

Supplementary Papers for Licensing Sub-Committee

Date: Tuesday, 16 December 2025



5. FYEO, 134 - 136 Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth, BH1 1NL

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Please find attached a supplementary submission on behalf of the applicant.

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Dear Councillors

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982: Sexual Entertainment Venue Licence ('SEVL') Renewal: For Your Eyes Only ('FYEO') Hanover House 134-140 Old Christchurch Road Bournemouth BH1 1NL ('The Premises')

Introduction

I represent the holder of the SEVL at The Premises. This letter sets out my client's position in relation to the representations received from Two individuals objecting to the renewal of the SEVL. This matter is listed to be heard on the 16 December 2025.

Background

Bournemouth Christchurch and Poole Council ('The Council') have licenced FYEO to operate as a Sexual Entertainment Venue for 14 years- however the Premises has traded as a sexual entertainment venue since 1997. It was one of the first such premises and remains the oldest continuously operating premises of its type in the country.

This longevity is due in no small part to the professionalism and ability of those running the Premises throughout. The premises offers a safe, supportive and secure environment for dancers and customers alike that has developed over the years to adapt to the change in customer profile and best practice.

In 2010 when The Council adopted the relevant legislation, FYEO was granted its first SEVL. The Premises has also benefitted from a premises licence, granted under the Licensing Act 2003 since the introduction of the new licensing regime in 2005.

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Mr. Glenn Nicie, as the guiding mind of the applicant company, is a very well known and respected as an SEV operator across the country. In his 25-plus years in the industry, he has never had a premises licence or SEVL reviewed or subject to enforcement action. In addition, his area manager Adrian Blanke, and DPS John Metcalf, along with the team at The Premises, are experienced operators, fully aware of their responsibilities in running The Premises.

The SEV licences have been renewed annually, without objection from any responsible authority since the enabling legislation was adopted by BCP council.

The application for renewal

The details are before the Committee. It will be noted that there are no objections from, or indications of complaints to, the responsible authorities in respect of this operation since its last renewal.

There is, however, a detailed objection (and follow up documentation) from Mrs Susan Stockwell a well-known member of the public. This objection to the renewal of the SEVL is made on similar grounds to those made in several previous years, including last year- as well as to other SEV licensed venues.

A second objection has been received from an anonymous party. This is very much an objection brought on statutory grounds and in the experience of the writer, mirrors similar objections made to SEVL's across the country.

The applicant acknowledges the right for the objectors to bring their concerns before the Committee and would respond to the specific points made, where relevant, as follows:

1. Government Guidance relating to Sexual Entertainment Venues.

The Home Office Guidance published in March 2010 to 'provide advice to local authorities, operators, local people and other interested parties', remains in force and, it is submitted, provides the Committee with the road map for determining SEVL renewal applications. Relevant sections will be referred to at the renewal hearing or as part of more general submissions below.

2. Policy Considerations

It is the submission of the applicant that the existence or otherwise of a licensing policy in relation to this renewal is not a material point for this renewal. The objections relate to the discretionary grounds under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982. It is submitted that these can be dealt with outside of considerations of any policy framework. It is submitted therefore that any concerns raised by the objector to the policy, or lack thereof, is not material to this application at this time.

3. Suitability of the Applicant.

There are no representations from the local authority, police or other statutory body suggesting that the applicant is not a suitable party to operate The Premises. Further, it is submitted that the one objector who has chosen to remain anonymous makes no relevant submissions as to the suitability of the applicant. The representation from Mrs Susan Stockwell is in substantially the same form as previous objections to both The Premises and other premises with SEV licences. Mr Nicie and his management team were operating the premises at the time of last year's renewal where no adverse findings were made as to their suitability. There has been no material change in this regard.

There have been no adverse comments on the operation of the premises since the last renewal, with the exception of Mrs Stockwell's allegations in relation to touting. The references to activities alleged to include touting are refuted. Advertising for a marketing role is not 'touting'. Any activities undertaken by the management of The Premises to promote the premises are in line with guidance and best practice and are undertaken having consulted with the relevant authorities in advance.

References to other SEV premises and any activities undertaken either therein or externally are irrelevant to this application. Likewise, any concerns raised in relation to the landlord of the building are irrelevant as the landlord has no interest in the operation of The Premises.

