



Licensing & Out of Hours Compliance Team - Representation

Name	Gareth Hall
Job Title	Neighbourhood Compliance Officer
Department	Licensing and Out of Hours Compliance Team
Address	1 Hammerstone Road, Gorton, Manchester M18 8EQ
Email Address	[REDACTED]
Telephone Number	[REDACTED]

Premise Details

Application Ref No	PR202408-1555721
Name of Premises	Rufta House
Address	First and Second Floors, 100 Wilmslow Road, Manchester, M14 5AJ

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.

Licensing and out of hours (LOH) have assessed the likely impact of the grant of this application taking into account a number of factors, including, the nature of the area in which the premises is located, the hours applied for and any potential risk that the granting of this application could have, taking into account the licensing objectives Prevention of Crime and Disorder, Public Safety, Prevention of Public Nuisance and Protection of Children From Harm.

The Curry Mile Wilmslow Road Rusholme has some of the most distinctive characteristics of any place in Manchester; it is home to the traditional Curry Mile, on one of the main arterial routes in the city along Wilmslow Road. Especially notable is the strong influence of Asian and Middle Eastern trade and its bustling and brightly lit late-night economy. It is a centre that attracts visitors from a wide catchment area beyond Manchester and is a valuable part of the city's identity. However, the past decade has seen a displacement of the restaurant scene and a proliferation of shisha venues, several of which have been associated with antisocial behaviour and breaches of the Health Act 2006, which prohibits smoking indoors and substantially enclosed premises. While some hold licences to provide late-night refreshment and regulated entertainment, shisha smoking is not a licensable activity.

The applicant has applied for a premises licence to open Sunday to Thursday 13:00Hrs to 00:30Hrs and 13:00 to 01:30Hrs Friday & Saturday. They have also applied to provide late night refreshment, recorded music Sunday to Thursday 23:00Hrs to 00:00Hrs Friday & Saturday 23:00 Hrs to 01:00Hrs and sale by retail of alcohol Sunday to Thursday 13:00Hrs to 00:00Hrs Friday & Saturday 13:00 Hrs to 01:00Hrs. This would mean the premises operating in the period classed as the late night economy in Manchester City Councils statement of licensing policy under the licensing act 2003 for the period 2024 to 2029. The policy states that the presumption is to refuse such applications except in exceptional circumstances.

The Licensing & out of hours team (LOH) have concerns relating to the presence of the applicant and proposed Designated premises supervisor (DPS) [REDACTED] upon receipt of the application LOH invited [REDACTED]

the representative, the applicant and proposed DPS to a meeting at the premises to discuss concerns raised in this representation, Despite the invite being open with no dates provided to make it as easy as possible to arrange the meeting there was only one date provided by the applicant and DPS at short notice meaning no such meeting took place. As the DPS is expected to be in day-to-day control of the business and provides a focal contact point this raises concerns about how the premises will be managed.

There are also concerns relating to staff training as in the operating schedule of the application it states ' . In conjunctions with the steps proposed for the prevention of crime and disorder objectives, the Licensees and staff will at all times remain responsible for the prevention of public nuisance in and around the premises' there is however no training relating to conflict management in the application. The application also does not include training with regard to 'Martins Law'.

In summary LOH have concerns how the premises will be managed, Manchester City Councils Statement of Licensing policy for the area of Wilmslow Road / Curry Mile and have no confidence that the four licensing objectives will be upheld.

Due to the above concerns LOH recommend that the application be refused.

Recommendation:

Refuse Application