

[REDACTED]

7th January 2011

The Licensing Officer
Northampton Borough Council
Borough Solicitors Division
The Guildhall
St Giles Square
Northampton
NN1 1DE

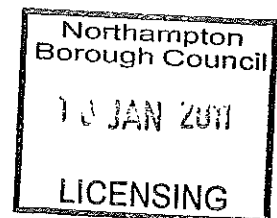
Dear Sir

I am writing to object to the application for a Sexual Entertainment Venue Licence for the Urban Tiger Lap Dancing Club, Wellingborough Road, Northampton, NN1 4AA.

I feel very uncomfortable whenever I have to walk past this club. I have young children and feel that the graphic advertising used outside the club is completely inappropriate for public display. I do not want my children to see half naked women in sexual poses with comments such as 'Credit Crotch' when we are on a family trip to town.

Also as a woman I feel that I have to avoid being anywhere near this locality in the evenings. On previous occasions I have been walking past this club with my friends and have been heckled and gesticulated at by male customers going in to and coming out of the Urban Tiger. This is very intimidating and makes me feel vulnerable and threatened. I now have to arrange my evenings so that I don't have to pass this club at all. Why should my movements around my home town be restricted by the existence of table dancing clubs such as this? Sexual entertainment is not appropriate for our town centre.

Yours faithfully



M. Allan
**MAILLAN
CONFIDENTIAL**

Philip Bayliss

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 27 December 2010 21:26
To: Philip Bayliss
Subject: Urban Tiger Lap Dancing Club Wellingborough Road Northampton NN1 4AA

Dear Sir

I should like to register my objection to the granting of a Sex Encounters Establishment license at the above premises. I visit Northampton regularly to work and as I do so in the evenings this often means walking to the station or my hotel late at night. Establishments like these put my safety and well-being at risk. I have often been harassed and on one occasion physically attacked by men stood outside such places smoking and chatting.

On top of this - as with many industries - my career has been directly damaged because I am unwilling to join male colleagues, bosses and clients networking and socialising in such places. The pay gap in this country is wide and shows little signs of closing. It seems obvious to me that these places - which often market directly at corporate and business clients, and even offer "discreet" receipts so that money spent there can be charged to expenses - directly impact on women's equality. As you will be aware it is your duty as a council to consider the gender impact of all decisions you make. In this case granting an SEE license would clearly have a direct strongly negative effect.

Finally in the course of my work I have met a number of women who have worked at establishments like this. Their stories are depressingly similar - it is perceived as a cheap and easy fun way to make extra money. However "house fees" which are paid by performers to clubs to enable them to perform [and outfits and drinks and food usually have to be bought from venues too and fines imposed for failure to comply with deliberately complicated work regulations] mean that at the start of the night they effectively "need" a certain number of private dances to even break even. In desperation this leads to "no touching" rules being swept aside and these premises acting as brothels. Pornographic websites in the UK have innumerable videos depicting sex scenes taking places in strip and lap dancing clubs. Men who visit such places understand this is normal. For women suddenly forced to offer sexual services having expected to be dancing the consequences are horrific. Many turn to drugs and alcohol to numb the experience. Mental health disorders including PTSD are recorded at levels similar to those for soldiers returning from the battlefields of Iraq.

Many thanks for taking the time to read this and think about the points I've made. I would be happy to discuss the matter in greater detail if you have any questions or would like more detail.

Please inform me of the hearing date and location as I would like to attend and to speak.

Philip Bayliss

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 December 2010 16:48
To: Philip Bayliss
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Objection to application for sexual entertainment venue

I am writing to voice objection to the above for the Urban Tiger strip club on Wellingborough Rd in Northampton. I live 1 mile from this venue which is located on the main town centre street. It is completely inappropriate to have such an establishment operating in our town centre, especially considering that families have to walk past it to get to the centre's shops. There are pictures of women spread out wearing barely anything outside the building on posters. To add insult to injury the building used to be a religious establishment as is engraved on the front wall... next to the poster! Again i think this is a totally inappropriate use of this building and I feel this venue should not be granted license for sexual entertainment.
Regards
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Philip Bayliss

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 03 January 2011 15:27
To: Philip Bayliss
Subject: Sexual Entertainment Venue Licence - Urban Tiger

Hello

I am contacting you to express an objection to the above. I understand that there is unfortunately a market for these types of premises, however I do not feel that having a club right in the centre of our town gives a good impression of Northampton.

