

GREATER MANCHESTER POLICE



To: Manchester City Council
Licensing Unit
Town Hall Extension

To: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

9th February 2022

Dear Sir,

Please accept this letter as formal notification that Greater Manchester Police wish to object, under Section 104(2) of the Licensing Act 2003, to the **TEMPORARY EVENT NOTICE** detailed below, as we are satisfied that granting the application under these circumstances would undermine the Prevention of Crime and Disorder and the Protection of Children from Harm.

PREMISES NAME:	Sol House
ADDRESS:	117 Fairfield Street Manchester M12 6EL
DATE OF EVENT:	26/02/2022 - 27/02/2022
TIME OF EVENT:	12100 - 0600hrs

This premises were recently visited by Greater Manchester Police and Manchester City Council Licensing officers after reports that an unlicensed event was taking place.

Upon attendance there were people preparing the premises to host an event and there was a large amount of alcohol present. The organisers told the officers that they had a TEN in place to host the event but when checks were made this was found not to be the case and no TEN had even been applied for.

The officers were told that security had been booked for this event and eventually they were given contact details for the security company that they stated they were using.

MCC Licensing officers contacted this security company and were informed that they had no knowledge of this event and were not supplying any staff to it.

It was claimed that the large amount of alcohol was to be given away for free and that nobody attending the event would be charged an entrance fee but this seemed

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highly doubtful to the officers present so all the alcohol was seized and booked into the GMP property system.

This isn't the only recent issues with events operating at this premises and it has been visited during events by officers who have found it very difficult to establish who is in charge and how many security they have employed.

They have encountered people standing at the door appearing to be carrying out security duties but then when spoken to have stated that they are nothing to do with the event.

The applicant has made no reference to how they will safely manage this large event for 250 persons until 0600hrs or how this number of potentially inebriated people will be safely dispersed without causing a disturbance.

Therefore, Greater Manchester Police ask that this application is refused.

Signed: PC 17659 Isherwood..... (rank/pin/name)

Date/Time 09/02/22.....1030 hrs



Licensing & Out of Hours Compliance Team - Representation

Name	Jonathon Mathers
Job Title	Licensing Out of Hours Officer
Department	Licensing and Out of Hours Compliance Team
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Premise Details

Application Ref No	M/270136
Name of Premises	Sol House
Address	117 Fairfield Street, Manchester, M12 6EL

Representation

Outline your representation regarding the above application below. This representation should describe the likely effect of the grant of the licence/certificate on the licensing objectives and on the vicinity of the premises.

The Licensing and Out of Hours Team (LOOH) have assessed the likely impact of the grant of this application taking into account a number of factors, including the hours and activities applied for, the nature of the area in which the premises is located and the potential risk to the licensing objectives as a result of granting this application. As a result of this assessment the Licensing and Out of Hours Team (LOOH) are not satisfied that the conditions offered are sufficient to uphold the four licensing objectives.

Sol House is located at 117 Fairfield Street within the Piccadilly Trading Estate within a few hundred metres of Piccadilly Train Station. TEN applications for Sol House have been regularly submitted to the council for review since 2014. Officers from the Licensing Out of Hours team have conducted regular monitoring of these events and during several visits, officers have witnessed a vast array of issues that have led to LOOH having serious concerns about the premises being able to operate legally.

Previous TEN monitoring visits to the Sol House premises have found that the event taking place was not as described as in the original TEN application. LOOH officers have also witnessed customers whilst stood queueing to go inside the premises using psychoactive substances unchallenged. Patrons have also been witnessed drinking alcohol unchallenged outside on Fairfield Street whilst an event was taking place which is a breach of the Public Spaces Protection Order currently in place within Manchester City Centre. Issues with litter surrounding the premises have also been identified.

We have serious concerns regarding the management of events that take place at Sol House. During visits, LOOH officers have reported concerns regarding crowd control measures being non-existent and when challenged the people in charge of the event have no knowledge of the person who has applied for the TEN, and an unwillingness to identify who is responsible.

LOOH also hold serious concerns regarding the security measures that are implemented for events that take place at Sol House due to various issues identified during previous visits. LOOH officers have witnessed the following issues:

- The CCTV system for the venue when reviewed by officers was found to be in a poor quality with the wrong date and time stamp. The person in charge during this visit did not understand how to operate the CCTV system correctly.
- Unlicensed SIA working as Security
- During one visit, 1 SIA on door with 300 patrons in attendance
- Security staff unable or unwilling to tell officers who employs them.

On more than one occasion, LOOH officers have arrived on site and found no security staff in place. One officer described one visit to Sol House as being like a 'free for all'. On another multi-agency visit to Sol House, no security personnel were found to be in place again, therefore due to serious concerns about how the event could unfold, Greater Manchester Police undertook a seizure of all alcohol on site.

Due to the various issues witnessed by LOOH officers described above, LOOH recommend that the TEN application should be refused.

Recommendation: Approve Application
Approve with Conditions (Outlined Above)
Refuse Application