4. Suitability of Locality.

The Premises has operated as a lap dancing club for a significant period as detailed above. This discretionary ground for refusal of the SEVL renewal has been raised in objections each year. It is therefore instructive to turn to the reasons given in 2024 for granting the SEVL renewal for guidance:

Character of locality

The Sub-Committee noted that the premises has operated as a lap dancing club in the same location since 2006. Since 2010 when such premises were required to operate under a Sexual Entertainment Venue licence, such a licence has been in place and applications made annually for it to be renewed as is required by the Act. Although the character of the locality had evolved and changed throughout this period, it was still considered to be in the heart of the Bournemouth night time economy and the Sub-Committee did not consider that it had changed materially since the last decision to renew the licence in 2023, or that there was any basis in the context of the character of the locality at this moment to refuse the application. However, it was noted the character of the location will continue to evolve and more residential accommodation was being planned in the town centre area.

It acknowledged the numbers of pupils at Livingstone Academy, in Stafford Road, Bournemouth which opened in September 2021, will continue to increase year on year as new year groups were admitted and more children may have cause to walk past the premises on route to and from school. It was noted however the premises only opened from 10pm in the evening and operated outside school hours. The Sub-Committee was pleased to note that the venue's logo of a silhouette of a naked female included on the sign at the front of the premises had been covered in black tape and so removed from

the view of those passing by the premises and there was an improvement in the maintenance of the outside area, both causes of concern at hearing in June 2023.

Currently the location of the premises was not thought inappropriate, having regard to the character of the locality, or to the use to which other premises in the vicinity were put, to warrant refusal of the application.

As such, the applicants contend:

- a. There has been no material change in the character of the area since the 2024 renewal. The area is still the hub of Bournemouth's night-time economy. Whilst the area may develop in terms of the addition of more residential accommodation, this is very much within the context of the area remaining an entertainment hub for the city, with a large and diverse late-night offer. There is range of restaurants, bars, late night takeaways and nightclubs within the area. The partial pedestrianisation of the area later at night is indicative of the status of the area as a late-night hospitality hub.
- b. Very similar objections were raised to Wiggle's renewal application (at 159 Old Christchurch Road) earlier this year, which were fully taken into account by the Committee. The Committee nonetheless decided that, having regard to the character of the locality and use to which other premises were put, that the location was not thought inappropriate and the application for renewal was granted. We would respectfully submit that there has been no change in the area which would make it inappropriate for this long established and well-run club to be refused the right to continue to trade at its current location.

5. Layout

For the avoidance of doubt, there has been no change in the layout of The Premises since the 2024 SEVL renewal. As such, the determination made by the Committee last year is relevant to any argument as to the continuing suitability of the layout in 2025. The Committee found as follows:

Layout

The Sub-Committee was satisfied that the layout was acceptable and did not warrant refusal of the application.

In relation to provision of a smoking area for dancers, this is in a secure courtyard to the rear of the premises, as it has been for a significant period. The only access to the area by the public would be in the event of an emergency where emergency exits lead through the courtyard and to the highway via a second secured gate.

6. Equality Act and Public Sector Equality Duty ('PSED').

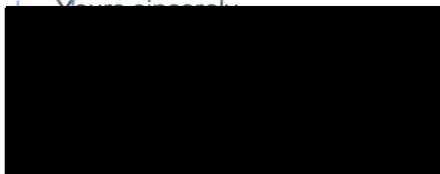
FYEO welcomes and protects customers of a variety of professed genders without judgment or discrimination. The Premises often hosts couples or groups other than men, who come to enjoy the relaxed, safe, and sophisticated facilities, where music is not predominant. It should be noted that, in particular, groups of women will frequent The Premises as it provides a highly managed environment where unwanted or inappropriate behaviour is not tolerated and where the high numbers of staff, dancers,

managers and security, monitor customer behaviour much more closely than at alternative late-night establishments.

Further, there is no evidence to suggest that customers of FYEO harass women in the street or otherwise behave in a manner which would be contrary to the ethos of PSED, or that vulnerable persons are drawn into exploitative situations either inside or outside The Premises. There are strict controls in place to ensure the safety and wellbeing of dancers and customers and rigorous compliance with legal requirements.

We trust that is satisfactory. For the reasons given above, we will be asking the Committee to renew the SEVL at The Premises as applied for.

Yours sincerely,



Piers Warne
Legal Director
for TLT LLP

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