Appendix 4

Date: Application Reference: Direct Phone Number: Contact: E-mail: 15/11/2024

APP\PREM-NEW/

Esther Jones

Please quote our reference in any correspondence

Licensing (Contact Camden) Crowndale Centre 218 Eversholt Street London NW1 1BD



Public Protection Supporting Communities London Borough of Camden 5 Pancras Square LONDON N1C 1AG

Tel: 020 7974 4444 (switchboard)

London Borough of Camden Fax: 020 7974 6955 / 6940 Textphone: 020 7974 6866

DX: 2106 Euston

www.camden.gov.uk

# Licensing Act 2003 – SECTION 53 Re: The Blue Garden Lebanese Restaurant, 74 Chancery Lane, WC1V 7LU

# LICENSING AUTHORITY REPRESENTATION

This representation is made by the Licensing Authority, in support of the review brought by the Police and it relates to the following licensing objectives: -

• The prevention crime and disorder

## The Premises and Summary of Application

The application by the Police is for the review of the current premises licence PREM-LIC\115711 held by Mira Management Club Ltd., following an expedited review of the premises licence by the Police (A responsible authority) on the 5<sup>th</sup> of November.

## The current premises licence permits the following entertainment and activities: -

- Alcohol
- Recorded Music
- Live music
- Performances of dance
- Provision of facilities for dancing
- Late night refreshment
- Similar to E, F & G.

## The times the licence authorises the carrying out of licensable activities

#### The opening hours of the premises

Monday - Saturday: 08:00 - 03:00 Sunday: 08:00 - 01:00

The premises hours are outside of framework hours.

# Compliant History

The premises has a record of being non-compliant when officers have visited either by themselves, i.e. council officers or when accompanied by police officers. Visits have been precipitated by complaints regarding the premises.

In particular and of note is the fact that when both council and police officers have asked for access to the CCTV. This is covered under conditions in Annex 2 of the current premises licence namely conditions 15 (a) to (e).

Despite requesting to see the CCTV system and asking for copies of footage, we have not been able to see this nor has the licensee or any of his/her agents provided us with copies of any CCTV footage.

I have provided below a brief history of our contact with this premises,

## The Blue Garden – 8/9th December (EJ Council officer with Police)

Arrived at 00:30 the premises was closing although the lights were on and only 2 men at a table eating.

info@bluegarden.london.co.uk Manager's name Adam Ellatar

Spoke to the manager and chef about complaints. Admitted they had a launch last week which started at 8pm and led to a neighbour (upstairs) complaining to them. Explained to them both that they need to finish at 12:30 and no further takeaway orders after 2pm only collection. Advice Food safety of state to the cooking area for visit consideration.

#### Blue Garden, Farringdon 22nd December 2023 Police and Esther (Police Notes)

Venue was closed at 0130 hours. Officers went in and spoke to Mr Fouda about CCTV as PC Korbs has requested CCTV on numerous occasions and they continue to not provide it. Initially Mr Fouda was polite however he soon changed and became very uncooperative and rude in particular to Esther. Mr Fouda tried to state that he believes that Police require a warrant to collect CCTV from venues. Esther has stated she will raise a complaint in regard to the way Mr Fouda spoke to her.

# The Blue Garden 13th January 2024,74 Chancery Lane Esther & Police (Esther's notes)

01:35 ~We could see that the premises was till opened from outside. We parked along a side street and approached the premises. We could see a male known to me as the chef in the venue from my last visit and a young male in a chef's uniform. The male initially welcomed us into the venue and PC Rachel, and I left PC Korbs and the male who I later now know to be the manager to talk as PC Korbs has had contact with the premises We went downstairs to take a look as we could hear music emanating from the downstairs area. We found the place empty but with music playing and general lighting and disco lights on. We noticed a small kitchen to a side of the room space, and we saw two trays of rice one on top of each other with no cover and took a photo of the trays of rice, within a short time the man came with PC Korbs downstairs, and we all went back upstairs. Upstairs, the manager turned on me accusing me of racism and that I was spying on his premises, that that visit was my 3rd visit, as he saw me observing his premises sometime

standing outside and looking in. That he was been picked on and being harassed by me as he was an Arab. He said there are 3000 premises, and we were only coming to his premises. I calmly explained to him that we have been to several premises and to listen and let the police see the cctv footage asked for, he refused to let either the police or I see footage of his cctv and he said I would need to go to court to be able to see his CCTV which is contrary to the conditions on his licence. All efforts to explain to him were not being listened to instead he got progressively aggressive and waving his fingers in my face in a dismissive manner and we left the premises not being able to get any message or advice across to him nor see the cctv footage.

