

TEMPTATION 1 YELVERTON ROAD BOURNEMOUTH
RENEWAL OF SEXUAL ENTERTAINMENT VENUE LICENCE

OBJECTOR #	
1	Renewal of the Sexual Entertainment Venue Licence for a further twelvemonth period (2026 – 2027) End of Consultation: 9 July 2026 FORMAL OBJECTION TO SEV LICENCE RENEWAL Temptation Dear BCP Council I write to object to the renewal of the Sexual Entertainment Venue (SEV) licence for Club Temptation, 1 Yelverton Road, Bournemouth. My objection is made pursuant to Schedule 3, Paragraph 12(3)(d) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 on the grounds that the locality is no longer appropriate for a Sexual Entertainment Venue. It is also made in light of the Council's obligations under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, which requires public authorities to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination and harassment, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between protected groups. 1. The Council Must Not Repeat Errors Already Condemned by the High Court In <i>CDE v Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council</i>, the High Court found that the Council had acted unlawfully by effectively dismissing women's concerns about Sexual Entertainment Venues as moral objections rather than 'legitimate' equality concerns. The significance of that judgement extends beyond the wording of a policy document. It represents a judicial recognition that concerns about the impact of SEVs on women, public space, and equality are capable of being legitimate and substantial considerations.

Recent renewal decisions unfortunately suggest that the Council has defaulted back to its habits, ignoring judicial condemnation to offer "the same old, same old" flawed reasoning. Representations continue to be systematically discounted on the basis that there is no direct police evidence linking premises to crime or specific documented incidents involving women.

That approach imposes a threshold that does not exist in law. The Council's equality obligations do not arise only after criminal behaviour has occurred. The Public Sector Equality Duty is preventative. It requires consideration of foreseeable impacts on women and girls, including impacts on how public spaces are experienced and used.

The Sub-Committee must therefore break this repetitive cycle of institutional dismissal and conduct an independent assessment, rather than relying upon the absence of police evidence as a substitute for its own statutory duties.

2. Public Silence Should Not Be Mistaken for Local Public Support

The Council should also exercise caution before attaching significance to the number of objections received, or concluding that because a representation may be isolated, it lacks support.

Women in Bournemouth have repeatedly raised valid concerns about Sexual Entertainment Venues for years. Those concerns have been dismissed or minimised, and the High Court subsequently found that aspects of the Council's approach to such concerns were unlawful.

A predictable consequence of repeatedly disregarding objections is that women eventually stop making them. Residents become discouraged from participating in processes when experience teaches them that their concerns are unlikely to be given meaningful weight. Over time, many become resigned to outcomes they feel powerless to influence, concluding that there is little point engaging at all.

Accordingly, if only a single resident comes forward to object to a sex establishment, it should not automatically be interpreted as a sign of public acceptance. The Committee must not dismiss a lone objection as an isolated viewpoint. Historical experience suggests the opposite is true: the voices that are missing are missing precisely because they have previously felt unheard, leaving the burden on a single individual to voice what many others have simply given up trying to say.

3. The Locality Has Changed Fundamentally

Under the principle established in *R v Birmingham City Council ex parte Sheptonhurst Ltd [1990]*, the Committee is required to take a fresh look at the suitability of the locality as it exists today.

There is no automatic entitlement to renewal. The relevant question is not whether the venue Temptation has breached licence conditions. The question is whether this remains an appropriate location for a Sexual Entertainment Venue.

The character of this locality has altered significantly.

Most notably, the former House of Fraser building has been converted into student accommodation comprising approximately 129 student bedrooms immediately adjacent to the premises. This represents a fundamental change in the nature of the area. What was once principally a commercial and night-time economy environment now includes a significant residential population of young adults who live, study and travel through the area daily.

The venue also sits immediately adjacent to an international language school, bringing large numbers of foreign students and young people into regular contact with the locality. The Committee must assess the locality as it exists today rather than as it existed when the licence was originally granted.

4. Online Marketing Overrides Any Claims of Physical Discretion

Previous decisions have placed weight on the fact that Club Temptation maintains an obscured physical frontage and limited external signage on Yelverton Road. However, focusing solely on the physical building completely ignores how the venue operates and impacts the wider locality today.

