

McConaghy Julianne

Subject:

FW:

From:

Sent: 19 May 2019 10:44

To: licensingservice

Subject:

My Name is xxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxx. I'm a friend of xxxxx who used to work at spearmint rhino. I support xxxxx because I've never heard anything negative about her experience working there Just positive things about how she earned good money and it was very flexibale hours, It is a really popular club that deserves to stay open due to its success over the years. I know that xxxxx enjoyed her work because she always felt respected and found it very fun to work at. I really support keeping this club open as it's a job where people really like working and can support there family or univercity fêes or simply just earn some extra cash. I know all the dancers and managers have worked really hard to keep the business going And I know it would effect many people mentally and financially and put them into difficult situations. Thank you for your time reading this letter.

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

McConaghy Julianne

Subject: FW: Spearmint Rhino Licence Renewal

From:

Sent: 19 May 2019 12:48

To: licensingservice

Subject: Spearmint Rhino Licence Renewal

To whom this may concern,

I am writing to give my full support of the Spearmint Rhino club licence being renewed.

I believe it not only gives the employees a safe space to practice their jobs but also gives them the freedom to choose how they celebrate their bodies.

Thanks,

McConaghy Julianne

Subject: FW: Spearmint rhino

-----Original Message-----

From:

Sent: 19 May 2019 15:25

To: licensingservice

Subject: Spearmint rhino

Dear sir/madam

I am writing to you, to express my views on the so called feminist groups, whom quite clearly (and quoted) " want the industry abolished".

I am actually a qualified psychotherapist . I am a single mother to a disabled child. I am also very proudly a dancer of nearly 20 years.

I have been with the spearmint rhino family for nearly 10 years. The predominate reason I work there, is to provide my child a private education. . However I adore my job. My managers are fantastic , we are in a safe environment and I feel like my colleagues are family.

I am appalled by what I have read by the feminist groups against us. They have made serveral misconceptions that as a professional psychotherapist worry me. I Have never taken drugs! I pay my tax! And I am most certainly not exploited .

Please consider this letter as private , and please consider the implications of the loss of jobs in our industry in this false persecution by these groups continues .

Yours sincerely

Sent from my iPhone

McConaghy Julianne

Subject: FW: Spearmint rhino: Sheffield

From:

Sent: 19 May 2019 15:56

To: licensingservice

Subject: Spearmint rhino: Sheffield

To whom this may apply,

I am hereby sending my support as a valued and frequent patron of spearmint rhino. I have read the news of campaigners calling for you to revoke the licence of the club.

The ladies and staff have never been anything other than professional. I thoroughly enjoy my time spent here. I wish to ask you to carefully consider the revoking as a loss will be of much disappointment to myself, their staff and other people visiting the city of Sheffield and it's night life.

McConaghy Julianne

Subject: FW: letter of support for spearmint.docx

-----Original Message-----

From:

Sent: 19 May 2019 17:39

To: licensingservice

Subject: letter of support for spearmint.docx

Hi

I have attached a letter of support for spearmint rhino Sheffield as one of the dancers. I wish to remain anonymous please.

It is with a great fervour and sincerity that I write this letter of support for Spearmint Rhino, a company that has taken care of me for almost 4 years. I started working for Spearmint Rhino in the first year of my undergraduate study and continued throughout my Master's degree. Without this occupation, I would not have been able to complete my master's. Sex work is legal and will continue regardless of dissent, and this is the reality that has been painted by history numerous times. The benefit of having clubs like Spearmint Rhino is that the employees of the sex work industry have a safe place to practice their business and support themselves without risk of harm. It is anti-feminist to strip away a female's choice to work in a safe, controlled environment. Many faux-feminists have the deluded idea that strip clubs are degrading to women because it is 'solely aimed at men' and is reflective of patriarchal control. This is a subjective ideological dogmatism that bears no objective truth. Sex work provides a natural exercise of the sexual behaviour of the human psyche and there are couples, parties of women and of men that attend strip clubs. The issue that people in opposition of this type of work are attempting to raise is one of personal preference, which has no place in action against a community of people and the freedom exercised therein. Another argument the feminists have is that 'stripping is exploiting women by using their bodies as commodities and are being coerced by men to strip for money to pay for their family'. This argument is extremely ignorant. Firstly, the term exploit is to 'make full use of and derive benefit from a resource' which is what any good organisation or company achieves in order to benefit from their services.