## February 13<sup>th</sup> 2024 PB & GD Premises in breach of hours and conditions.

Paru and Gina - Visited @ midnight – Spoke to manager Adam. There was a couple of customers in the restaurant. Licence was displayed. Asked to see the basement was told that it was closed and that the opening night is next week. We insisted on seeing the basement and found a DJ playing very loud music, (no customers) was informed that he was testing the music for next week. Witnessed a man grab a a tray full of lit coal and try to hide it from us. Asked to check behind the bar and found the tray with coal alight also found a live cigarette in the ashtray. (Have photos for evidence). Pavement Licence in place. Refused to provide CCTV of last visit being called in on 17th.

Following the visit of 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023 we wrote to the premises to engage with them and advice of what their obligations are under the provisions of the Act and the conditions on their premises licence. A copy of the letter sent to them forms part of the representation.

We kept the premises on the list to be monitored during the Out of Hours service. A visit was carried out on the 13<sup>th</sup> of February 2024 by licensing officers, and it showed that the premises is still being non-compliant.

## 18<sup>th</sup> May 2024 SW and PB

Speakers/stereo by the door music very loud and complaints from resident, DPS ali confirmed will stop got carried away with hot weather, will have ambience only, staff have been abusive too. Made them aware condition 22. No noise shall emanate from the premises, nor shall vibrations be transmitted through the structure of the premises that give rise to a nuisance.

21:45 No noise escape, although the speaker was on the floor by the front door. PVL licence on wall inside asked them to place on glass. Also asked for the tables and chairs to be moved closer to the wall as they were taking over the pavement.

Not very busy. We spoke to manager and DPS Ali Awada, he confirmed that he was aware of the complaint and that measures were in place. He moved the speaker and hopes to connect to the ceiling soon. He confirmed they will close at 23:00 and that they are not using the basement.

## **Conclusion**

Given that we both police and licensing officers, who duly identified themselves by way of their ID and their authorisation were on more than one occasion denied access to the CCTV footage, were spoken to very rudely, unfairly and without any just cause, accused of racism and the premise for this review, we would ask that the premises licence is revoked in its entirety. Reason for this is because we do not believe the premises licence holder is capable of working/liaising/co-operating with responsible authorities and the licensing authority to ensure that the premises does not engage with any of the 4 licensing objectives.

Yours sincerely



Esther Jones Licensing Team Leader

Appendix 4

Date: Application Reference: Direct Phone Number: Contact: E-mail: 05/12/2023

SC/317494 PREM-LIC\115711

Sarah Williams

Please quote our reference in any correspondence

Blue Garden 74 Chancery Lane London WC2A 1AA



Public Protection Supporting Communities London Borough of CamdenTown Hall Judd Street LONDON WC1H 9JE Tel: 020 7974 4444 (switchboard)

London Borough of Camden Fax: 020 7974 6955 / 6940 Textphone: 020 7974 6866

Town Hall DX: 2106 Euston

www.camden.gov.uk

#### Dear Ali Awada, Licensing Act 2003 Promotion of the Licensing Objectives Re: Blue Garden, 74 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1AA

I have recently received complaints from our noise service in respect of the above premises where Mira Management Club Ltd is the Licence Holder and you are named as the Designated Premises Supervisor. The complaint was made by a resident alleging public nuisance issues, the out of hours noise officers visited the premises at 01:23 on Monday morning on the 20<sup>th</sup> November. The officer spoke to the manager Adam Maira and the source of the disturbance was discussed. On approaching the restaurant low level bass music audible emanating from the premises. Adam Maira and a security guard opened the door at the rear of the premises. He confirmed that he has a few college friends in the premises but he is closing now. Customers in the basement, no live music but music is played on a sound system. There was no licence on display at the premises, although he confirmed that the license can operate until midnight. Requested that the music was turned off, cooperation received.

I would like to bring to your attention to the permitted hours on your licence PREM-LIC\115711.

Supply of Alcohol, Live Music, Recorded Music, Performance of Dance and Similar to E, F or G: Sunday - 11:00 - 22:30

Staff on this date were unaware of the permitted times on the licence.

These disturbances can lead to significant problems for the local community and can have a negative effect on the promotion of the licensing objectives, in particular public nuisance.

You do have a responsibility in ensuring the promotions all four of the licensing objectives, which are:

- 1. The Prevention of Crime and Disorder,
- 2. The Prevention of Public Nuisance,
- 3. Ensuring Public Safety
- 4. The Protection of Children from Harm

Please note that this recently granted licence PREM-LIC\115711, has a number of conditions, these must be adhered too;

15. CCTV shall be installed, operated, and maintained to function at all times. The CCTV system shall comply with the following requirements:

(a) The system will record in real-time and all recordings will be date and time stamped.

