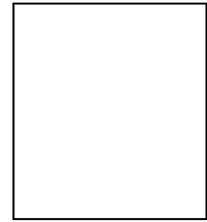




## SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL Committee Report



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**Report of:** Chief Licensing Officer, Head of Licensing

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**Date:** 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020

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**Subject:** Quarterly CCTV Inspection Report

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**Author of Report:** Claire Bower

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**Summary:** To present to the Licensing Committee the findings of the Officer inspection of CCTV at a Sexual Entertainment Venue

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**Background Papers:** Not applicable

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**Category of Report:** OPEN

**Inspection report**

**1.0 Purpose**

1.1 To provide Licensing Committee with a report on the inspection of CCTV at Spearmint Rhino, 60 Brown Street, Sheffield, S1 2BS.

**2.0 Background**

2.1 The above premises was granted a sexual entertainment venue licence in September 2019, subject to the following condition:

- A random sample of the premises CCTV is to be inspected by Officers on a minimum of a monthly basis and an inspection report to be presented to the Licensing Committee quarterly.

2.2 CCTV footage from the following dates was requested from the Company Director of Sonfield Developments Ltd (the licence holder of Spearmint Rhino) and it was provided to Licensing Officers on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2020:

**November:**

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> until close of business (am) – All cameras  
Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> to Friday 15<sup>th</sup> until close of business (am) - Booths 1,3,5,7  
Friday 29<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> until close of business (am) - Booths 2,4,6,8

**December:**

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> to Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> until close of business (am) – Booths 1,2,3,4  
Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> until close of business (am) – All cameras  
Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> until close of business (am) – Booths 3,4,5,6  
Friday 20<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> until close of business (am) – All cameras  
Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> to Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> until close of business (am) – Booths 2,3,6,8.

2.3 Licensing Officers have viewed a random sample of the CCTV footage and compared it against the licence conditions and the Spearmint Rhino Code of Conduct for Dancers.

2.4 Footage of 35 dances has been viewed as well as spot checks throughout the footage.

2.5 Spearmint Rhino management carry out checks on dances as they are happening and produce their own log. This has been cross referenced as part of our checks to ensure their logging is accurate.

**3.0 The Findings**

3.4 Officers found the following issues:

○ **Dancers hugging customers at the end of the performance:**

- Standard SEV condition 2 under the Protection of those Engaged in Relevant Entertainment / Prevention of Crime and Disorder section states:

*“During any performance of relevant entertainment there must be no physical contact between the performer and any member of the viewing public, except for the placing of money / tokens in an item of clothing worn by a performer or into the performer’s hand before or at the end of the performance and a customary kiss on the cheek of the patron by the performer at the conclusion of the performance. A brief handshake before or at the end of a performance is permitted.”*

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The footage shows 3 occasions of dancers hugging customers at the end of a dance.

- **Issues relating to customer behaviour:**
  - customers attempting to touch the dancers during performances; and
  - customers not positioning hands correctly (hands should be by their sides).

Where these issues were observed, the footage shows them being addressed during the performance by either the dancer stopping the performance and providing verbal advice to the customer or by door staff intervention.

On a few occasions the performance has been stopped due to customers repeatedly not complying with instructions.

- **Issues relating to positioning of performance within the booths:**
  - performances in the far side of the booth where viewing is more difficult.
- **Issues relating to distance between dancer and customer:**
  - dancers brushing customers legs. This appears to be accidental due to the proximity of the dancer to the customer.

3.5 With regard to the logs being completed by Spearmint Rhino Management, Officers found that logs were not fully completed, times and camera detail was missing or insufficient detail regarding any issues.

#### **4.0 Enforcement Action (if applicable)**

4.1 Officers consider the findings to show minor issues and therefore, advice has been provided in writing to the Company Director of Sonfield Developments Ltd.

4.2 A premises visit will be scheduled following this meeting to directly discuss the issues identified with management working at the premises.

4.3 Officers do not consider the log being produced by Spearmint Rhino to be adequate, therefore an example of the viewing log used by Licensing Officers has been provided to ensure more detailed information is logged.

#### **5.0 Options**

5.1 This report is for information only.

5.2 The next report will be presented in May 2020.

Stephen Lonnia  
Chief Licensing Officer  
Head of Licensing Service  
January 2020

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