023 at 00.35 hours. At 01:40

Signed: [Redacted]

Dated: 9th October 2023

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

(C.J. Act 1967,s,9; M.C. Act 1980, ss5A(3)(a) and 5B, Criminal Procedure Rules 2005, r27.1(1))

Continuation Statement of Leroy Adedeji

hours 17 September 2023, the two USB memory sticks were securely sealed and placed in evidence safe on the 15th floor Westminster City Council, 64 Victoria Street London SW1E 6QP.

On Wednesday 20 September 2023 at 13:10 hours, on the 15th floor Westminster City Council, 64 Victoria Street London SW1E 6QP, in the presence of Westminster Police Licensing officers PC Steve Muldoon and PC Tom Stewart made numerous attempts to view the footage downloaded by [REDACTED]. However, the footage on both memory sticks was that of the ladies changing room between 05:30am and 09:00am on 16 September 2023. I then re-visited the venue with PC Steve Muldoon at 15.10 hours, Wednesday 20 September 2023 to inform the manager that the footage was not what was requested. We were met by [REDACTED] the Premises Licence and Sex Entertainment Venue Licence holder and I explained the error in the CCTV footage. [REDACTED] explained that he is not conversant with the CCTV operations, and we will need to wait for [REDACTED] as he is on his way.

PC Tom Stewart arrived at Sunset Strip at 16:05 hours and joined PC Steve Muldoon and I while we waited for [REDACTED] [REDACTED] then arrived at the venue at 16.40 hours and PC Steve Muldoon asked him a series of questions regarding the operation of the CCTV system. I returned the two x 16gb USB memory sticks to [REDACTED] and again asked him for footage of all the private dancing booths. He began to do this. The dates requested were 25th and 26th August 2023 and 1, 2, 8, 9 15 and 16 September 2023. PC Steve Muldoon asked Gavin VENAMORE, "Are you sure all CCTV footage requested have been downloaded onto the two x 16gb USB memory sticks given to you?" [REDACTED]

Signed: [REDACTED]

Dated: 9th October 2023

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

(C.J. Act 1967,s,9; M.C. Act 1980, ss5A(3)(a) and 5B, Criminal Procedure Rules 2005, r27.1(1))

Continuation Statement of Leroy Adedeji

██████████ responded and said "Yes, I have downloaded the dates requested." I returned to the office and placed the two x 16gb USB memory sticks into a sealed envelope and stored them in the evidence safe on the 15th Floor, Westminster City Council. This was done at 18.15 hours on 20 September 2023.

On Tuesday 26 September 2023 at 22:30 hrs, I made numerous efforts to view the requested CCTV footage downloaded by ██████████ on Wednesday 20th September 2023. The two x 16gb USB memory sticks were blank, no images were seen or downloaded.

On Thursday 5th October 2023 at 14:35 hours, I and my colleague, City Inspector James JOYCE arrived at the venue and were met by the duty manager, ██████████ and the premises head of security, ██████████. I asked ██████████ if there was any member of staff on duty who could operate the CCTV system. He replied, "Both ██████████ and ██████████ are not on duty, but I have a little knowledge of the CCTV operation". I advised ██████████ of our intention to view various dates of CCTV coverage of all the cameras positioned in the private dancing booths. As part of a routine check to get an understanding of how the premises operates on a typical day and the touching of performers and customers witnessed during our Sex Entertainment Venue inspection conducted on the 16 September 2023, cameras 11, 12 and 13 were asked to be viewed. The following dates and times were asked to be retrieved for viewing; Friday 8th September 2023, between 22:00hrs and 23:00hrs, and Saturday 9th September 2023, between 22:00hrs and 23:00hrs. During our viewing, the following dates, and times of the footage in the private dancing booths were noted.

Signed: ██████████

Dated: 9th October 2023

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

(C.J. Act 1967,s,9; M.C. Act 1980, ss5A(3)(a) and 5B, Criminal Procedure Rules
2005, r27.1(1))

Continuation Statement of Leroy Adedeji

CAMERA 12 – 8TH SEPTEMBER 2023 (22:20hrs – 22:24hrs).


A fully naked white female performer was seen dancing and rubbing herself all over the white male customer sitting in the booth. The customer had both his legs apart and both hands placed on his laps, the dancer was in between his legs while she performs her dance and rubbing her body over his body. The touching by the performer was deliberate and lasted for about two minutes. The dance sexually stimulating in nature and carried on for about 2 minutes.

CAMERA 11 – 8TH SEPTEMBER 2023 (22:24hrs – 22:28hrs).