(b) Recordings will be retained for a minimum of 31 days, and downloadable footage shall be

provided free of charge to the police or other authorized officers upon request (subject to Data Protection Act requirements) within 48 hours of any request.

(c) The system will provide full coverage of the interior of the premises, including all communal areas used for the sale and consumption of alcohol, as well as any external seating or terrace area.(d) The Police will be notified if the system will be non-operational for longer than one business day for any reason.

(e) During operating hours, there shall be at least one staff member on the premises who can proficiently operate the CCTV system, allowing the Police or authorized Council officers to view footage upon request.

19. At least 3 Security Industry Authority (SIA) personnel will be engaged at the premises from 22:00 hours when the basement floor is open.

20. An updated SIA registered security personnel register shall be maintained, including details such as full name, date of birth, SIA registration number, date and hours worked, contact telephone number, and email. This register shall be available for inspection by the Police or licensing authority.

22. No noise shall emanate from the premises, nor shall vibrations be transmitted through the structure of the premises that give rise to a nuisance.

24. An incident log shall be kept at the premises and made available upon request to the Police or the Local Authority. The log shall record the date, time, and identity of the person making the entry, and include the following:

(a) All reported crimes within the venue.

- (b) Any complaints received.
- (c) Any faults in the CCTV system.
- (d) Any visit by a relevant authority or emergency service.
- (e) CAD reference numbers when Police are called.

31. Contact details of the Designated Premises Supervisor shall be available to staff and the authorities.

34. The ground floor shall operate as a bona fide restaurant where the sale of alcohol is strictly ancillary to food.

35. The sale of alcohol on the ground floor shall only be to customers seated at a table taking a table meal from the menu with all service by waiting staff.

36. No vertical drinking or drinking at the bar shall be permitted on the ground floor.

38. The maximum capacity of the basement floor will be 60 people.

39. The on duty supervisor will conduct hourly checks of the venue and outside to ensure no disturbance can be heard from outside the premises.

We request CCTV footage from 22:00 hours on 19/11/2023 - 03:00 hours on 20/11/2023 as per condition 15. We will need this CCTV sent through by 9am on the 7<sup>th</sup> December, or alternatively a Police officer can attend the premises to obtain footage.

Officers of the Licensing Authority actively investigate suspected breaches of conditions. Such investigations may be by unannounced visits or covert surveillance, which may mean that officers will enter your premises as members of the public to gather evidence against you.

Should any offences be committed under the Act, then the Licensing Authority may consider formal proceedings against you. I wish to inform you that the maximum penalty applicable to these offences is currently a fine and 6 months imprisonment.

I would strongly advise that you review all the conditions on your licence and ensure that the premises is used in a way that complies with the licence.

If you are not able to prevent or suitably limit problems directly related to your premises and

licensable activity to resolve this complaint, then further action may be taken. This could be Responsible Authorities, such as Environmental Health, the Licensing Authority or local residents applying to review the Premises Licence. If the licence is reviewed, then conditions can be imposed, the times can be amended, or as a last resort the licence can be suspended or revoked.

Please confirm receipt of this letter and how the CCTV footage will be sent. Also please collate a response with the actions you will be implementing to prevent any further public nuisance issues. I would like to have further details of the conditions above being complied with for the 19/11/23 - 20/11/23 by the  $18^{th}$  December 2023.

I hope this letter provides you with the necessary information and guidance, if you need any further information or advice on this matter then please do not hesitate to contact me as detailed above.

Yours sincerely



Sarah Williams Licensing Officer

Cc; Police Licensing and Pollution duty (Environmental Health)



Public Protection Supporting Communities London Borough of Camden 5 Pancras Square LONDON N1C 1AG Tel: 020 7974 4444 (switchboard)

London Borough of Camden Fax: 020 7974 6955 / 6940 Textphone: 020 7974 6866 DX: 2106 Euston

www.camden.gov.uk

28<sup>th</sup> December 2023

The Premises licence holder The Blue Garden 74 Chancery Lane London WC1V 7LU

Dear Sir/Madam

# LICENSING ACT 2003 – PREVENTION OF CRIME AND DISORDER COMPLAINT OF ALLEGED ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR FROM THE BLUE GARDEN

Recent visits to your premises (9<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> December) by both the Licensing Authority and the Police, coupled with the response or lack of it to communications/requests by both the Police and the licensing authority has left both responsible authorities with such concerns that we both feel it necessary to invite you to a meeting to discuss our concerns with you in detail as if the current trend is allowed to continue we believe it would lead to the premises engaging with one or all of the four licensing objectives.