The true impact of this business is driven heavily by its digital presence. On its public website the venue actively promotes itself to the wider Bournemouth public as a "*Ladies & Gentlemen's Strip Club in Bournemouth.*" (please refer to the enclosed image) It explicitly invites people online to "*Visit our Adult Strip Club Temptation for a night to remember, beautiful girls.*"

The Committee must see through the addition of "Ladies" to their title for what it likely is: **a cynical, tactical marketing ploy**. It is a calculated attempt to engineer a false narrative of gender neutrality to circumvent the Council's Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED). By draping a veneer of respectability and modern "inclusivity" over their branding, the operators seek to neutralize local objections, insulate themselves against equality claims, and

	mask the asymmetric reality of their business model. Co-opting progressive concepts of female choice or empowerment does not change the structural truth: the venue's primary commercial purpose remains the systematic sexual objectification and profit-driven commodification of women. Furthermore, from an equality perspective, the choice to simultaneously advertise adult women (please refer to the enclosed image) as "girls" is creepy and harmful and must not be dismissed by the Committee as mere semantics. This word demeans adult women removing their adult status, agency, and authority, reducing them to a subordinate category. By conflating female childhood with commercial sexual availability, this marketing normalizes a predatory sexualised power dynamic. The harm of this language does not stay online. It projects a culture of objectification directly into the local community, influencing how real women and girls (female children) are perceived, treated, and targeted in the surrounding public spaces. An obscured window or a blacked-out door on the street does nothing to erase or mitigate this digital footprint. This online marketing actively shapes the culture of an area now heavily occupied by young international students and residents. Compliance with physical appearance guidelines on the street cannot be used to bypass or satisfy the Council's much broader equality obligations under the PSED. 5. The Appropriate Number of SEVs in This Locality Is Zero Taken together, the evidence points to a locality that has changed since the licence was first granted. The area now contains significant student residential accommodation, an active international language school, and a markedly different character from that which previously existed. The Committee is under a continuing duty to consider the impact of its decisions on women and girls (female children) and to ensure that authentic equality considerations are given genuine weight rather than being treated as secondary considerations. <u>Anonymous</u>
2	To Whom It May Concern I wish to object to the renewal of the Sexual Entertainment Venue licence for Temptations. One matter that gives me significant concern is that the premises have recently been accessed by teenagers via the roof.

	Regardless of whether those young people entered the building itself or accessed other parts of the premises, the incident demonstrates that the building is vulnerable to unauthorised access by children and young people. A licensed Sexual Entertainment Venue has a heightened responsibility to ensure that children are prevented from gaining access to the premises or to areas associated with its operation. The fact that teenagers were able to reach the roof and access the premises raises serious questions about the adequacy of the venue's security arrangements and its management of the building. This is not simply an issue of trespass. Premises operating under a Sexual Entertainment Venue licence should be secured to a particularly high standard because of the nature of the activities carried on within them. Any weakness in the physical security of the premises creates an unacceptable risk that children or young people could gain access, placing them at risk of harm. The incident also raises wider public safety concerns. Teenagers climbing onto a roof are exposed to an obvious risk of serious injury or death from falling. Operators of licensed premises should be expected to identify and address foreseeable security vulnerabilities that make such access possible. If access was readily achievable, it suggests that reasonable preventative measures may not have been in place. The Licensing Committee should therefore consider: * Whether the premises have been managed in a manner that adequately protects children from harm. * Whether the physical security of the building is sufficient for premises operating as a Sexual Entertainment Venue. * Whether the management has taken appropriate steps following the incident to prevent any recurrence. * Whether additional licence conditions relating to external security and prevention of unauthorised access are necessary, or whether the incident demonstrates that the licence should not be renewed. Given the nature of the premises, the Committee should be satisfied that robust and effective measures are in place to prevent any possibility of children or young people gaining access. The reported incident indicates that this standard has not been met, and I ask that it be given significant weight when determining this application.
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3	I object to the renewal of the Sexual Entertainment Venue license for Temptations. Since previous license renewals, significant new evidence has become available which is directly relevant to the Committee's consideration of this application. In June 2026, Dr Laura Favaro published <i>Life near Strip Clubs: Women's Voices from UK Cities</i> (FiLiA, 2026), based on research involving more than 700 women. The research was launched in Parliament and subsequently discussed on BBC Radio 4's <i>Woman's Hour</i>, reflecting the wider public interest in its findings. Before the principal research was undertaken in Cardiff, Edinburgh and Manchester, the methodology was piloted in Bournemouth because of its concentration of three licensed Sexual Entertainment Venues. The significance of this research is not simply the number of women who took part, but the question it seeks to answer. Much of the discussion surrounding Sexual Entertainment Venues has focused on the women working within them, the conduct of operators and the conditions attached to licenses. Dr Favaro's research examines something different. It investigates the experiences of women living, working and moving in the vicinity of strip clubs—women who have no connection with the premises themselves other than sharing the surrounding public spaces. That distinction is important because this Committee is not simply regulating what happens inside Temptations. It is deciding whether the continued operation of a Sexual Entertainment Venue remains appropriate within this locality and whether that licensed use has wider impacts upon those who live, work and travel nearby. The research concludes that the impact of strip clubs extends beyond the premises themselves. Women described changing routes home, avoiding particular streets, altering daily routines, exercising greater vigilance and limiting their enjoyment of surrounding public spaces. The report concludes that strip clubs affect women's equal enjoyment of public space and that these impacts are experienced by women living, working and moving through the surrounding area, not solely by those employed within the venues. These findings are directly relevant to Bournemouth. Temptations forms part of a concentration of three Sexual Entertainment Venues within a relatively compact town centre. The report identifies concerns regarding the cumulative impact of multiple venues operating within the same locality. The findings are also consistent with evidence gathered locally. In my own survey of pedestrian movements within Bournemouth
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town centre, undertaken in connection with previous licensing matters, males substantially outnumbered females within the vicinity of the three Sexual Entertainment Venues during the late evening and early morning. Dr Favaro's research provides a credible explanation for that imbalance, demonstrating that women frequently alter their use of public space because of the presence of these venues.

