


Blackpool Council Licensing Service

Representation made by a Responsible Authority

Responsible Authority

Name of Responsible Authority	Licensing Authority		
Name of Officer (please print)	Lee Petrak		
Signature of Officer			
Contact telephone number	01253-477861		
Date representation made	13	01	2020
Do you consider mediation to be appropriate			NO

Premises Details

Premises Name	Sugar & Spice
Address	2-4 Queen Street
	Blackpool
Post Code	FY1 1PD

Details of your representation (Please refer and attach any supporting documentation)

I am in receipt of an application to vary an existing Premises Licence (No. PL0736) submitted to this authority by Emad Abuaassi on 08 January 2020. Although the application is not easy to follow, I note that the key points are as follows:

- Premises will operate as a takeaway as opposed to historically operating as a restaurant
- Licensed area to be reduced in size
- Remove sale/supply of alcohol from licence
- Remove/amend existing conditions
- Extension of hours for late night refreshments

Critically the application requests extension of the terminal hour for late refreshments to anywhere between 3am and 5am depending upon the day of the week. Currently the licence permits late night refreshments to 1am, so the proposed extension to the terminal hour is substantial.

The location of this premises is situated in the heart of Queen Street, which places it in close proximity of a large number of licensed premises. This area is included in the Council's Town Centre Saturation zone detailed in the Council's current statement of Licensing Policy at paragraphs 4.7.1 – 4.7.9 and Appendix B.

The effect of the Saturation policy is to create a rebuttable presumption that applications of this type will be refused. To rebut this presumption an applicant would be expected to show through the operating schedule and where appropriate, with supporting evidence, that the operation of the premises will not add to the cumulative impact already being experienced in this area.

It is my view that this application in its current form does not rebut this presumption. In addition it is noteworthy to mention that Sgt Parkinson of the Police Licensing Team (West Division), Mr Abuaassi and myself met at 2-4 Queen Street on 3rd July 2019. He requested the meeting to discuss his plans for the premises having signed a lease with the owner. At this meeting Mr Abuaassi was informed that the existence of the saturation policy makes it difficult for him to significantly extend his terminal hour. I have had no further conversations with Mr Abuaassi on this subject.

In my view, should the licence be varied as proposed and the terminal hour be significantly extended, it is inevitable that this will contribute to the cumulative impact currently being experienced in the town centre saturation zone. For this reason I must object to the proposed variation on policy grounds.

For New / Variation Applications only.

It is recommended that the licence should only be granted if the application is amended, or if conditions are applied, as detailed below.