Subject:

FW: Spearmint Rhino

S281

From:

Sent: 26 May 2019 12:23 **To:** licensingservice **Subject:** 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.

Subject:

FW: Spearmint Rhino

S282

From:

Sent: 26 May 2019 12:32 **To:** licensingservice **Subject:** 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.

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S283

Sent: 26 May 2019 12:26 **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.

Subject:

FW: Save spearmint rhino

S284

From:

Sent: 26 May 2019 13:03 **To:** licensingservice

Subject: Save 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 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.

Subject:

FW: Spearmint Rhino Sheffield

S285

From:

Sent: 26 May 2019 13:09 **To:** licensingservice

Subject: Spearmint Rhino Sheffield

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to show my full support for the Spearmint Rhino club in Sheffield. I personally have been a dancer for the past four years at various different clubs, currently working at Spearmint Rhino Leicester. I choose to work there because the company runs safe, regulated and friendly nightclubs. Anything said to the contrary is simply misconstrued information from people who have not worked personally within the industry. Their concerns claim to be in the interest of the dancers, but if you want to help the dancers, we should be the ones who are listened to.

We love our jobs. They allow us to work flexible hours in order to earn a wage around other commitments such as child care, full time study and our own small businesses. The job itself is empowering not just for those reasons but for more personal reasons; self esteem, body confidence and even has improved my once crippling social anxiety.

The idea that the job is anti feminist and objectifies women to fulfil a male fantasy, simply isn't true. Our customer base varies hugely from groups of men, single men, single women, couples and the LGBT community. It is about entertainment for all, and an inclusive atmosphere.

To take women from a safe and regulated work environment when they have job satisfaction is to take away any power and control they have over their bodies and income. From a group who claim to be feminists, they are fighting the wrong fight and it is simply a misguided witch hunt. It would be completely antifeminist to listen to their claims.

Being a dancer teaches us life skills, sales skills, physical fitness, creative freedom, social skills and has given me friendships for life.

I hope you consider this letter and know I wholeheartedly support the club and the industry. Listen to the voices who are living within the work place and not those who make assumptions, often incorrectly.

Thank you for your time.

Subject:

FW: Spearmint Rhino, Sheffield

S286

From:

Sent: 26 May 2019 13:18 To: licensingservice

Subject: Spearmint Rhino, Sheffield

To whom it may concern,

I'm writing regarding the licensing of Sheffield's only strip club, Spearmint Rhino. As a dancer at Spearmint Rhino, I am in favour of the SEV license renewal:

Closure of the club would have many negative impacts for example, the waged positions such as the management, door, bar, DJ and cleaning staff. The dancers at Spearmint Rhino, like myself would also lose their jobs causing stress. For some dancers, closure of the club would mean having to travel further to work elsewhere.

I feel unbelievably safe at Spearmint Rhino, Sheffield. I am surrounded by friends and the amazing staff. I work there full time on my own free will and is my favourite job I've ever had. Working at Spearmint Rhino has made me into a confident woman within myself and whilst talking with other people.

Finally, I would like to express how disgusted I feel about the feminist group who have payed other people to film the dancers in the club. Filming people nude with out their consent is not acceptable.

I can't believe that such horrid people live and are willing to go out of their way to effect the dancers mental health.

Kind regards,

Subject: FW: Spearmint Rhino

S287

From: Sarah

Sent: 26 May 2019 13:25 **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.

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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.

Subject:

FW: Spearmint Rhino

S288

From:

Sent: 26 May 2019 13:26 **To:** licensingservice **Subject:** Spearmint Rhino

To whom it may concern,

My name is ***** and I have danced for 9 years and spent the majority of that time at Spearmint Rhino in Bournemouth.

I am not here through any means of coercion or because I can't do anything else as a means to earn money, I am here solely out of choice. The reasons for that choice include the flexible hours it allows me, the chance to travel and do this job in different areas, the strong friendships I have made in the dancer community over the years and the steady and sometimes lucrative earnings.

I dance in a safe and controlled environment with strict rules that must be adhered to by both the dancers and the patrons. If strip clubs were forced to be closed I feel entertainment venues would go underground where these controlled environments wouldn't be adhered to and brothels would be used more frequently. Is that a better alternative than light hearted fantasy adult entertainment?