The club displays erotic images on billboards outside of the club, which are photographs of actual women, rather than discreet silhouettes, which I thought was the requirement of such advertising. Many people pass this everyday, people with children and visitors to our town, it would be nicer for them to see something more constructive.

I also object to the club driving their A board van around our town with the same images for the same reasons. If the club is to remain where it is I suggest these issues around advertising be addressed, but better still that the club does not obtain a license and the space be put to better use.

Northampton has such a wonderful history, it would be great to see a lot more promotion/work being done to attract people to come to visit us to see and learn about this. In my opinion, clubs like Urban Tiger promote the wrong kind of image and attract the wrong kind of people.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]
--

[REDACTED] is at risk, right now. If you want freedom to choose, do something here:

[REDACTED]

Philip Bayliss

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 December 2010 14:20
To: Philip Bayliss
Subject: Urban Tiger Application



Good afternoon Mr Bayliss,

Further to our phone conversation I would like to put forward my objections to the license application from the Urban Tiger.

I would like to highlight my concerns that the Council consider its statutory public duty under the single equality act and other equalities enactments in considering this application. Within this there is a statutory duty that is not optional that the Council considers in each decision that it makes in what way there maybe consideration of its duty to promote equality of opportunity and eliminate discrimination. In this the Council needs to also consider it's duties the human rights conflicts of the freedom of expression and the freedom to enjoy family life and live free from discrimination. The way the the Urban Tiger has promoted itself over the past few years in respect of the venues and sites that it has chosen to advertise and the images that it has chosen to use, I feel has impinged on my rights to enjoy family life and live free from discrimination. In particular the promotional boards outside the venue have been at times offensive and encouraged women being viewed as objects for sexual pleasure rather than human beings. This does no good for our town and in particular no good for women and children in the town (the majority of the population of the town). It is the Councils duty to take this into consideration when making decisions on all issues including licensing issues. In particular I am very concerned that the promotion of the venue in the past has used unacceptable images of women in family environments in the town. These have included local newspapers and magazines, sports clubs and other places where children can gain awareness of the venue and the business that is undertaken there. This does nothing for the way that men in the town treat women that they come into contact with.

In the past couple of months I organised a birthday party trip for my ten year old son to Games Workshop with a number of other boys from school. We had to go past the establishment to get to the Subway to get some food and I felt angry, embarrassed and compromised by the boards outside of the club. What made things worse was the venue is right outside a pedestrian crossing, meaning that when the traffic dictates, members of the public like myself and my children are forced to wait in relatively close to the images.

I am also concerned for the women working in the Club. I am concerned that some women may enter working environments of this kind as other work opportunities in the town reduce as a result of public spending cuts and with cuts to benefits, they indeed have little option. The working environment allows the women no employment rights and without these rights are subject to the whims of the managers of the club and their approach to any poor conduct from customers.

If Northampton Borough Council decides that it will issue a Sexual Entertainment Licence to the Urban Tiger or to any other lap dancing clubs then it is essential that standard conditions are imposed on those licences for the safety of the women performing in the clubs and for the prevention of crime. Other councils around the UK all impose conditions on SEV licences. Those standard conditions should include the following:-

1. Restriction of opening times to evenings only
2. The use of CCTV monitoring equipment throughout
3. Any external advertising of adult entertainment shall not include:
 - a) Any depiction of full nudity.

