

Club Bloom – Representations against interim steps Hearing 13 July 2022

Decision: Not to modify or withdraw the interim step of suspension of the licence imposed on 1st July 2022.

Reasons: The Committee took into account the content of the Report containing the Senior Officers certificate and the additional documents provided by the Premises licence holder as well as the oral representations of all sides and the excerpts of CCTV footage shown at the hearing.

The Committee heard from the Premises Licence Holder that the previous door company Compact and the previous DPS had been removed. The Committee accepted that the proposed new door company i Guard is a professional company with a good reputation and proven track record.

Having viewed the CCTV the Committee considered that the problems seen on the door on the night in question were not an isolated incident. The interaction between the 14 year old male and door staff showed a level of familiarity and the Committee did not accept that this was the first time he had attended the premises. He appeared familiar with the layout of the premises and the door staff and although only 14 years of age felt comfortable approaching a table of females in order to offer them drugs. It was clear from the CCTV footage that Clubscan was not being properly used.

The Committee was not clear what management plan was going to be implemented to better monitor the premises. The Committee considered it is the responsibility of management to ensure the premises is operating responsibly. The failings of the door company should have been noticed and addressed. The Committee needs to have more confidence that management will have a more robust plan to ensure the Licensing Objectives are not being undermined particularly the prevention of crime and disorder and to ensure the safeguarding of vulnerable females and vulnerable children who should not be at the premises. The Committee therefore considered it necessary and proportionate to maintain the suspension pending the summary review on 25 July.