However, the term coercing - 'persuading an unwilling person to do something by using the force of threats' - does not apply to any regulated strip club like Spearmint Rhino. Maybe in the 1990s, when women would be forced to become street prostitutes by abusive pimps, but it is now 2019 and we are not prostitutes! Stripping has improved every girl's confidence and the idea that we are 'objectified' because the clients do not care about our personalities and view us as only objects does not create an intrinsic nor an objective issue. To exemplify this, a service provided by a postman does not hold an expectation that your post will be handed over with a longing stare and profound interest in your life. It is a business and should be run as such. Exotic dancing is a form of dance, fantasy, and art. Exotic dance movements performed in high heels derive from popular Broadway theatre, music videos, hip hop dance, cheerleading, and gymnastics. There is no physical contact, just a show, a fantasy for everyone.

In the end, we dancers are being paid for work, everyone is consenting we are all adults here. We are not finding illicit means to fund our necessities so why should we be shut down as a result of the insecurities of ignorant people that have not done their research into strip clubs? Don't like strip clubs? Don't work there or don't pay to visit there. Should we not be using our resources and taxpayer money to achieve something more useful and ubiquitously beneficial?

Thank you for reading,

McConaghy Julianne

Subject: FW: Sheffield Spearmint Rhinos License

From:

Sent: 20 May 2019 12:39

To: licensingservice

Subject: Sheffield Spearmint Rhinos License

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to you to express my extreme concern regarding the report gathered by private investigators visiting Spearmint Rhino in Sheffield, and how it may be used to influence the decision made regarding their license.

I became aware of the report after reading an article on The Times online. I find it disturbing that a 'women's rights campaigner' would act in a way that so flagrantly ignores the consent and freedom of the women working inside. I have heard from one worker that footage was obtained without the workers' knowledge and against the rules of the venue, meaning that what was done was also illegal. The obsession of certain groups of "radical" feminists to save sex workers from themselves whilst ignoring the desires of the workers themselves is concerning. It not only implies a lack of understanding of the multitude of reasons individuals might choose to go into sex work, but it also detracts from finding and assisting those victims of sexual exploitation and trafficking by deliberately conflating them with those undertaking consensual sex work.

My other concern is that through the closure of this venue, its workers will be forced into less regulated, less safe working environments. Aside from the emotional stress this campaigner has already inflicted on the club's workers in the name of their own safety, they could now be placed under horrendous financial pressures. Instead of working within a community, with support, co-worker friendship, and, importantly, security they could be pushed into more exploitative industries.

The infantilising of sex workers by implying that they could not ever consent to their work freely is absurd, and should be treated as such. The true violation here is the non-consensual recording of individuals who have a right to privacy and safety in their workplace. That it was done in the name of Women's Rights is a disgrace.

I urge you to consider a course of action that will protect the victims of this action, and prosecute those who illegally obtained this footage.

Yours faithfully,

McConaghy Julianne

Subject: FW: SOS Sheffield Solidarity

From:

Sent: 20 May 2019 16:50

To: licensingservice

Subject: SOS Sheffield Solidarity

To whom it may concern,

I'm writing regarding the licensing of Sheffield's only strip club. As a local resident of Sheffield I am in favour of the SEV license renewal: the club is unobtrusive in it's area, and closure of the club would have negative impacts in many ways. Closing the club will take away many waged positions (door, bar, management, cleaning staff) which provides for many families across Sheffield. It will also take away jobs for many women working as dancers at the club, many of whom are also parents or have caring responsibilities. Workers within the club consistently assert that they are there of their own free will, and that they enjoy their jobs, and the tight knit community there.