- b) Any images of breasts, buttocks or genitalia.
 - c) Any depiction of sexualised posing of women
 - d) Any depiction of overtly sexual or violent images or any other images which may give rise to concerns in respect of public decency or protection of children from harm.
 - e) Any overt wording such as 'striptease' 'credit crotch' or similar
4. Prohibition of advertising in public spaces, including on billboards, telephone booth boards, and leafleting. Advertising will only be permitted on the interior and exterior of the premises. The use of ad-vans to advertise sexual entertainment venues is prohibited for public decency.
- No advertising allowed in media that is not exclusively aimed at adults – this would exclude local "family" newspapers, and cricket, rugby and football grounds for example.
5. a) No persons under the age of 18 will be permitted on the premises.
- b) Proof of age will be required from anyone appearing to be under the age of 25.
- c) No performer or employee will be under the age of 18 and an employment record will be held on the premises. Adequate checks will be made to ensure compliance.
6. a) No full nudity will be permitted.
- b) There shall be no physical contact between the customers and performers.
- c) Performers are to keep a minimum distance of 3 feet away from the customers. Notices outlining these conditions must be clearly displayed on the premises.
- d) Performers will stop immediately and move away from any customer who is offensive or attempts to touch them and shall report such behaviour and any other inappropriate behaviour or breach of house rules to the management.
- e) Performers will not take or give telephone numbers or business cards or in any way solicit themselves.
- f) No dancing or entertainment shall be provided in dedicated private booths within the premises.
- g) All performers will at the conclusion of their last performance, leave the premises and not return that day.

These conditions would go some way to protecting women working in lap dancing clubs and women in the wider community.

However, because of the negative impact that lap dancing clubs have on women's equality and women's safety as outlined above, I ultimately request that you take a bold stance against the growth of lap dancing clubs by rejecting all applications for SEVs in our town, and in particular, by rejecting this application by the Urban Tiger for a Sexual Entertainment Licence.

Philip Bayliss

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 01 January 2011 18:43

To: Philip Bayliss

Subject: Urban Tiger

I feel I must write regarding the licensing of the Urban Tiger lap dancing club in Northampton town centre. As a young woman I feel most uncomfortable walking past the venue and seeing its advertisements featuring almost nude women, and I feel it does not set a good image to our town. I am also deeply concerned about what these establishments mean for women - in this day and age it upsets me that it is still seen as acceptable to objectify women like this. It also paves the way to illegal activities such as prostitution. I truly believe that society would be better off without these places, and since the law has finally realised that lap dancing clubs are not the same as tea rooms, I feel that the time has come to change this seediness once and for all. Please consider this when making the decision about the license, as councils finally have the power to change society for the better regarding lap dancing clubs and it would be such a shame to let that opportunity go to waste.

Thank you so much for your time, and please consider wisely for the good of the town and society.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

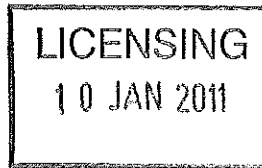
Lead

Philip Bayliss

From: Philip Bayliss
Sent: 10 January 2011 08:10
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Urban Tiger licence

Thank you for your notification of objection to the application for a 'Sex Entertainment Venue' Licence for the Urban Tiger, Wellingborough Road, Northampton. You will be notified when a hearing has been arranged with regard to the application.

Kind regards
Philip Bayliss
Principal Licensing Officer
Licensing Department
Northampton Borough Council
The Guildhall
St Giles Square
Northampton
NN1 1DE
Telephone 01604 837099
pbayliss@northampton.gov.uk



From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 08 January 2011 17:11
To: Philip Bayliss
Subject: Urban Tiger licence

Dear Sir,
I object to a sexual entertainment licence being granted to the Urban Tiger as I think that lap-dancing degrades women, & goes against gender equality which the Council promotes.

The displays outside on one of the main routes into town are offensive, especially as they are alongside stone plaques on the walls dedicating the building as a place of worship.

If Northampton needs a "Men's Club" of this nature, then it should be situated away from the main street where women & children walk past.

Yours faithfully,
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Philip Bayliss

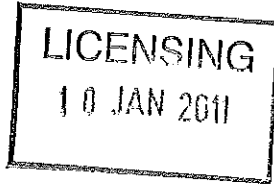
From: Philip Bayliss
Sent: 10 January 2011 08:15
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Objection: Urban Tiger-Sexual Entertainment Venue

Encl

Thank you for your notification of objection to the application for a 'Sex Entertainment Venue' Licence for the Urban Tiger, Wellingborough Road, Northampton. You will be notified when a hearing has been arranged with regard to the application.

