

Appendix 2 – Police Objection

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 14 November 2022 17:01

To: Licensing Team for Alcohol & Gambling <Licensing_Team@sandwell.gov.uk>

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: [External]: TEN - MJs Bar and Venue, 38 Bridge Street, Wednesbury, WS10 0AQ

I refer to the Temporary Event Notice for an under 16's night on 20th December at the above venue.

West Midlands Police object to this application. The venue held a similar event on 25th October 2022 and that event resulted in 6 Police logs to the location and the surrounding area. The previous event was also a 3 hour event as applied for in this application and it is concerning the sheer number of logs and issues reported for what is a relatively short event.

One of the logs was reported by an off duty member of Police staff who reported fights in the queue outside as large numbers attempted to get in and reported that numerous parents also were involved in confrontations as they tried to intervene. A further log from a member of the public reported issues in the street as the event dispersed and stated there were hundreds of children running around the nearby roads causing chaos. On attendance officers found groups of youths in the area wondering around causing issues and it was clear there was an issue dispersing groups away from the location.

Of further concern there is a log at 21:08 hours from the applicant for the TEN stating there were lots of youths that had been turned away from the club and it was causing issues and the caller stated officers were meant to be there to support. It is concerning to see that the event organiser has called in for officer support to assist their event and there was clearly no plan in place to deal with unexpected numbers and the volume of attendees. On previously speaking to the organiser, West Midlands Police advised we would potentially attend to check all was in order but officers were not offered to support the running of the event as this remains the responsibility of the event organiser.

West Midlands Police also received a 999 call at 21.11 which was abandoned mid call and a person described as sounding 'very young' could be heard shouting for the Police to come quickly as a fight was starting. The call mapped to this locality and call handlers urgently attempted to make further contact without success as the phone went to voicemail.

A further call to the Police was made after the event had ended stating that a young female was assaulted outside of the location by another female who had been in attendance. Bodycam from officers in attendance shows large groups of unaccompanied children wondering away from the club and gathering in the locality. Parents that attended also caused traffic issues in the area by blocking outside of the venue on the roads and pavements to ensure they were close enough to the venue.

Given the number of logs received to the last event, the issues witnessed by officers and the impact on the locality, West Midlands contend that the TEN would undermine the following Licensing Objectives contained within the Licensing Act 2003:

- the prevention of crime and disorder
- public safety
- the prevention of public nuisance
- the protection of children from harm

After the previous event, the organiser contacted West Midlands Police and stated he would not hold the event again at this venue as they were unhappy at the security provision at the venue and so it is surprising to see an application for this venue again given the concerns the applicant himself raised and the awareness of the Police concerns following the last event.

It should also be noted that the TEN falls within what is peak Christmas trading period for licensed venues and so there is further concern about large numbers of under 16 year olds, unaccompanied in a night time economy venue at this period. The minimum age of attendees is 11 and so given the ages of the attendees, the number of issues reported at the previous event and the marketing of the event as an under 16's rave (see below) it causes serious concerns for the West Midlands Police.



reload under 16s presents christmas rave with boohoo giveaway on tuesday 20th december 2022

RELOAD UNDER 16S PRESENTS

Christmas rave with Boohoo giveaway

doors open 6:00pm - 9:00pm

FREE SOFT DRINKS INCLUDED

2 Arenas of music | Special Guest Performers & Much More

THE BIGGEST UNDER 16 EVENTS

Music Genres: Bassline, Drum n Bass, Hip Hop, House, Pop, R&B, UK Garage, World Music

event flyer



entry prices

Minimum age: 11

Entry price (public): £10 on the door (Additional fees may apply)

Find more events on Tuesday 20th December 2022 in Wednesbury



Licensing Officer

Preventing crime, protecting the public
and helping those in need

