

McConaghy Julianne

Subject: FW: Spearmint Rhino

From:

Sent: 23 May 2019 14:20

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: Renew the License for Spearmint Rhino

From: Sent: 23 May 2019 14:36

To: licensingservice

Subject: Renew the License for Spearmint Rhino

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, less safe 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,

McConaghy Julianne

Subject: FW: Licensing**From:** Eve Anderson [mailto:into_pole@yahoo.co.uk]**Sent:** 23 May 2019 14:50**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 its 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.

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Yours sincerely,

McConaghy Julianne

Subject: FW: Spearmint Rhino**From:****Sent:** 23 May 2019 14:55**To:** licensingservice**Subject:** Re: Spearmint Rhino

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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.

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Yours sincerely,

Dear Sir/Madam,

24 MAY 2019

S18571
16/5/2019

I write in strong opposition to any attempt to close down Spearmint Rhino Club Sheffield.

How can anyone justify campaigning to close the club without saying how women, deprived of this source of income, should support themselves and their families?

It is a fact that endemic low pay and exploitative conditions are rife in other jobs commonly done by women, in fact sex workers earned more per hour than even nurses and midwives.

Discrimination, sexual harassment and workplace injury are common across all jobs. The cost of childcare is prohibitively high which may account for why the majority of sex workers are mothers.

I know of a Spearmint Rhino worker who has an autistic daughter, her income is about to be cut because she is being moved over to Universal Credit.

She is trying to pick up more shifts at the club to cover the shortfall but is terrified of being found out and social services coming to take her children. Under what circumstance would the

5/15/12

campaigning against strip clubs be a reasonable response to her situation?

When will the opposition drop its elitist "we know best what is good for you" attitude towards women and support campaigns for a living wage across the board so no one is driven into prostitution by poverty, and for discrimination and decriminalisation so sex workers have rights like other workers?

Yours sincerely,

~~R. M. W. Ainsworth~~

(University of Sheffield)

P.S. My daughter works at the club
and I am fully supportive of her and the club.

Rhodes-Evans Emma (CEX)

From:**Sent:** 23 May 2019 22:49**To:** licensingservice**Subject:**

Dear Sheffield Council Licences,

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. 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.

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Yours sincerely,

Rhodes-Evans Emma (CEX)

Subject: FW: Support Letter for Spearmint Rhino SEV renewal
Attachments: New Microsoft Office Word Document.docx

From:
Sent: 24 May 2019 01:37
To: licensingservice
Subject: Support Letter for Spearmint Rhino SEV renewal

Please see attachment for my support letter for Spearmint Rhinos SEV renewal,

Thank you

Sheffield Licensing Services
Block C
Staniforth Road
Sheffield
S9 3HD

To whom it may concern,

SUPPORT FOR THE SPEARMINT RHINO RENEWAL 2019 SEV,

I am the licensee and again holder of the SEV at Spearmint Rhino Sheffield along with ----- . I have recently return back to club after taking some personal time off and was the General Manager, Licensee and SEV (when it was introduced) holder at Spearmint Rhino Sheffield from 2004 until 2018. In this time when I was General Manager we have had no issue your with yourselves or the police and have had the SEV renewed every year since it started.

I am very passionate about the performers at the club and believe everyone has a choice to do want they want (be it age, race or gender) as long as it there choice and has no harm on others. The fact that the performers themselves are campaigning to keep the club open speak volumes – which can be seen in the Sheffield Star, front page and centre page feature – 23.05.2019. Also the performers have created their web page - www.saveourstripclubsheffield.co.uk , as again they want their voices to be heard.

The fact the feminist groups involved in revoking the SEV will not even talk or listen to the performers, with the excuse that they are already damaged!! A number of performers have tried via twitter @not_buyingit - to ask for a meeting, only to have their comments remove and then blocking them from their twitter page!!! Why is this? Surely they would want to speak to as many performers as possible and hear their views!! What's more why hasn't/isn't the feminist group involved in revoking our SEV, not trying to revoke the Swingers Club – La Chambre SEV or shutting down the massage parlors (which can name) around Sheffield!! If they were that passionate about their views then they would be acting to have these venues shut down! So my question is why aren't they!!

Over the last few years we have done everything asked to keep our club open. From removing signage from the front of the building during the day, not be able to advertise in newspapers, nor hand out flyers on the street etc and still we are fighting to keep the club open. What other venue or high street retailer would or have these retractions on their business? They wouldn't but we have and again we have done everything asked and it still not good enough.

Along with performers, we have 20 employed members of staff from management, bar staff, security, DJ's cleaners who also have the right to work where they choose, without the fear of losing their job on a yearly basic. Most of which have worked at the club for a number of years and rely on this as their main income to support their families and along with the performers see each other as one big family.