Kind regards

Philip Bayliss
Principal Licensing Officer
Licensing Department
Northampton Borough Council
The Guildhall
St Giles Square
Northampton
NN1 1DE
Telephone 01604 837099
pbayliss@northampton.gov.uk



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

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 08 January 2011 19:38
To: Philip Bayliss
Subject: Objection: Urban Tiger-Sexual Entertainment Venue

The Licencing Officer
Northampton Borough Council
Borough Solicitors Division
The Guildhall
St Giles Square
Northampton
NN1 1DE

Re: Objection to the Urban Tiger application for a Sexual Entertainment Venue.

Dear Licencing Officer,
I hate walking past the 'Urban Tiger' with my 10 year old daughter and have her embarrassed and confused by the posters outside. At a time when she is just forming an understanding of the world, images like this are not what I want her to see.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Northampton
Northamptonshire

Tel: [REDACTED]

Mobile: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

The Licensing Officer
Northampton Borough Council
Borough Solicitors Division
The Guildhall
St Giles Square
Northampton
NN1 1DE

Dear Madam or Sir

I am writing to express considerable concern regarding the application for a Sexual Entertainment Venue Licence for the Urban Tiger Lap Dancing Club, Wellingborough Road, Northampton, NN1 4AA.

It is my opinion that Lap dancing clubs encourage their customers, and wider society to see women as sex objects. This has to be seen in the wider context of a society in which men still dominate the positions of power and where violence against women is endemic. I understand that those working with female victims of male violence believe that the mainstreaming of the sex industries legitimises the attitudes that ultimately lead to violence against women.

I sense that lap dancing clubs when situated on a main thoroughfare as is the above premises, create areas of unease and an atmosphere especially inappropriate for passing children. This is not helped by the graphic advertising, the fear of bumping into the punters from the club and the possibility of being subjected to harassment and intimidation.

I would urge the council, if it does allow lap dancing clubs to continue to exist in our town, to at the very least impose the following conditions on their licences:-

1. Restriction of opening times to evenings only
2. Any external advertising of adult entertainment shall not include:
 - a) Any depiction of full nudity.
 - b) Any images of breasts, buttocks or genitalia.
 - c) Any depiction of overtly sexual or violent images or any other images which may give rise to concerns in respect of public decency or protection of children from harm.
 - d) Any overt wording such as 'striptease' 'credit crotch' or similar
3. Prohibition of advertising in public spaces, including on billboards, telephone booth boards, and leafleting. Advertising only to be permitted on the interior and exterior of the premises. The use of ad-vans to advertise sexual entertainment venues is prohibited for public decency. No advertising allowed in media that is not exclusively aimed at adults – this would exclude for example local family newspapers.
4. No persons under the age of 18 to be permitted on the premises. Proof of age ^{will} be required from anyone appearing to be under the age of 25. No performer or employee to be under the age of 18 and an employment record to be held on the premises. Adequate checks to be made to ensure compliance.

I call on Northampton Borough Council to reject the application for a Sexual Entertainment Licence by the Urban Tiger.

Yours faithfully,
[REDACTED]

LICENSING
7 JAN 2011

Philip Bayliss

From: Philip Bayliss

Sent: 07 January 2011 08:20

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Application for Sexual Entertainment Licence for the Urban Tiger Gentlemen's Club

Email

Thank you for your notification of objection to the application for a 'Sex Entertainment Venue' Licence for the Urban Tiger, Wellingborough Road, Northampton. You will be notified when a hearing has been arranged with regard to the application.

