

Licensing Sub Committee Hearing Panel

Minutes of the meeting held on Friday, 4 January 2019

Present: Councillor Grimshaw – in the Chair

Councillors: Jeavons and C Paul

**LCHP/19/1 Application for a Summary Review of a Premises Licence for
Toy Box Manchester, St Johns House, 2-10 Queen St,
Manchester M2 5JB.**

The Committee considered the content of the application and the representations and evidence presented orally by both parties. The Committee considered the four recent violent incidents particularly the serious incident on New Years Eve which resulted in a patron being seriously injured as a result of being stabbed.

The Committee considered that a lack of management both inside the premises and at the door enabled the incident to occur and in particular the Committee considered that had the initial altercation between the perpetrator and the victim been managed appropriately and led to the offender being removed from the premises and police being alerted this would have prevented the second altercation during which the victim was stabbed and seriously injured.

The Committee considered the proposal to install a knife arch at the premises and although this was welcomed the Committee considered that in these circumstances the incident would not have been prevented by the presence and use of a knife arch as the perpetrator did not access the venue through the front entrance. The evidence was that the perpetrator had gained entrance to the club via the door used by smokers after paying some cash to a lone doorman on duty at the front entrance.

The Committee took into account the fact that this was not an isolated incident and that there had been 4 violent incidents within a short space of time, the Committee therefore shares GMP's concerns about the nature of a portion of the clientele currently being attracted to the venue.

The Committee therefore considered more time was required in order for all sides to investigate fully the incidents which have occurred and consider all possible solutions to ensure the safety of patrons. The Committee therefore considered it necessary to suspend the licence pending the review hearing.

Decision

To suspend the licence pending the final review hearing to be held on 25 January 2019.