While the dancers at the venue come from a variety of backgrounds and careers, for some the closure of the club will inevitably mean a move towards riskier, unregulated or higher contact forms of erotic dancing and sex work that they would not otherwise choose. It would also mean breaking up a close and supportive community of colleagues and friends, which will undoubtedly have a negative impact on many workers, their mental health and their financial wellbeing.

This club is a venue that has a place in Sheffield City Centre. It is a legitimate business that stimulates the economy like any other and the government recommends that objections based on moral grounds should not be considered when licensing Sexual Entertainment Venues: sexuality is a natural part of the human experience. Not everyone need visit or agree with such venues, but venues should not be closed on moral grounds objecting to sexual entertainment itself. Regarding alleged license breaches: the club has a record of legal and safe operation spanning over 15 years, and I believe the club should be given the chance to remedy any alleged misconduct and put in place measures to ensure such breaches are not allowed to take place.

Whilst it should be taken into consideration that the stripclub industry as a whole is not perfect, it is also important to note that dancers across the UK and in Sheffield are unionising and fighting for their workers rights. Removing a safe and regulated venue from workers who are engaged in this fight does nothing to support them and in fact detracts from this aim by dispersing dancers who are already unionising at work further afield and distracting their focus to finding alternative venues and avenues of work. It is hard to fight for workers rights when you have to fight for the right to work at all! While it is important to focus on exploitation in any industry, it is paramount to listen to the views, experiences and wishes of workers *currently* in the industry, as it is those people who know best the conditions that will help them.

Finally, I would like to express my condemnation of tactics used by self described feminist groups. Filming women in the nude without their consent or knowledge is not acceptable, nor is it acceptable to pay others to do so, and those concerned with women's rights more generally must also respect the rights of the women upon whom their actions and campaigns have the most impact. I urge the council to publicly condemn and reject such activities, and for action to be taken against those commissioning such footage.

Kind Regards,

McConaghy Julianne

Subject: FW: Spearmint rhino.

From:
Sent: 20 May 2019 18:35
To: licensingservice
Subject: Spearmint rhino.

To whom it may concern,

I'm emailing in support of the renewal of Spearmint Rhinos license in Sheffield.

I've lived in Sheffield for 8 years, and never had any problems or issues with the club, it's very simple, if i don't want to see it, I don't go.

One of my closest friends is a dancer at the club, and it has been such a positive impact on her life. She's grown in confidence, and self belief, she's a completely different person to the girl I knew before working at spearmint. She was literally scared of her own shadow before she started working there, and now I see her as this massively confident girl, who does what she wants, and enjoys doing it.

She's got such a good group of friends, and such a good support network through the club, and to see it close due to a small but loud voice, who won't even speak to the girls involved would be a real shame for everyone involved in the club, and a huge step back in Sheffield's forward thinking, liberal reputation. Our previous Lord Mayor was such a positive forward thinker, and spoke the true voice of Sheffield, and I think closing the club would be a huge step backwards in the positive message Sheffield has been showing the rest of the country.

I won't repeat the other emails, such as safe working environment and the benefits of the the girls being self employed etc, but I do stand by them.

Please do get in contact if you'd like to hear more from me, as a proud Sheffield resident, and close friend of a girl affected by this issue.

I hope you consider the positives when considering the clubs license, and not the minority who think they are helping the girls, by taking away their lives.

McConaghy Julianne

Subject: FW: Spearmint rhino license

From:

Sent: 21 May 2019 10:58

To: licensingservice

Subject: Spearmint rhino license

Dear Sheffield Council Licences,

I'm writing regarding the licensing of Spearmint Rhino Sheffield. It is a legitimate business that stimulates the local economy like any other and the government recommends that objections based on moral grounds should not be considered when licensing Sexual Entertainment Venues: sexuality is a natural part of the human experience.

