

From: Charlotte Dexter
Sent: 06 December 2022
To: Licensing, Elisha Collins,
CC: Adrian Overton, John Skoulding

Dear Licensing

I have been consumed with a severe medical issue and apologise for this rather late submission. I hope this evidence can be published for tomorrow night's hearing because it is very relevant and gives a true picture of what is going on in our corner of Fulham.

I submit this 9 Aug email, below, as important supplementary information for the licensing hearing on 7 Dec 2022, ref 2022/01370/LAPR, Simmons requesting extended opening to 01:30 on Thurs, Fri and Sat

I am very concerned about any increased hours for this Premises Simmons at 374 North End Road under Crime and Disorder and Public Nuisance. As the police wrote on page 32 of the Agenda Pack for a Lic Hearing on 12 Oct 2022 in their 28 June email to a different Applicant applying for extended hours a bit further up on North End Road, I quote,

"The area of Fulham Broadway and the vicinity suffers with a high level of anti-social behaviour and criminal activity, specifically in the early hours."

This 'anti-social behavior and criminal activity', acknowledged by the Police, in and around Fulham Broadway was made vividly clear at the 2nd Aug Ward Panel meeting. It was reported to us by the Redback that this area has become a late-night, early hour destination for street drinking, nitrous oxide balloon sales and use, as well as the illegal resale of alcohol directly on the pavement, for immediate consumption on the pavement, across from Simmons in Jerdan Place and predominantly across from the Redback pub, which is around the corner from Simmons.

All of this culminates in the serious cumulative impact of too many people in the area during these late hours, leading to overcrowding on the pavement where people are lingering, drinking alcohol, eating takeaway food, and unfortunately partaking in nitrous oxide use and drug use. Residents have explained to me that this area of lower Fulham Broadway has become a destination for late night and early morning outdoor pavement parties along Fulham Road as well as into the pedestrian area of Jerdan Place/Vanston Place, across from Simmons.

Would the Sub-Committee pls note that the full draft minutes will include the revelations made at the same time on 2 Aug by the Redback manager, about resale of alcohol directly on the pavement, which the Met Police SNT said was most definitely illegal and would be looked into by Licensing Police officers.

Also, for clarity:

--SNT stands for Met Police Safer Neighbourhood Team and --LET stands for the Law Enforcement Team of London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham (LBHF).

The LBHF LET is not related to the Met Police.

--The Redback is around the corner from Simmons.

Begin forwarded message:

“From: Ward Panel Chair Fulham Town
Subject: Redback Discussion at Fulham Town Ward Panel meeting 2.8.22 Date:
August 9, 2022 at 10:56:08 AM GMT+1
To: Charlotte Dexter
Cc: Annabel Cottrell

“Dear Both

I hope you are well.

“Whilst we wait for the official issue of the Minutes from the recent meeting held on 2.8.22, for your local purposes you asked whether we could note the key outcomes so actions can be followed more quickly. Please find an excerpt from the relevant section of the PROPOSED Minutes and also the proposed revised Ward Priorities, please note these are not yet officially agreed:

1. Redback/Fulham Broadway Night time Concerns a. A meeting had been held with Redback Management as part of the licensing conditions. Three areas were discussed as priorities - getting people through the door, smokers, and getting people to disperse at the end of the evening. A new ID scanner and ‘random’ ID check at the door should help getting customers in more quickly. The Redback told the group they put their best efforts into managing the second and third issue by constantly taking photos/banning customers, but Residents felt that these issues were ongoing.

b. The Redback felt strongly that post closing time, the real issue in the area was significant numbers of balloon inhalation and drug sales, widespread and openly conducted, which meant the entire area became one outside party, involving many more customers from all establishments along Fulham Broadway not just the Redback

c. The Redback felt that increased police presence a few weeks ago had really helped decrease the issues and ASB, but now the issue was running rampant, and the police were not there to manage the situation d. The SNT stated they were unaware that the problem had got significantly worse. The SNT suggested that the Ward Priorities be revised to include a reference to the issue e. The SNT clarified that whilst inhaling balloons was not illegal, selling/dealing methods for inhalation definitely was illegal and should be stopped f. It was asked whether there was CCTV available that could help, it was also suggested that LET patrols could be increased In consultation with the SNT The Ward Panel decided to amend the first Priority, with the second and third Priorities remaining the same:

Proposed Ward Priorities

a. ASB, knife crime and violence against persons, particularly when driven by balloon inhalation and drugs b. Theft of and from motor vehicles c. Burglary

“I hope this helps your local conversations. All the best Annabel Cottrell and Georgie Stewart, Ward Panel Co Chairs, Town Ward (Fulham)”

Charlotte Dexter Murray

From: Annabel Cottrell
Sent: 06 December 2022 12:36
To: Licensing HF: H&F
Cc: Chris Rankine Vicar of St John's
Subject: Re: 2022/01370/LAPR Simmons Bar, 374 North End Road London SW6 1LY

Dear Licencing

Thank you for your email. The applicants' adoption of the suggestions at 6.3 of the Licensing Impact Assessment are welcomed however the report by Sheild Associates also suggested not allowing re-entry after 23.30hrs which would help with dispersal. I believe the venue should adopt this condition as not only would it help with dispersal but it would reduce the temptation of their customers to visit the drugs dealers that hang around in Jerdan Place and Barclay Road and then return to Simmons.

In particular I believe the suggested closing hour on a Thursday is too late for a school night in a mixed use area.

The clientele of the bar are young and whatever controls are imposed while they are actually on the premises or in the immediate environs will not address the ASB in the local vicinity after they have left, which as confirmed by the police are significant.

It is not Simmonds' fault but unfortunately the young people are a magnet for drug dealers on the Broadway.

The applicant quotes the Redback as opening for these extended hours however the premises closest to the applicant have considerably shorter hours of opening. If this application is granted there will be significant pressure on the other operators to also increase their hours to the detriment of residents living in the area.

I am unable to attend the hearing but I hope the committee will consider my comments. Please arrange for Chris Rankine to take my allotted time at the hearing to speak on my behalf.

Annabel Cottrell
Walham Green Co-Chair