The camera pointing to this booth has two chairs to accommodate two performances. There were two white males seated in the booth while two fully naked white female performers were noted to be dancing and rubbing their bodies against the two customers in the booth deliberately. The two male customers were seated with both legs apart and the performers dancing in between their legs while rubbing and touching the customers. One of the customers was seen to be rubbing his hands around the performer's legs and thighs. No attempt was made to stop these acts. Both performances were sexually stimulating in nature and lasted for about three minutes.

CAMERA 11 – 9TH SEPTEMBER 2023 (22:15hrs – 22:19hrs).

A white male customer was viewed standing in front of a white female performer by helping to fully undressing her while preparing for her performance. A fully naked white female performer sharing the same booth was seen dancing in between the legs of a seated white male and deliberately touching and rubbing her body on the seated customer. No attempts were made to stop these sexually stimulating acts. The performance lasted about three minutes.

Signed: 

Dated: 9th October 2023

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

(C.J. Act 1967,s,9; M.C. Act 1980, ss5A(3)(a) and 5B, Criminal Procedure Rules 2005, r27.1(1))

Continuation Statement of Leroy Adedeji

No other CCTV footage was viewed on the date visited, so every performance of dancing involved touching between the performer and customer.

In conclusion, our viewing for both dates and times above, the premises was found to be in breach of their Sex Establishment Venue licence, and specifically the following conditions.

Condition 16.

Relevant Entertainment shall be given only by Performers and the audience shall not be permitted to participate in the relevant entertainment.

Condition 17.

There shall be no physical contact between Performers whilst performing.

Condition 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.

After the completion of CCTV viewing, my colleague, James JOYCE pointed out to the Head of Security, [REDACTED] that the timing on the CCTV system is out by four minutes. He responded, "You will need to speak to [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] about that, I really don't know much about the timing". We left the premises at 15:00hrs.

Signed: [REDACTED]

Dated: 9th October 2023

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

(C.J. Act 1967,s,9; M.C. Act 1980, ss5A(3)(a) and 5B, Criminal Procedure Rules
2005, r27.1(1))

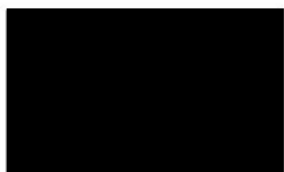
Statement of: Heath RICHARDS

Age of witness: **Over 21**

Occupation of Witness: **Team Manager**

This statement, consisting of 5 (five) pages signed by me, is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.

Signed:



Dated: 10 November 2023

I am employed by Westminster City Council as a Team Manager in the Public Protection and Licensing Department, 15th Floor, City Hall, 64 Victoria Street, SW1E 6Q. I have held enforcement roles with the City Council since 2006 and am authorised for the purpose of the Licensing Act 2003 and Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982, and as amended by the 2009 Act.

On Thursday 9 November 2023 at 23.10 hours, I was on duty on DEAN STREET, SOHO W1 with city inspector, Tonecus FUMO. My intention was to visit the premises known as SUNSET STRIP, located at 30 DEAN STREET, LONDON W1D 3SA to check on the level of compliance with its Sexual Entertainment Venue (SEV) licence.

On arrival at the premises, I noted 2 (two) male SIA doorman at the entrance. I identified myself by explaining who I was before showing them my Westminster warrant card. I walked inside, asked who was in charge and one of the doormen pointed to a male who I know to be [REDACTED]. As I walked inside, I noted that relevant entertainment was taking place.

I explained to [REDACTED] the reason for my visit and requested him to show me CCTV footage of one of the private booths. The first date I asked for was 23.00 hours on 13 October 2023. He did so using camera 9. There was not a dance occurring at that time, so I asked [REDACTED] to rewind the footage. There was a private dance occurring at 21.45 hours. In this dance the female performer kissed the male customer on the cheek. At 21.50 hours, the customer placed his hand on the dancer's knee. I noted that she brushed his hand away from her knee. Further contact was witnessed at 21.52 when the performer and the customer embraced for some time afterwards. I noted that what I saw, although not overtly sexual compared to what I had viewed on an earlier visit, was in breach of Condition 22 of the SEV licence which states that:

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.

Even though there was a sign in the booth stating there shall be 'NO physical contact between the customer and dancer', physical contact was clearly witnessed. [REDACTED] was also watching the same footage as I and I said to him that there was a breach of the licence. He vehemently disagreed. I asked him to rewind so that we could both watch the same clip again. At this point [REDACTED] became uncooperative; he initially refused to rewind the CCTV and said that there was not a breach before claiming that neither Tonecas FUMO nor I "knew what we were doing".

He then turned to me, raised his voice and asked me what condition was in breach. I responded by asking him to find his copy of the licence and then we go through it together. He did not like this, and I noted that he became animated and very