Not everyone need visit or agree with such venues, but venues should not be closed on moral grounds objecting to sexual entertainment itself. Regarding alleged license breaches: the club has a record of legal and safe operation spanning over 15 years, and I believe the club should be given the chance to remedy any alleged misconduct and put in place measures to ensure such breaches are not allowed to take place.

Yours sincerely,

S110 Pl.

McConaghy Julianne

Subject: FW: Spearmint Rhino

From:
Sent: 21 May 2019 11:47
To: licensingservice
Subject: Spearmint Rhino

To whom it may concern,

I'm writing regarding the licensing of Sheffield's only strip club. As a local resident of Sheffield I am in favour of the SEV license renewal: the club is unobtrusive in it's area, and closure of the club would have negative impacts in many ways. Closing the club will take away many waged positions (door, bar, management, cleaning staff) which provides for many families across Sheffield. It will also take away jobs for many women working as dancers at the club, many of whom are also parents or have caring responsibilities. Workers within the club consistently assert that they are there of their own free will, and that they enjoy their jobs, and the tight knit community there.

While the dancers at the venue come from a variety of backgrounds and careers, for some the closure of the club will inevitably mean a move towards riskier, unregulated or higher contact forms of erotic dancing and sex work that they would not otherwise choose. It would also mean breaking up a close and supportive community of colleagues and friends, which will undoubtedly have a negative impact on many workers, their mental health and their financial wellbeing.

This club is a venue that has a place in Sheffield City Centre. It is a legitimate business that stimulates the economy like any other and the government recommends that objections based on moral grounds should not be considered when licensing Sexual Entertainment Venues: sexuality is a natural part of the human experience. Not everyone need visit or agree with such venues, but venues should not be closed on moral grounds objecting to sexual entertainment itself. Regarding alleged license breaches: the club has a record of legal and safe operation spanning over 15 years, and I believe the club should be given the chance to remedy any alleged misconduct and put in place measures to ensure such breaches are not allowed to take place.

Whilst it should be taken into consideration that the stripclub industry as a whole is not perfect, it is also important to note that dancers across the UK and in Sheffield are unionising and fighting for their workers rights. Removing a safe and regulated venue from workers who are engaged in this fight does nothing to support them and in fact detracts from this aim by dispersing dancers who are already unionising at work further afield and distracting their focus to finding alternative venues and avenues of work. It is hard to fight for workers rights when you have to fight for the right to work at all! While it is important to focus on exploitation in any industry, it is paramount to listen to the views, experiences

and wishes of workers *currently* in the industry, as it is those people who know best the conditions that will help them.

Finally, I would like to express my condemnation of tactics used by self described feminist groups. Filming women in the nude without their consent or knowledge is not acceptable, nor is it acceptable to pay others to do so, and those concerned with women's rights more generally must also respect the rights of the women upon whom their actions and campaigns have the most impact. I urge the council to publicly condemn and reject such activities, and for action to be taken against those commissioning such footage.

Kind Regards,

McConaghy Julianne

Subject: FW: Spearmint Rhino

From:

Sent: 21 May 2019 11:48

To: licensingservice

Subject: Spearmint Rhino

Dear Sheffield Council Licences,

I'm writing regarding the licensing of Spearmint Rhino Sheffield. Please renew the SEV license: the club is unobtrusive in it's area, and closure of the club will take away many waged positions (door, bar, management, cleaning staff) which provides for many families across Sheffield. It will also take away jobs for many women working as dancers at the club, many of whom are also parents or have caring responsibilities. Workers within the club consistently assert that they are there of their own free will, and that they enjoy their jobs, and the tight-knit community there.

