

Representation from Dorset Police

On 3 Jul 2025, at 11:57, BUSFIELD Louise 8952 wrote:

Good afternoon Lesley,

Further to the application for a Full Variation seeking to extend licensable activity by 50 minutes – from 02:00 to 02:50 on Fridays and Saturdays and Bank Holidays – please be advised that Dorset Police objects to this application under the Licensing Objectives of the Prevention of Crime and Disorder and Public Safety.

The premises is situated in a thriving neighbourhood that comprises a diverse mix of residential, commercial, and late-night venues. However, the proposal to both extend the hours of licensable activity and remove condition 2.5 – “There shall be no customer admittance after 01:30” – raises significant concern and would, in our view, be likely to undermine the licensing objectives.

It is important to note that the current 02:00 terminal hour is consistent with other licensed premises in the area and is considered appropriate for this locality. Extending beyond this time risks disrupting the established balance and increasing pressure on emergency services, particularly in the early morning hours when resources are more limited.

The existing last entry condition plays an essential role in safeguarding the premises and wider area. It helps prevent the venue from attracting customers who are seeking a final drink after consuming alcohol elsewhere – often when already intoxicated. Evidence supports that such ‘last drink’ behaviour increases the risk of over-intoxication, which in turn heightens the potential for disorder, antisocial behaviour, and harm to the individual and others.

Additionally, a last entry time allows staff to maintain better control over the premises, supporting safer management by encouraging a more stable and manageable customer base. Patrons who arrive earlier and stay for a sustained period are more easily monitored, as opposed to those arriving late in the night when their behaviour may already be compromised.

Whilst it is acknowledged that the applicant would employ an addition SIA this would not be sufficient to mitigate the above concerns.

For these reasons, Dorset Police objects to this variation.

Kind regards

Louise Busfield 8952

Drug & Alcohol Harm Reduction Team

Bournemouth Divisional Headquarters

From: Lesley Johnson
Sent: 04 July 2025 09:59
To: BUSFIELD Louise 8952
Subject: Re: Dolce Vita 147 - 149 Commercial Road Poole - Full Variation Application

Morning Louise

Thank you for your email outlining Dorset Police objection.

I have consulted with my client and he is willing to reinstate a condition to prohibit customers entry to premises with effect from 2.00hrs, which would prohibit any customers from the closing premises around entering his. This in effect would aid with the dispersal of customers in the area, not all be outside at the same time.

He is happy to discuss further with you and to see if there is any other conditions that would enable him to operate at these hours.

Many thanks

Lesley

07.07.25 @ 13:20

Good afternoon Lesley,

Thank you for confirming your client's position.

However, as previously mentioned, this area is a mix of residential and commercial properties and does include some late-night premises. That said, an extension of licensable activity to 02:50 raises concern that the promotion of the licensing objectives—particularly the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, and the prevention of public nuisance—would be undermined, particularly in respect of the residential community, which currently does not experience late-night activity beyond 02:00.

I note your suggestion that later hours and an amendment to condition 2.5 would assist with dispersal from other venues and potentially safeguard against customers arriving from premises closing at 02:00. However, this would not mitigate the fact that individuals could still arrive having spent a long evening elsewhere and gain entry at, for example, 01:55 if the last entry time is extended to 02:00.

Dorset Police cannot support proposals to extend licensable hours on the basis of assisting with dispersal from the general vicinity. Each application must be assessed on its own merits, and in this case, an extension of licensable activity is not considered appropriate.

I can also share that other premises in the vicinity have recently made informal enquiries regarding extended hours of operation. For context, those proposals were objected to at the pre-application stage for similar reasons.

To reiterate, Dorset Police would object to the removal of condition 2.5 – “There shall be no customer admittance after 01:30” – and to any extension of licensable activity from 02:00 to 02:50 on Fridays, Saturdays, and Bank Holidays, for the reasons set out in my email of 3rd July.

Regards **Louise Busfield 8952**