Kind regards
Philip Bayliss
Principal Licensing Officer
Licensing Department
Northampton Borough Council
The Guildhall
St Giles Square
Northampton
NN1 1DE
Telephone 01604 837099
pbayliss@northampton.gov.uk

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 07 January 2011 08:02

To: Philip Bayliss

Subject: Application for Sexual Entertainment Licence for the Urban Tiger Gentlemen's Club

Dear Mr Bayliss,

I am writing to you to voice my concerns over the sexual entertainment licence application for the Urban Tiger Gentlemen's Club in Abington Square.

My objection to a licence being issued is not based on my moral opinion of gentlemen's clubs. Whilst I would never go to one myself, I believe that in a culture of freedom of thought and expression people are free to make their own moral judgements, and so it is not for me to judge the moral legitimacy of the club. My concerns are primarily about the location of the club and its exposure to young children.

I am not a parent myself yet, but I am sure most parents would agree with me when I say that this is the sort of establishment that we would not want our children to be exposed to, particularly at a very young age. However, the club is located on a very busy stretch of road where a great number of men, women and children pass by every day. It is also very near to shops aimed at children, such as a school uniform shop and a warhammer shop, and is housed in a large building, so is not easily missed. Whilst it is obviously not open during the day when children are most likely to be about, it is still obvious from the outside what the venue is.

I also have a concern about the advertising outside the venue. Most of the advertisements are large and can easily be noticed by passing pedestrians and vehicles. There is also a pedestrian crossing directly opposite the club which means you notice the advertising perhaps more than if you were just walking past it. Some people will find the content of the advertisements objectionable and offensive. There is also the crucial issue of protecting young children. Whilst from the exterior of the club you may not instantly recognise that it is a gentlemen's club, from the advertising you certainly would. My concern is that very young children are being exposed to advertisements for sexual entertainment. I think that most people will agree that this is not particularly appropriate.

I do not expect the Urban Tiger to be completely closed down. If that is where people choose to either go for entertainment, or to earn a living, then that is a personal decision that they have made. What I believe the best compromise is for both the company and the people who object to the club, is either the relocation

of the club to a less prominent location or, at the very least, the movement of its entrance so that it does not open straight out onto the main street. I also believe that it would be appropriate to enforce a limit, or ban, on advertising outside the club.

Thank you for your time, I hope you will take my views into account.

Yours Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Philip Bayliss

Email

From: Philip Bayliss
Sent: 11 January 2011 08:55
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Sexual Entertainment License - Urban Tiger

Thank you for your notification of objection to the application for a 'Sex Entertainment Venue' Licence for the Urban Tiger, Wellingborough Road, Northampton. You will be notified when a hearing has been arranged with regard to the application.

Kind regards
Philip Bayliss
Principal Licensing Officer
Licensing Department
Northampton Borough Council
The Guildhall
St Giles Square
Northampton
NN1 1DE
Telephone 01604 837099
pbayliss@northampton.gov.uk

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 11 January 2011 00:28
To: Philip Bayliss
Subject: Sexual Entertainment License - Urban Tiger

Dear Sir/Madam

I am hereby writing to object to the proposed application for a Sexual Entertainment Venue Licence for the Urban Tiger Lap Dancing Club, Wellingborough Road, Northampton, NN1 4AA.

I am objecting to this License for the following reasons:

Lap dancing clubs promote 'sex-object' culture – the mainstreaming of the sex and porn industries

Lap dancing clubs are linked to wider systems of prostitution

Lap dancing clubs create 'no-go' zones for women in the local vicinity

Lap dancing clubs have a negative impact on women's safety in wider society

Gender Equality Duty: Regulating the expansion of lap dancing clubs is an issue of equality, not morality.

The Urban Tiger lap dancing club is situated on the main road into Northampton town centre and is surrounded by shops, pubs and other local businesses. Women, children and men that aren't interested in such establishments have to pass this club together with its offensive posters and publicity material in order to gain access to the central shopping area of town. The club is also situated close to the main bus stops for services into and out of the town centre - it is therefore very difficult to avoid or ignore it.

Philip Bayliss

From: Philip Bayliss
Sent: 11 January 2011 14:59
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: sexual entertainment license application

Thank you for your notification of objection to the application for a 'Sex Entertainment Venue' Licence for the Urban Tiger, Wellingborough Road, Northampton. You will be notified when a hearing has been arranged with regard to the application.