The impact is not confined to those participating in the night-time economy. Temptations is licensed to operate into the morning, at a time when many women are beginning their working day. Women travelling to early shifts in shops, cafés, hotels, healthcare, cleaning, public transport and other workplaces may be passing through the locality as customers leave the premises. These women are not choosing to participate in the night-time economy; they are simply using the town centre as part of their everyday lives. Their experience of the surrounding streets is precisely the type of impact examined by Dr Favaro's research.

It is sometimes suggested that the experiences described by women are simply a feature of the wider night-time economy. In my submission, that overlooks an important distinction. Sexual Entertainment Venues are not simply places where alcohol is consumed. They are premises in which sexual entertainment is provided commercially, and where interactions between predominantly male customers and female performers are structured around the purchase of sexualised attention and entertainment. This creates a materially different environment from other licensed premises.

The report records that many women perceive these venues as reinforcing the objectification of women and attitudes of male sexual entitlement, with effects extending beyond the premises themselves into the surrounding public realm. It is this distinctive characteristic, rather than the mere presence of late-night customers, that differentiates Sexual Entertainment Venues from other elements of the night-time economy. When customers leave these premises they return to public spaces shared with women who have had no involvement with the venue, yet the evidence suggests that women experience those spaces differently because of the nature of what has taken place inside.

The Committee is exercising a public function and is therefore subject to the Public Sector Equality Duty under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010.

That duty requires more than simply acknowledging equality issues. It requires the Committee to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between women and men before reaching its decision. The courts have made clear that this duty must be exercised with rigour, with an open mind and on the basis of the