The woman's groups that attempt to close these establishments have never reached out to us, the dancers, or attempted to ask us how we feel doing this job. They are attempting to take this choice away from us without giving us a voice.

I request that my personal information is kept private and not accessible to the public.

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This e-mail message and its attachments (if any) may contain confidential, private and/or privileged information. This e-mail message and its attachments (if any) are intended for a specific recipient. If you are not the intended recipient of this e-mail message (and its attachments - if any) or responsible for the delivery of this e-mail along with any attachments hereto to such recipient, any dissemination, distribution or coping of this e-mail message and its attachments (if any) is strictly prohibited and may be a crime under applicable law. No confidentially or privilege is waived or lost by any misdirection of this e-mail message and its attachments (if any). If you received this e-mail in error, please immediately delete it, its attachments (if any) and all copies of the same from your computer system, destroy any hard copies of it and notify the sender by both telephone and return e-mail.

Sent from my iPhone

Subject:

FW: In Support of Spearmint Rhino staying open

S289

From:

Sent: 26 May 2019 13:30 **To:** licensingservice

Subject: In Support of Spearmint Rhino staying open

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.

Subject: FW: Licensing

S290

From:

Sent: 26 May 2019 13:42 **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.

Subject:

FW: Spearmint Rhino Closure

S291

From:

Sent: 26 May 2019 14:32 **To:** licensingservice

Subject: 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. Its closure would 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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Subject: FW: Spearmint Rhino

S292

From:

Sent: 26 May 2019 14:25 **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.

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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.

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Subject:

FW: spearmint rhino

S293

From: Leon [mailto:leonmutare@live.com]

Sent: 26 May 2019 15:04 **To:** licensingservice **Subject:** spearmint rhino

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.

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.

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Subject: FW: Spearmint Rhino

S294

From:

Sent: 26 May 2019 14:41 **To:** licensingservice **Subject:** Spearmint Rhino

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.

Sex work is still legitimate work.

S295

From:

Sent: 26 May 2019 15:38 **To:** licensingservice

Subject:

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.

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Subject: FW: Spearmint Rhino

S296

From:

Sent: 26 May 2019 15:59 **To:** licensingservice **Subject:** 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.

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Subject:

FW: Respect women's rights! Their body, their choice!

S297

From:

Sent: 26 May 2019 16:15 **To:** licensingservice

Subject: Respect women's rights! Their body, their choice!

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 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.

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.

Subject:

FW: Save Spearmint Rhino Sheffield - Approve the Licence

S298

From:

Sent: 26 May 2019 16:19 To: licensingservice

Subject: Save Spearmint Rhino Sheffield - Approve the Licence

I want to register my opinion about strip clubs in my city of Sheffield.

I would like you to approve the licence renewal for Spearmint Rhino Sheffield and not impose any further restrictions.

I know it is within your power to reduce the restrictions within the licence and ask you to please do so. It is a lap dancing strip club requiring a sexual entertainment licence not a church tea dance. There is more sexual body contact allowed at a tea dance than currently allowed under the sexual entertainment licence for Spearmint Rhino, which can't be right.

"Not Buying it", "WEP" and "Zero Option" are political lobbyists that have outdated moral oppressive views that they seek to impose on society, through illegal activities.

If you want to deny these groups the opportunity to constantly question your licencing monitoring then reduce the restrictions on the activities of consenting adults in an adult sexual entertainment establishment. The demand for this kind of entertainment will not go away by closing the club. It would only push it underground into unregulated, unsafe and probably illegal environments.

Please do not let your decision be influenced by "fake news" reports of two dodgy ex cops who are prepared to illegally video girls at the club.

I have been to the club quite a few times and have spent time in the VIP suites but I HAVE NEVER WITNESSED OR BEEN OFFERED SEX ACTS AS THESE DODGY COPS HAVE ALLEGED.

Why are these policemen no longer on the force and were they part of the systemic conspiracy making false allegations as part of the Hillsborough Disaster cover up.

If you revoke the licence as a result of the illegal actions of these lobbyists then you will be encouraging more of these illegal activities.



Subject:

FW: Club closure

S299

From:

Sent: 26 May 2019 17:26 **To:** licensingservice **Subject:** Club closure

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.

Subject:

FW: Save Spearmint Rhino

S300

From:

Sent: 26 May 2019 17:51 **To:** licensingservice

Subject: Save 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 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.