Kind regards

Philip Bayliss
Principal Licensing Officer
Licensing Department
Northampton Borough Council
The Guildhall
St Giles Square
Northampton
NN1 1DE
Telephone 01604 837099
pbayliss@northampton.gov.uk

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 11 January 2011 13:31
To: Philip Bayliss
Subject: sexual entertainment license application

Dear Mr Bayliss,

I am placing an objection on the license application by the Urban Tiger for a sexual entertainment license application on behalf of Dostiyo Asian Womens Organisation. Our organisation operates its Northampton based activities from our Centre in Dunster street and offers social support and advocacy for vulnerable Asian Women in the Town and surrounding area.

The Borough's licensing objectives are

- The prevention of crime and disorder
- Public safety
- The prevention of public nuisance, and
- The protection of children from harm

The venue is quite close to our centre and some women accessing our centre have to walk past it.

Often they are with children or older family members. Often outside the Urban Tiger there are larger than life unclad images of women promoting the venue. This is offensive and causes those women who do walk past it considerable distress and disquiet. It is completely unacceptable that women with children going about their daily business should be exposed to this. This kind of imagery in public places affects the way men view women and encourage domestic violence, rape and sexual harassment. In our view this is directly contrary to the Boroughs Licensing policy objective of the prevention of crime and disorder and promoting public safety. In addition to our concern about the effect that the venues operation has on women, we also have a concern that boys growing up in women oriented households (as large amounts of Asian households are) get the wrong messages about the position of women in western society and the nature of positive relationships with women and what life outside of home should be like, through the operation of the establishment and in particular in the way it has promoted itself. In our view this is directly contrary to the Boroughs Licensing policy objective of the protection of children from harm.

If Northampton Borough Council decides that it will issue a Sexual Entertainment License to the Urban Tiger or to any other lap dancing clubs then it is essential that standard conditions are imposed on those licences for the safety of the women performing in the clubs and for the prevention of crime. Other councils around the UK all impose conditions on SEV licences. Those standard conditions should include the following:-

1. Restriction of opening times to evenings only
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 - d) Any depiction of overtly sexual or violent images or any other images which may give rise to concerns in respect of public decency or protection of children from harm.
 - e) Any overt wording such as 'striptease' 'credit crotch' or similar
4. Prohibition of advertising in public spaces, including on billboards, telephone booth boards, and leafleting. Advertising will only be permitted on the interior and exterior of the premises. The use of ad-vans to advertise sexual entertainment venues is prohibited for public decency.

No advertising allowed in media that is not exclusively aimed at adults – this would exclude local “family” newspapers, and cricket, rugby and football grounds for example.

5.
 - a) No persons under the age of 18 will be permitted on the premises.
 - b) Proof of age will be required from anyone appearing to be under the age of 25.
 - c) No performer or employee will be under the age of 18 and an employment record will be held on the premises. Adequate checks will be made to ensure compliance.

6.
 - a) No full nudity will be permitted.
 - b) There shall be no physical contact between the customers and performers.
 - c) Performers are to keep a minimum distance of 3 feet away from the customers. Notices outlining these conditions must be clearly displayed on the premises.
 - d) Performers will stop immediately and move away from any customer who is offensive or attempts to touch them and shall report such behaviour and any other inappropriate behaviour or breach of house rules to the management.
 - e) Performers will not take or give telephone numbers or business cards or in any way solicit themselves.
 - f) No dancing or entertainment shall be provided in dedicated private booths within the premises.
 - g) All performers will at the conclusion of their last performance, leave the premises and not return that day.

These conditions would go some way to protecting women working in lap dancing clubs and women in the wider community.

However, because of the negative impact that lap dancing clubs have on women's equality and women's safety as outlined above, I ultimately request that you take a bold stance against the growth of lap dancing clubs by rejecting all applications for SEVs in our town, and in particular, by rejecting this application by the Urban Tiger for a Sexual Entertainment License.

Yours