Spearmint Rhino Sheffield is a venue that has a place in Sheffield City Centre. It is a legitimate business that stimulates the economy like any other and the government recommends that objections based on moral grounds should not be considered when licensing Sexual Entertainment Venues: sexuality is a natural part of the human experience. Not everyone need visit or agree with such venues, but venues should not be closed on moral grounds objecting to sexual entertainment itself. Regarding alleged license breaches: the club has a record of legal and safe operation spanning over 15 years, and I believe the club should be given the chance to remedy any alleged misconduct and put in place measures to ensure such breaches are not allowed to take place.

Finally, I would like to express my condemnation of tactics used by self-described feminist groups. Filming women in the nude without their consent or knowledge is not acceptable, nor is it acceptable to pay others to do so, and those concerned with women's rights more generally must also respect the rights of the women upon whom their actions and campaigns have the most impact. I urge the council to publicly condemn and reject such activities, and for action to be taken against those commissioning such footage.

Best wishes

Yours sincerely,

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McConaghy Julianne

From: Sent: 21 May 2019 12:06
To: licensingservice
Subject:

Dear Sheffield Council Licences,

I am writing to ask you to renew the license for Spearmint Rhino. It's important to note that dancers across the UK and in Spearmint Rhino Sheffield are unionising and fighting for their workers rights. Removing a safe and regulated venue from workers who are engaged in this fight does nothing to support them and in fact detracts from this aim by dispersing dancers who are already unionising at work further afield and distracting their focus to finding alternative venues and avenues of work. It is hard to fight for workers rights when you have to fight for the right to work at all! While it is important to focus on exploitation in any industry, it is paramount to listen to the views, experiences and wishes of workers currently in the industry, as it is those people who know best the conditions that will help them.

Yours sincerely,

SUPPORT S112 WITHDRAWN

McConaghy Julianne

Subject: FW: Renewal of spearmint Rhino license

From:

Sent: 21 May 2019 12:09

To: licensingservice

Subject: Renewal of spearmint Rhino license

Dear Sheffield Council Licences,

To whom it may concern,

I'm writing regarding the licensing of Sheffield's only strip club. As a local resident of Sheffield I am in favour of the SEV license renewal: the club is unobtrusive in it's area, and closure of the club would have negative impacts in many ways. Closing the club will take away many waged positions (door, bar, management, cleaning staff) which provides for many families across Sheffield. It will also take away jobs for many women working as dancers at the club, many of whom are also parents or have caring responsibilities. Workers within the club consistently assert that they are there of their own free will, and that they enjoy their jobs, and the tight knit community there.

While the dancers at the venue come from a variety of backgrounds and careers, for some the closure of the club will inevitably mean a move towards riskier, unregulated or higher contact forms of erotic dancing and sex work that they would not otherwise choose. It would also mean breaking up a close and supportive community of colleagues and friends, which will undoubtedly have a negative impact on many workers, their mental health and their financial wellbeing.

This club is a venue that has a place in Sheffield City Centre. It is a legitimate business that stimulates the economy like any other and the government recommends that objections based on moral grounds should not be considered when licensing Sexual Entertainment Venues: sexuality is a natural part of the human experience. Not everyone need visit or agree with such venues, but venues should not be closed on moral grounds objecting to sexual entertainment itself. Regarding alleged license breaches: the club has a record of legal and safe operation spanning over 15 years, and I believe the club should be given the chance to remedy any alleged misconduct and put in place measures to ensure such breaches are not allowed to take place.

Whilst it should be taken into consideration that the stripclub industry as a whole is not perfect, it is also important to note that dancers across the UK and in Sheffield are unionising and fighting for their workers rights. Removing a safe and regulated venue from workers who are engaged in this fight does nothing to support them and in fact detracts from this aim by dispersing dancers who are already unionising at work further afield and distracting their focus to finding alternative venues and avenues of work. It is hard to fight for workers rights when you have to fight for the right to work at all! While it is important to focus on exploitation in any industry, it is paramount to listen to the views, experiences and wishes of workers currently in the industry, as it is those people who know best the conditions that will help them.