We would therefore, like to invite you to a meeting with us 11:15 on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> of January 2024 at our offices. It is imperative that you attend this meeting as we would like to engage with you to explore together with you, the best way for you as a premises licence holder to operate your premises such that it does not engage with any of the four licensing objectives. Our office address is as provided above to the right of this letter, and below:-

5 Pancras Square, London Borough of Camden London N1C 1AG

On arrival, kindly present yourself and or your representative(s) at the reception and they will make contact with Sarah Williams.

Please note, police licensing and other regulatory officers have been invited to this meeting.

Kind Regards



Mrs Esther Jones Licensing Team Leader 5 Pancras Square London NW1C 4AG Email: - 

From:
Image: Comparison of the system of

Dear Blue Garden,

Unfortunately I am still awaiting a response.

Kind Regards

Sarah Williams Licensing Officer Supporting Communities London Borough of Camden

Web: <u>camden.gov.uk</u>

5 Pancras Square London N1C 4AG

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

From: Sarah Williams Sent: Wednesday, January 17, 2024 5:28 PM

10:	
Cc: Esther Jones	Gina Demetriou
	Lee Perella
	pollutionduty <pollutionduty@camden.gov.uk></pollutionduty@camden.gov.uk>
Subject: 317494 - Licensing N	leeting - PREM-LIC\115711

Dear Mira Management Club Ltd,

Please see the attached letter for the urgent attention of Christina Mira Arana, Ali Awada and Adam Elattar.

This letter follows from today's meeting in Camden Council office.

Kind Regards

Sarah Williams Licensing Enforcement Officer Supporting Communities London Borough of Camden Web: <u>camden.gov.uk</u>

5 Pancras Square London N1C 4AG

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

Appendix 4

Date: Application Reference: Direct Phone Number: Contact: E-mail: 17/1/2024

SC/317494 PREM-LIC\115711

Sarah Williams

Please quote our reference in any correspondence

Blue Garden 74 Chancery Lane London WC2A 1AA Camden

Public Protection Supporting Communities London Borough of Camden Town Hall Judd Street LONDON WC1H 9JE Tel: 020 7974 4444 (switchboard)

London Borough of Camden Fax: 020 7974 6955 / 6940 Textphone: 020 7974 6866

Town Hall DX: 2106 Euston

www.camden.gov.uk

Dear Christina Mira Arana and Ali Awada, Licensing Act 2003 Promotion of the Licensing Objectives Re: Blue Garden, 74 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1AA

I am writing following received complaints from our noise service in respect of the above named premises where Mira Management Club Ltd is the Licence Holder. A meeting was held on Wednesday 17th of January 2024 at our Camden Council offices. Present was Ali Awada named as the Designated Premises Supervisor. Adam Elattar, Manager at Blue Garden. Esther Jones, Gina Demetriou, and I, Sarah Williams, Licensing Officers and PC Korbinian Cox, Police Licensing Officer.

The recent visits and engagement that has been ongoing was highlighted in the recorded meeting and I have also repeated below;

Mira Management Club Ltd first made the new premises licence application in June 2023. PC Cox and the applicant worked hard to mediate conditions and hours to ensure that this premises will promote the licensing objectives without the need of a Licensing Committee Hearing.

Premises PREM-LIC\115711 was granted on the 21/09/2023 with 40 conditions and the permitted hours;

Alcohol on sales only:		
Monday - Thursday Friday & Saturday	10:00 - 23:30 10:00 - 01:30	
Sunday	11:00 - 22:30	
Late Night Refreshment:		
Friday & Saturday	23:00 - 01:30	
OFF SALES		
Friday & Saturday	23:00 - 02:00	

Live Music, Recorded Music, Performance of Dance and Similar to E, F or G: Monday - Thursday Friday & Saturday Sunday 10:00 - 23:30 10:00 - 01:30 11:00 - 22:30

On the 20<sup>th</sup> of November, the first complaint was made by a resident alleging public nuisance issues, out of hours noise officers visited the premises at 01:23 on Monday morning. The officer spoke to the manager named Adam Maira as bass music was audible emanating from the premises.

Todays meeting it was confirmed that the premises held a launch party on the 19/20<sup>th</sup> November 2023. Licensing Officers confirmed that an Instagram advert for the event on Sunday 19th November 2023 12am till late.

