



**Leicestershire
Police**
Protecting our communities

Force Licensing Department
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Leicestershire Police

Licensing Act 2003

Representation in respect of a full variation premises licence application

Details of person or body making representation	
Your Name:	PC Jefferson Pritchard
Your Address:	Mansfield House, 74 Belgrave Gate, Leicester LE1 3GG

Details of premises representation is about	
Name of Premises:	Metal Monocle
Address of premises:	59-61 Braunstone Gate Leicester LE3 5LH
Application No. (if known)	

Please tick one or more of the licensing objectives that your representation relates to:	
Prevention of crime and disorder	X
Public Safety	
Prevention of public nuisance	X
Protection of children from harm	

Please summarise your concerns about this application:
<p>I write in my capacity as Leicester City Centre's alcohol licensing officer for Leicestershire Police, with delegated authority given by the Chief Constable.</p> <p>My representation to this full variation licence application is based upon the licensing objectives as per the Licensing Act 2003.</p> <p>The application in its current format if granted would undermine two of the four licensing objectives as per the Licensing Act 2003. These are the prevention of crime and disorder and the prevention of public nuisance.</p> <p>This full variation is for an existing licensed premise.</p>

The premises is located at 59-61 Braunstone Gate, Leicester. LE3 5LH.
The premises is currently known as the Metal Monocle but was previously known as The Laundry Bar and Obar.

The premises currently operates as an alcohol led, stand up bar that specialises in live music performances. However, I believe other live acts such as comedy nights are also held at the premises.

The premises is split across two floors, with the main bar on the ground floor and a further chill out space consisting of settees on the first floor. The toilets are also located on the first floor.

The premises does have a basement which is solely used as a store room.

The premises is located within a vibrant night time economy area within the West End quarter of the city.

Leicestershire Police's licensing system confirms there are twenty-three "live" licensed premises on Braunstone Gate of which sixteen are permitted to sell alcohol. (This includes the Metal Monocle).

Other similar types of licensed premises including Natterjacks, Boxed Bar, Dog House, Bar 66(Mood) and West End Brewery are located either opposite or within one a short distance of the premises.

The opening hours of these premises at the weekend varies from 1am until 4am. However, the premises which is permitted to remain open to the public until 4am must cease all licensable activity at 3am.

The premises is located within the "Braunstone Gate Area" cumulative impact zone as referred to in Leicester City Council's Statement of Licensing Policy 2015.

However, this policy is currently being reviewed. The policy states that *"these policies cannot be absolute and it will continue to consider each application on its merits. Licences that are unlikely to add to the problems of the cumulative impact area would be approved"*.

The premises existing Leicester City Council premises licence number LEIPRM1801 permits the following licensable activities:

The performance of live music (indoors), the playing of recorded music (indoors), the performance of dance (indoors) and the supply of alcohol for consumption both on and off the premises daily from 11am until 2am.

The premises existing opening hours to the public are daily from 8am until 2:30am.

The applicant has applied to amend the premises (1) opening hours and (2) licensable activities to:

(1) Opening Hours to the Public:

Sunday to Thursday from 8am until 2:30am. (No change)

Friday & Saturday from 8am until 4:30am. (Previously 8am until 2:30am + 2 hours)

New Years Eve from 9am until 4am (Previously 8am until 4am – 1 hour)

(2) Supply of alcohol:

Sunday to Thursday from 11am until 2am. (No change)

Friday & Saturday from 11am until 4am. (+2 hours)

New Years Eve from 11am until 4am. (No change)

Other licensable activities including the provision of films, live music, recorded music, performance of dance, anything similar and late-night refreshment commence at either 9am or 11am but reflect the same cease time for the supply of alcohol.

Pre-Application Consultation

A pre-application meeting was held with the applicant. At this time, the applicant stated his intention was to submit an application to increase the licensable activities hours on Friday and Saturday until 4am the following morning only and to increase the premises opening hours on Friday and Saturday until 4:30am the following morning.

The applicant stated his intentions was to mirror the operating hours of another similar live music venue on Millstone Lane in the city centre.

The applicant was advised that Leicestershire Police were unlikely to support the proposed operating hours and recommended considering reducing the licensable activity hours to 3am and opening hours of the premises until 3:30am on Friday & Saturday.

Effectively, the applicant is seeking to remain open an extra two hours at the weekend until 4:30am.

Leicestershire Police are concerned that the extended hours will result in the premise becoming a magnet for consumers wishing to consume more alcohol in the night time economy as other licensed premises in the vicinity closer earlier. This could lead to an increase in anti-social behaviour, crime and disorder either at or within proximity to the premises regardless of the best intentions of the applicant.

Historically, crime and disorder increase's in the early hours of the morning, more so at weekends given the longer period that the customers are permitted to consume alcohol.

Attached to this report is a summary of a number of incidents and crime reports recorded by Leicestershire Police (See Annex A) either directly connected to the premises itself or in close proximity to the premises. The coronavirus pandemic has resulted in long periods of closure and long periods of operating under restrictions which has ultimately reduced the number of customers going out in the night time economy, not just at the premises but Braunstone Gate overall. Therefore, crime statistics for the last twenty-one month's do not reflect pre-pandemic statistics. However, the current figures give an overview of current night time economy crime in the area. Ultimately, post pandemic it is highly likely there will be a surge in the night time economy and a rise in crime statistics.