If you would like to speak more about this then please email / or call me on my personal number - ,

Thank you

Rhodes-Evans Emma (CEX)

From:**Sent:** 23 May 2019 22:45**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,

Rhodes-Evans Emma (CEX)

Subject: FW: Licensing of Spesrmint Rhino

From:

Sent: 23 May 2019 21:30

To: licensingservice

Subject: Licensing of Spesrmint Rhino

Dear Sheffield Council Licences,

I'm writing regarding the licensing of Spesrmint 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,

Rhodes-Evans Emma (CEX)

From:**Sent:** 23 May 2019 21:54**To:** licensingservice**Subject:**

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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.

As someone who has personally worked in a strip club i can say that this one in particular is a safe environment to work in . Women and men who try to police what other people to do to make ends meet , feed their children or make any kind of income while harassing and blackmailing people who are just trying to work have no moral high ground .

Strippers and sex workers have spoken . We live in this environment everyday . I have found more support and friendship in a strip club than i have working in a retail job . I can control the hours i work and have the freedom to move whenever i want .

I wouldnt have been able to go to university and become an engineer without working in a stip club . I would have been able to succeed without the income i was getting paid in my minimum wage job earning 5.50 an hour .

please do not put my name on any public forum as this is a private letter to support who are worth it

Yours sincerely,

Rhodes-Evans Emma (CEX)

Subject: FW: Stop Spearmint Rhino Closure**From:****Sent:** 23 May 2019 21:44**To:** licensingservice**Subject:** Stop Spearmint Rhino Closure

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.

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Yours sincerely,

Rhodes-Evans Emma (CEX)

Subject: FW: Listen to the public!

From:

Sent: 23 May 2019 19:42

To: licensingservice

Subject: Listen to the public!

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,

Rhodes-Evans Emma (CEX)

Subject: FW: Hard working people

From:

Sent: 23 May 2019 21:30

To: licensingservice

Subject: Hard working people

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Yours sincerely,

Rhodes-Evans Emma (CEX)

Subject: FW: KEEP THE STRIP CLUB

From:

Sent: 23 May 2019 21:47

To: licensingservice; licensingservice

Subject: KEEP THE STRIP CLUB

To whom it may concern,

Please could you keep the strip club, the feminist group are trying to shut it down, me talking with the majority of people, honestly don't think it's a threat to anyone, especially dancers, these clubs have been going for decades and still should.

Many thanks

Rhodes-Evans Emma (CEX)

Subject: FW: Save the Club

From:

Sent: 23 May 2019 22:21

To: licensingservice

Subject: Save the Club

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,

Rhodes-Evans Emma (CEX)

Subject: FW: Licensing of Spearmint Rhino

From:**Sent:** 23 May 2019 19:11**To:** licensingservice**Subject:** Licensing of Spearmint Rhino

Dear Sheffield Council Licences,

I am writing to ask you to renew the license for Spearmint Rhino.

I was shocked and saddened to hear of the actions of the Women's Equality Party in relation to Spearmint Rhinos and its employees. Although of course I recognise that the video showed breaking of license regulations, I would argue that is more of a fault of restrictive licensing than anything else and should not cause the workers to suffer anymore than they already have.

Sex work is work. It has always and will always be a part of human life in some form. Rather than arguing about how to eliminate it (an impossible aim that only harms those who work in this industry) the goal of any progressive council should be how to make that sex work the safest it can be, with the highest standards possible. These standards and how the industry is regulated should be first and foremost driven by the workers, not by those who claim to speak for them.

Unions and license laws protect workers and every worker deserves access to them. Sheffield workers need protection and support, no matter their job and how looked down on it might be.

Please consider the voices of the people who work in this industry, and explore the many countless sources of information about this topic of sex work. Sex and sexuality is nothing to be ashamed of and can be treated as a service just as many other physical services are.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Rhodes-Evans Emma (CEX)

Subject: FW: Let Spearment stay open

From:

Sent: 23 May 2019 18:59

To: licensingservice

Subject: Let Spearment stay open

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.

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.

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,

Rhodes-Evans Emma (CEX)

Subject: FW: Save Spearmint Rhino**From:****Sent:** 23 May 2019 20:52**To:** licensingservice**Subject:** Save Spearmint Rhino

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Rhodes-Evans Emma (CEX)

Subject: FW: Spearmint Rhino Sheffield**From:****Sent:** 23 May 2019 20:05**To:** licensingservice**Subject:** Spearmint Rhino Sheffield

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Rhodes-Evans Emma (CEX)

Subject: FW: killers42m@gmail.com

From:**Sent:** 23 May 2019 22:00**To:** licensingservice**Subject:** killers42m@gmail.com

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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,