On 5/12/23 Licensing wrote an email and advisory letter to premises to

to Mira Management Club Ltd, for the urgent attention of Ali Awada. Requesting CCTV footage to be provided by 9am 7th December 2023 as per condition 15 of the licence. Other relevant conditions/breaches were included in the letter.

On 5/12/23 PC Korbinian Cox emailed and provided options to have the footage collected as well as a link to allow you to upload footage directly.

On 7/12/23 PC Korbinian Cox emailed **Constant Sectors** confirming that it had been 48 hours since Licensing Officer Sarah Williams had requested you to provide CCTV and nothing has been submitted through the link provided and you had not asked to collect in person.

On 9/12/23, early hours of Saturday morning at 00:30am, a visit by Licensing and Police Officers was made. The premises was closing although the lights were on and 2 men at a table eating. Spoke to the manager Adam Elattar and chef about complaints. Explained that they need to finish at 12:30 and no further takeaway orders after 2pm only collection.

On 9/12/23, Saturday at 20:11 Wael Fouda <info@bluegardenlondon.co.uk> responded by email to Licensing and Police;

"Dear Sir madam

I am sorry for the delay but I was unwell and in hospital for couple of days I will do that first thing g Monday morning when I should be back on premises Ali awada."

On 18/12/23 PC Korbinian Cox emailed again as there had still not been any CCTV submitted to us. You were reminded of the importance that as a venue you abide by your conditions and do not prevent the Local Authority from investigating suspected breaches, as this reflects badly on your duty to promote the licensing objectives. By not providing footage within this timeframe you are in breach of this condition.

On 23/12/23, early hours of Saturday morning at 01:35am, a visit by Licensing and Police Officers A male in a chef's uniform, known as Wael Fouda and the Manager went downstairs and could hear music emanating from the downstairs area with disco lights on, and a kitchen with trays of rice. the One male then accused the licensing officer of racism and that this premises is being picked on and being harassed as he was an Arab. It was explained premises received complaints and there have been breaches re CCTV. Communication from the licence holder or DPS has not taken place.

On 13/1/24 at midnight, a visit by Licensing Officers, spoke to manager Adam Elattar. Some customers were in the ground restaurant. The Manager said that the basement was closed and that the opening night is next week. Officers insisted on seeing the basement and found a DJ playing very loud music, (no customers). They were informed that the DJ was testing the music for next week. A tray full of lit coal and a live cigarette in an ashtray was found.

At the meeting today on 17/1/24 Ali Awada and Adam Ellator both apologised for the recent breaches and that they hope to work with the council to run the premises successfully.

Unfortunately, they were unable to confirm the 4 licensing objectives. Ali Awada confirmed that he had been unwell and unable to provide the CCTV. It was made clear that the CCTV shall be installed, operated, and maintained to function at all times. During operating hours, there shall be at least one staff member on the premises who can proficiently operate the CCTV system, allowing the Police or authorized Council officers to view footage upon request.

The Licence Holder and DPS must ensure that all the permitted conditions and hours are being adhered too. All staff must be aware of the premises permissions and promoting the licensing objectives. This is your responsibility to ensure that you are aware and to ensure all staff are trained regularly.

On all visits and communication stated above, staff were unaware of the permitted times and conditions on the licence.

You do have a responsibility in ensuring the promotions all four of the licensing objectives, which are:

- 1. The Prevention of Crime and Disorder,
- 2. The Prevention of Public Nuisance,
- 3. Ensuring Public Safety
- 4. The Protection of Children from Harm

Officers of the Licensing Authority will continue to actively investigate suspected breaches of conditions. Such investigations may be by unannounced visits or covert surveillance, which may mean that officers will enter your premises as members of the public to gather evidence against you.

Should any offences be committed under the Act, then the Licensing Authority may consider formal proceedings against you. I wish to inform you that the maximum penalty applicable to these offences is currently a fine and 6 months imprisonment.

If you are not able to prevent or suitably limit problems directly related to your premises, then further action will be taken. The Licensing Authority will have no choice but to submit a review of your Premises Licence. If the licence is reviewed, this could result in sanctions including revocation.

Please confirm receipt of this letter and provide a response with the actions you will be implementing to prevent any further public nuisance issues. I would like to have confirmation from Christina Mira Arana, Ali Awada and Adam Elattar of the measures to ensure that all the conditions and hours from the licence are being complied with. I would also like confirmation of the promotion of the licensing objectives are understood by all. I would like this response by the 31/1/24.

I hope this letter provides you with the necessary information and guidance, if you need any further information or advice on this matter then please do not hesitate to contact me as detailed above.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Williams Licensing Officer Cc; Police Licensing and Pollution duty (Environmental Health)