Finally, I would like to express my condemnation of tactics used by self described feminist groups. Filming women in the nude without their consent or knowledge is not acceptable, nor is it acceptable to pay others to do so, and those concerned with women's rights more generally must also respect the rights of the women upon whom their actions and campaigns have the most impact. I urge the council to publicly condemn and reject such activities, and for action to be taken against those commissioning such footage.

Yours sincerely,

McConaghy Julianne

From:

Sent: 21 May 2019 12:37

To: licensingservice

Subject

Dear Sheffield Council Licences,

I'm writing regarding the licensing of Spearmint Rhino Sheffield. Please renew the SEV license: the club is unobtrusive in it's area, and closure of the club would have negative impacts in many ways. It will also take away jobs for many women working as dancers at the club, many of whom are also parents or have caring responsibilities. Workers within the club consistently assert that they are there of their own free will, and that they enjoy their jobs, and the tight-knit community there.

Spearmint Rhino Sheffield is a venue that has a place in Sheffield City Centre. It is a legitimate business that stimulates the economy like any other and the government recommends that objections based on moral grounds should not be considered when licensing Sexual Entertainment Venues: sexuality is a natural part of the human experience. Not everyone need visit or agree with such venues, but venues should not be closed on moral grounds objecting to sexual entertainment itself. Regarding alleged license breaches: the club has a record of legal and safe operation spanning over 15 years, and I believe the club should be given the chance to remedy any alleged misconduct and put in place measures to ensure such breaches are not allowed to take place.

As an employee at Ann Summers, Sheffield, some of our regular customers are the women that work at Spearmint Rhino. They are enthusiastic and enjoy their jobs and are lovely ladies. They are having to travel far to different cities in order to earn money and it is unfair and unnecessary for them to have to do so.

Finally, I would like to express my condemnation of tactics used by self-described feminist groups. Filming women in the nude without their consent or knowledge is not acceptable, nor is it acceptable to pay others to do so, and those concerned with women's rights more generally must also respect the rights of the women upon whom their actions and campaigns have the most impact. I urge the council to publicly condemn and reject such activities, and for action to be taken against those commissioning such footage.

Yours faithfully,

Yours sincerely,

McConaghy Julianne

Subject: FW: Spearmint Rhino Licensing**From:****Sent:** 21 May 2019 12:55**To:** licensingservice**Subject:** Spearmint Rhino Licensing

Dear Sheffield Council Licences,

I am writing to ask you to express how strongly I feel about Spearmint Rhino having their license renewed by the council. I am shocked and appalled that there is a debate around this at all - surely an establishment where the dancers and other staff of Spearmint Rhino can operate safely and securely is a far better option than leaving people jobless and risking them turning to illegal sex work such as prostitution. All kinds of people from all walks of life use and enjoy the club and similarly support its existence - for example, I myself am a biologist working at the University of Sheffield, I have never once stepped foot in the building but continue to support its running and this is proof that there is not one type of person who supports the club. Exploitation within this industry should indeed be raised as a potential issue and monitored but to completely remove someones way of earning money when the individuals themselves are not being exploited and are happy with their line of work is dehumanising and immoral. I hope that the council will listen to the views of the public and rather than choosing the easy way out of revoking the license, become ore involved in ensuring safety and happiness of the employees. (This WILL NOT be achieved by revoking the license).

Kind Regards

Yours sincerely,

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McConaghy Julianne

Subject: FW: License of Spearmint Rhino Sheffield

From:

Sent: 21 May 2019 12:56

To: licensingservice

Subject: License of Spearmint Rhino Sheffield

Dear Sheffield Council Licences,

I work as a dancer for Platinum Lace Brighton, and I love my job. I stand behind Spearmint Rhino Sheffield.

I'm writing regarding the licensing of Spearmint Rhino Sheffield. It is a legitimate business that stimulates the local economy like any other and the government recommends that objections based on moral grounds should not be considered when licensing Sexual Entertainment Venues: sexuality is a natural part of the human experience.