Leicestershire Police are also concerned that customers leaving the premises in the early hours of the morning at the weekend could cause a public nuisance to those living in and around Braunstone Gate. Also, as the premises does not have a private smoking area this results in customers smoking in the street, outside the front of the

premises.

Leicestershire Police respectfully requests that the application is refused. However, if the committee choose to grant the application the police would ask that the following conditions be attached.

- (1) The premises opening hours to the public:
Friday & Saturday from 8am until 3:30am.
Sunday to Thursday as requested.
New Years Eve from 9am until 4am.
- (2) The supply of alcohol hours:
Friday & Saturday from 11am until 3am.
Sunday to Thursday as requested.
New Years Eve from 11am until 3:30am.
- (3) The licence holder shall ensure an additional external CCTV camera is installed to capture all of the pavement area directly outside the premises.
- (4) The licence holder shall ensure an additional internal CCTV camera is installed which captures facial images of those entering the premises and therefore permitting the identification of individuals.
- (5) The licence holder shall ensure no new customers enter the premises after 2:30am at the weekend.
- (6) The licence holder shall ensure a smoking management plan controls the number of customers permitted to remain outside the premises smoking or vaping after 1am on Saturday and Sunday morning.
- (7) The licence holder shall ensure that a minimum of three Security Industry Authority (SIA) front line door supervisors are employed and remain on the premises until customers have left the premises for when the premises remains open between 2:30am and 3:30am/4am.
- (8) The licence holder shall be a member of Leicester's City Watch and utilize an operational City Watch retail radio.

PC2093 Jefferson Pritchard
Leicestershire Police
4th January 2022

Metal Monocle, Braunstone Gate, Leicester – Police Evidence. Annex A.

Offences/incidents linked to the premises in the last year given the coronavirus pandemic:

- (1) Saturday 16th October 2021 @ 00:25 hrs. Crime Number - 21000601617

Customer admits being involved in argument inside the premises resulting in him alleging he was forcibly ejected from the premises. The customer was later arrested for being drunk and disorderly as he loitered outside the premises.

- (2) Friday 17th September 2021 @ 01:41 hrs. Police Incident Number 36.

DPS asked two males to leave the premises after found consuming cocaine on the premises, resulting in the customers becoming aggressive towards others in the street.

Offences/incidents in proximity to the premises in the last six months (29/06/2021 to 29/12/2021) given the coronavirus pandemic.

- (1) Saturday 27th November 2021 @ 01:15 hrs. Crime Number 21000690966

Victim hit over the head with a glass in a nearby licensed premises.

- (2) Saturday 20th November 2021 @ 01:45 hrs. Crime Number 21000676418 & 21000676192

Group of males damage a door of another licensed premises and assault door staff.

- (3) Saturday 16th October 2021 @ 06:00 hrs. Crime Number 21000608269

Victim is punched in the face after declining to give a stranger a cigarette.

- (4) Saturday 16th October 2021 @ 00:27 hrs. Crime Number 21000602225 & 21000601617

Male alleges he was assaulted by door staff from a nearby licensed premises after earlier being ejected.

- (5) Sunday 10th October 2021 @ 01:43 hrs. Crime Number - 21000588719

Male alleges assaults against a member of door staff at another nearby licensed premises.

Metal Monocle, Braunstone Gate, Leicester – Police Evidence. Annex A.

(6) Sunday 3rd October 2021 @ 00:52 hrs. 21000573570.

Customer alleges an assault by door staff at nearby licensed premises. Alleged victim and another loiter in the street causing harassment, alarm and distress.

(7) Monday 27th September 2021 @ 23:11 hrs. 21000558721.

Male assaults a member of door staff outside a nearby licensed premises.

(8) Friday 3rd September 2021 @ 22:00 hrs. 21000512747

Male ejected from nearby licensed premises and assaults door staff.

(9) Sunday 29th August 2021 @ 01:50 hrs. 21000501594

Assault outside another nearby licensed premises.

(10) Friday 27th August 2021 @ 22:20 hrs. 21000499653

Victim assaulted in the street resulting in a fatal injury.

(11) Sunday 22nd August 2021 @ 02:00 hrs. 21000473657

Customer allegedly assaults a member of door staff at another nearby licensed premises.

(12) Saturday 31st July 2021 @ 21:30 hrs. 21000430898

A member of door staff allegedly assaults a customer.

(13) Sunday 11th July 2021 @ 23:23 hrs. 21000386030.

Small pockets of disorder in street after England exit for the Euro 2020 football final.

(14) Saturday 26th June 2021 @ 01:25 hrs. 21000358133

Customer alleges he was assaulted by door staff at a nearby licensed premises.

Metal Monocle, Braunstone Gate, Leicester – Police Evidence. Annex A.

(15) Sunday 13th June 2021 @ 00:06 hrs. 21000499827.

A large group of males are refused entry to a nearby licensed premises who proceed to make threats towards door staff.

(16) Friday 11th June 2021 @ 00:42 hrs. 2100322626

Large fight in a nearby licensed premises.

(17) Wednesday 26^h May 2021 @ 03:40 hrs. 2100289577

Suspect assaults victim in the street in proximity to the premises

(18) Saturday 22nd May 2021 @ 23:40 hrs. 2100283393

Customer asked to leave a nearby licensed premises and throws a glass at staff causing injury.

(19) Sunday 16th May 2021 @ 01:49 hrs. 21000268459.

Customer ejected from a nearby licensed premises and alleges they were assaulted by a member of door staff. The customer proceeds to assault another person in the street.