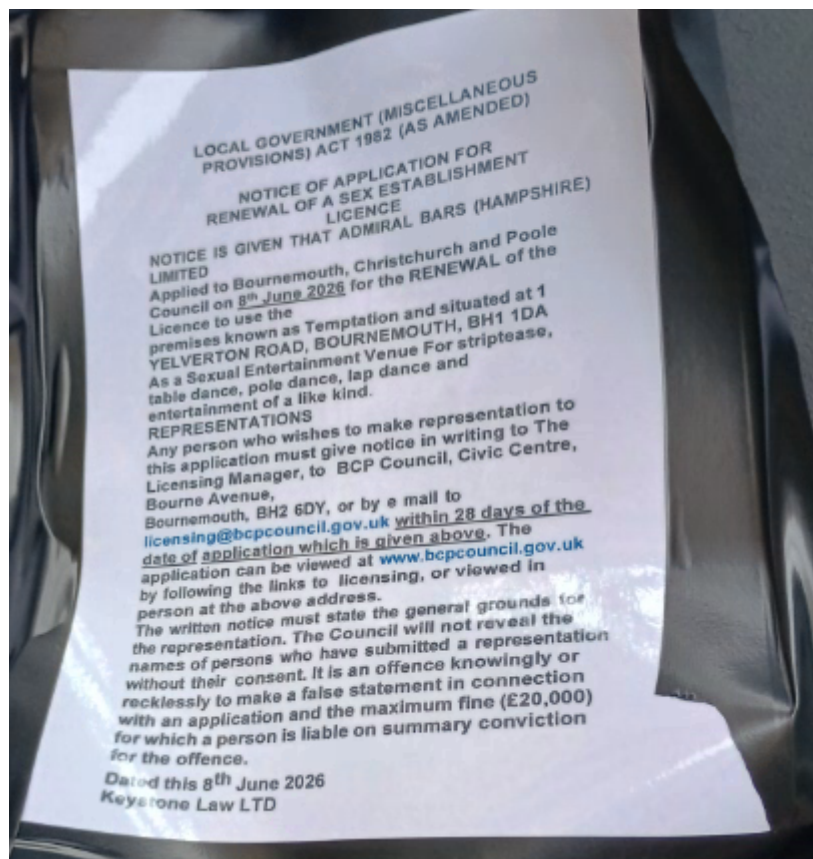
	evidence available at the time the decision is taken. It is not sufficient simply to note that equality issues have been raised; the Committee must consciously consider them as part of its decision-making process. Dr Favaro's research provides substantial new empirical evidence about the effect of Sexual Entertainment Venues on women outside the premises themselves. It demonstrates that women living, working and moving in the vicinity of these venues experience the locality differently from men. Women describe changing routes, modifying routines, exercising greater vigilance and limiting their enjoyment of surrounding public spaces because of the presence of licensed strip clubs. This evidence is directly relevant to the Committee's consideration of equality of opportunity. Equality is not simply a question of whether women can physically access a street; it is also whether they are able to enjoy and use public space on genuinely equal terms. If evidence demonstrates that women experience the locality differently because of the presence of a licensed Sexual Entertainment Venue, that is a matter to which the Committee should have due regard when determining this application. The report also contains findings relevant to the licensing process itself. Women repeatedly stated that the absence of objections should not be interpreted as acceptance of strip clubs. Many were unaware that licences were renewed annually, did not know how to object, believed their views would make little difference or found the licensing process intimidating and difficult to navigate. The Committee should therefore be cautious about treating the number of formal objections as a reliable indication of the number of women affected by these premises. This application is not simply about what takes place inside Temptations. It concerns the effect that the continued licensing of a Sexual Entertainment Venue has upon women who have no connection with the premises other than living, working and moving through the surrounding locality. Dr Favaro's research provides significant new evidence on precisely that issue. It is evidence that was not available when previous renewals were considered. In my submission, it is directly relevant to the Committee's assessment of the character of the locality and to the discharge of its Public Sector Equality Duty. For these reasons, I ask the Committee to refuse the application to renew the Sexual Entertainment Venue licence for Temptations. References
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	Favaro, L. (2026). <i>Life near Strip Clubs: Women's Voices from UK Cities</i>. FiLiA. Equality Act 2010, section 149 (Public Sector Equality Duty).
4	Hi Re Club Temptation Further to the below email sent June 8th 2026 I am writing to ask that the following be added to my objection. I would like all previous breaches of this license whilst held by the applicant to be included in the officer's public report and I rely on them all as evidence of unsuitability of the applicant. In addition the refusal of a license to a sister club in Watford whilst it was under the control as an owner of the applicant is further evidence of his unsuitability. An enhanced DBS check should, in my view, be sought by the licensing authority just as the security guards are obliged to do this. In addition all offences should be disclosed whoever the prosecuting authority is, not just police offences, should there be any. As previously mentioned the circumstances by which anyone has been convicted of an offense now spent are relevant in licensing decisions, so that an application form limited to spent convictions is inadequate information on which the committee can make their decision. On the quashing of the former BCP licensing policy on sex establishments, which BCP policy specifically included replacing the Bournemouth policy, the Bournemouth policy was resurrected and should now be consulted as part of this licensing process. This principle in English law, that the position immediately before a quashed decision was made is restored in its entirety is both longstanding and most recently re affirmed in Gina Miller's proceedings over Brexit. It is another principle of English law that the case against someone must be disclosed. At time of writing the legal reason for denying that the Bournemouth licensing policy on sex establishments was not restored has not been made known to me, so this principle of natural justice has been breached, which in turn could justify a judicial review of any decision made without disclosing it. I have been advised that the case quashing BCP's policy is the case relied on, but this is the case I rely on for the Bournemouth policy now existing. I do not have a copy of the Bournemouth policy but do understand it set three as a maximum number of strip clubs in Bournemouth. Since then the neighbourhood has changed to alter buildings to include more residential premises, so that three is no longer an appropriate maximum number. In addition as can be seen from numerous breaches of license conditions reported by me of all three clubs in promoting their clubs, there is clearly not a demand for three clubs here, if indeed there ever was. Furthermore, the applicant has previously advertised through his website a large gallery of pictures of named performers saying that they