Not everyone need visit or agree with such venues, but venues should not be closed on moral grounds objecting to sexual entertainment itself. Regarding alleged license breaches: the club has a record of legal and safe operation spanning over 15 years, and I believe the club should be given the chance to remedy any alleged misconduct and put in place measures to ensure such breaches are not allowed to take place.

Yours sincerely,

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McConaghy Julianne

Subject: FW: Spearmint Rhino Sheffield

From

Sent: 21 May 2019 13:10

To: licensingservice

Subject: Spearmint Rhino Sheffield

Dear Sheffield Council Licences,

I'm writing regarding the licence renewal of Spearmint Rhino ,and how not renewing could have an adverse effect on all who work there.not just the girls ,but the management ,security ,cleaners ,and d.j just to name a few.

but not granting a renewal of its s.e.v will no doubt prompt the girls to seek work outside the restrictions of your conditions and further afield into totally unsafe environments ..

I know first hand how Sheffield's spearmint club is a tight knit community all on its own I've seen the management conversing with the performers and also witnessed first hand one of the girls seeking advice from security and a manager about family matters ..whilst being sat at its bar..so for someone to do this they must feel confident and safe whilst working there...regardless of what people trying to close the club are trying to do ..isnt it better to keep people in work in this present day than to take work away that they choose to do ?

taking away an income and security is never an easy thing to do but please take into account that some of the staff have been working at the venue for a long long time..for aslong as I can remember I have seen at least a couple of its security for the times I have been visiting the venue..they have always been Profesional and welcoming also some of the girls are still there from when I first chose to visit and welcome me each time I call in...I can hand on heart say its one of the safest clubs in Sheffield..so why close it?

Yours sincerely,

McConaghy Julianne

Subject: FW: Licensing**From:****Sent:** 21 May 2019 13:14**To:** licensingservice**Subject:** Licensing

Dear Sheffield Council Licences,

I'm writing regarding the licensing of Spearmint Rhino Sheffield. As a local resident of Sheffield I am in favour of the SEV license renewal: the club is unobtrusive in it's area, and closure of the club would have negative impacts in many ways. Closing the club will take away many waged positions (door, bar, management, cleaning staff) which provides for many families across Sheffield. It will also take away jobs for many women working as dancers at the club, many of whom are also parents or have caring responsibilities. Workers within the club consistently assert that they are there of their own free will, and that they enjoy their jobs, and the tight-knit community there.

While the dancers at spearmint rhino come from a variety of backgrounds and careers, for some the closure of the club will inevitably mean a move towards riskier, unregulated or higher contact forms of erotic dancing and sex work that they would not otherwise choose. It would also mean breaking up a close and supportive community of colleagues and friends, which will undoubtedly have a negative impact on many workers, their mental health and their financial wellbeing.

Spearmint Rhino Sheffield is a venue that has a place in Sheffield City Centre. It is a legitimate business that stimulates the economy like any other and the government recommends that objections based on moral grounds should not be considered when licensing Sexual Entertainment Venues: sexuality is a natural part of the human experience. Not everyone need visit or agree with such venues, but venues should not be closed on moral grounds objecting to sexual entertainment itself. Regarding alleged license breaches: the club has a record of legal and safe operation spanning over 15 years, and I believe the club should be given the chance to remedy any alleged misconduct and put in place measures to ensure such breaches are not allowed to take place.

Whilst it should be taken into consideration that the stripclub industry as a whole is not perfect, it is also important to note that dancers across the UK and in Spearmint Rhino Sheffield are unionising and fighting for their workers rights. Removing a safe and regulated venue from workers who are engaged in this fight does nothing to support them and in fact detracts from this aim by dispersing dancers who are already unionising at work further afield and distracting their focus to finding alternative venues and avenues of work. It is hard to fight for workers rights when you have to fight for the right to work at all! While it is important to focus on exploitation in any industry, it is paramount to listen to the views, experiences and wishes of workers currently in the industry, as it is those people who know best the conditions that will help them.

Finally, I would like to express my condemnation of tactics used by self-described feminist groups. Filming women in the nude without their consent or knowledge is not acceptable, nor is it acceptable to pay others to do so, and those concerned with women's rights more generally must also respect the rights of the women upon whom their actions and campaigns have the most impact. I urge the council to publicly condemn and reject such activities, and for action to be taken against those commissioning such footage.

I have been going to Strip Bars all my Adult life. It all stops me from getting sexually frustrated. I'm on medication and there have been other disabled people who have been helped by one to one connection with Strippers. I connect to the East London Strippers Collective on Facebook. They are Feminists that want the right to use their bodies as they choose and not to be told by prudish people that they shouldn't. I think that Councils should get back to the Government to say that the Labour parties legislation went too far and there is a need to repeal it or at least amend it.

Yours sincerely,

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McConaghy Julianne

Subject: FW: Spearmint Rhino**From:****Sent:** 21 May 2019 13:18**To:** licensingservice**Subject:** Re: Spearmint Rhino

Dear Sheffield Council Licences,

I'm writing regarding the licensing of Spearmint Rhino Sheffield. As a local resident of Sheffield I am in favour of the SEV license renewal: the club is unobtrusive in it's area, and closure of the club would have negative impacts in many ways. Closing the club will take away many waged positions (door, bar, management, cleaning staff) which provides for many families across Sheffield. It will also take away jobs for many women working as dancers at the club, many of whom are also parents or have caring responsibilities. Workers within the club consistently assert that they are there of their own free will, and that they enjoy their jobs, and the tight-knit community there.

While the dancers at spearmint rhino come from a variety of backgrounds and careers, for some the closure of the club will inevitably mean a move towards riskier, unregulated or higher contact forms of erotic dancing and sex work that they would not otherwise choose. It would also mean breaking up a close and supportive community of colleagues and friends, which will undoubtedly have a negative impact on many workers, their mental health and their financial wellbeing.

Spearmint Rhino Sheffield is a venue that has a place in Sheffield City Centre. It is a legitimate business that stimulates the economy like any other and the government recommends that objections based on moral grounds should not be considered when licensing Sexual Entertainment Venues: sexuality is a natural part of the human experience. Not everyone need visit or agree with such venues, but venues should not be closed on moral grounds objecting to sexual entertainment itself. Regarding alleged license breaches: the club has a record of legal and safe operation spanning over 15 years, and I believe the club should be given the chance to remedy any alleged misconduct and put in place measures to ensure such breaches are not allowed to take place.

Whilst it should be taken into consideration that the stripclub industry as a whole is not perfect, it is also important to note that dancers across the UK and in Spearmint Rhino Sheffield are unionising and fighting for their workers rights. Removing a safe and regulated venue from workers who are engaged in this fight does nothing to support them and in fact detracts from this aim by dispersing dancers who are already unionising at work further afield and distracting their focus to finding alternative venues and avenues of work. It is hard to fight for workers rights when you have to fight for the right to work at all! While it is important to focus on exploitation in any industry, it is paramount to listen to the views, experiences and wishes of workers currently in the industry, as it is those people who know best the conditions that will help them.

Finally, I would like to express my condemnation of tactics used by self-described feminist groups. Filming women in the nude without their consent or knowledge is not acceptable, nor is it acceptable to pay others to do so, and those concerned with women's rights more generally must also respect the rights of the women upon whom their actions and campaigns have the most impact. I urge the council to publicly condemn and reject such activities, and for action to be taken against those commissioning such footage.

Yours sincerely,

McConaghy Julianne

Subject: FW: Licensing

From:

Sent: 21 May 2019 13:21

To: licensingservice

Subject: Licensing

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