	are from Watford, which suggests a lack of willingness by local women to work at this premises. I would like all objections by myself and others against this club's licensing to be incorporated into this objection. The fact that licenses have been granted since does not invalidate any other objections. I repeat that the applicant's owner/director's previous bankruptcy which included according to the London Gazette records a hearing, contribute to his unsuitability to be licensed. At a previous hearing the applicant set great store by presenting himself as an experienced competent business professional and this impressed the then licensing committee, yet the bankruptcy and the repeated winding up of companies to be replaced by other companies to run his strip clubs contradicts this. The applicant has breached his license conditions by, according to a website entitled Club Temptation, handing over control of the premises to a series of other companies, with the one currently named on the website no longer existing according to Companies House records. When you license a company to use the premises as a strip club it should be that company that runs the strip club and handing control of the premises to another legal person, ie another company is clearly forbidden in the license terms yet this has happened repeatedly at this premises. I repeat the objection that this building is unsuitable as a strip club as no smoking area is available, resulting in people smoking outside on the pavements as evidenced by the cigarette debris on the pavement, which in fairness is not as bad as it has been in the past. There is also no separate area for dancers which from memory and without a copy to hand, was required in either the Bournemouth or BCP licensing policy. In addition scaffolding has appeared outside the premises and been in place for several months, though I haven't visited recently to see if it has gone. It has been used to obtain illicit footage of someone climbing up in for filming which I have seen, hoping to see whether any film showed the roof, but unfortunately it doesn't. However the long term presence of this scaffolding does suggest the building may not be suitable any more as a strip club and the applicant should explain himself on this point. In addition the property is currently offered for sale. According to the club's website today it is only open on Fridays and Saturdays, although the hours listed on the google listing (for want of a better term) shows being open on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. I would also like the feedback from consultees to the previous BCP licensing policy consultation to be included in my objection as they all are clear evidence of the impact of licensing on women. I also repeat that the crime figures shown to be high near strip clubs is repeated in data from police.uk the home office site. Increase in patrols instead of objecting to strip club licensing by the police is having an impact on crime near the strip clubs, but that diversion of resources is totally unacceptable when they are so badly needed elsewhere.
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I ask that the committee also be made aware of how many councillors are unable to sit on this committee because they are predetermined against granting strip club licenses whether now or in the past, which should be in the recollection and knowledge of officers. This is a measure of public opinion as these councillors have been elected to represent the public.

This concludes my objection, although I reserve my right to lobby the committee members should any further information come to light between now and any hearing, particularly on publication of the public pack of documents. Could I please see the application and any supporting documents for this application.



FURTHER INFORMATION PROVIDED

Hi

At time of writing a video is up of the area of Old Christchurch Road blighted by the Strip Club licensing. It is on [REDACTED] facebook page, published 17 hours ago (time now 16.18 4th July).

Instead of swearing revenge and retribution on him, how about thanking him for being the little boy that pointed out the emperor had no clothes on.

Could you please get your heads out of the sand and admit that the commercial sex trade has devastated this part of Bournemouth by

	driving women out. Even the students aren't prepared to put up with the sexual assaults and stabbings any more with yet another nightclub closing and empty buildings that can't even attract funding for being developed as student lets. This is the research, Women's Voices on the Filia website detailing why women hate strip clubs and want them closed down, based on interviewing hundred of women around the country including a pilot study in Bournemouth https://www.filia.org.uk/strip-clubs-research Instead of tabloid headlines after every murder or stabbing rightly calling the part of Bournemouth you are responsible for Wild West Bournemouth, you could be seeing headlines in prestigious international travel journals like Conde Nast, reading this description of Newquay since kicking out all the strip clubs "https://www.cntraveller.com/article/newquay-cornwall". Frankly the flower displays up Old Christchurch Road are about as pathetic as the bunches of wilted garage flowers with reduced stickers sex tourists present to their partners after a weekend in Bournemouth's strip clubs. They are both apology flowers. You have a lot of talent amassed there and I'm sure you can do better. Re further evidence of license breach by Club Temptation A video is currently posted on facebook by a [REDACTED] showing the Club Temptation placard being used again. This is further to their TikTok video showing it in use and my own evidence of seeing it being used. Can you please revoke the license as per schedule 3 Local Govt Act 1982, ie the licensing regime. You can see how the town centre has been devastated by the three strip clubs from the video, which is ample reason to revoke the license of strip clubs which breach their license terms. The recent research published by Filia on their website and carried out by Dr Laura Favaro explains through several hundred interviews with women, including in Bournemouth, the devastating affect the strip clubs have on women in the neighbourhoods. You already have the feedback from women in the consultation on strip club licensing on file so the research should come as no surprise as it simply confirms what I, those women and the objectors making statements in strip club licensing hearings all round the country are saying. This is more than enough to justify action based on BCP's published enforcement policy. There is no need for the expense of a prosecution, however much it is justified for every breach, it is simply a matter of a hearing in front of the licensing committee following an application by your good selves to revoke or vary.
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