

Committee :	Date	Classification
<b>Licensing Sub-Committee</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> January 2017</b>	<b>Unrestricted</b>

Report of: <b>David Tolley</b> <b>Head of Environmental Health &amp; Trading Standards</b>  Originating Officer: <b>Mohshin Ali</b> <b>Senior Licensing Officer</b>	Title: <b>Licensing Act 2003</b> <b>Application for a Premises Licence for (Vicolo Romano), 420 Roman Road, London E3 5LX</b>  Ward affected: <b>Bow West</b>
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## 1.0 Summary

Applicant:	<b>Volkan Yildirim</b>
Name and	<b>Vicolo Romano</b>
Address of Premises:	<b>420 Roman Road Bethnal Green London E3 5LX</b>
Licence sought:	<b>Licensing Act 2003 – premises licence</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The sale by retail of alcohol</b></li> <li>• <b>The provision of regulated entertainment (recorded music only)</b></li> </ul>
Representations:	<b>Local Resident (one)</b>

## 2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Licensing Committee considers the application and representations then adjudicate accordingly.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT 2000 (Section 97)**  
**LIST OF "BACKGROUND PAPERS" USED IN THE DRAFTING OF THIS REPORT**

Brief description of "background paper"

Tick if copy supplied for register

If not supplied, name and telephone number of holder

File Only

Mohshin Ali  
020 7364 5498

### 3.0 **Background**

- 3.1 This is an application for a premises licence for (Vicolo Romano), 420 Roman Road, London E3 5LX.
- 3.2 A copy of the premises licence application form is enclosed as **Appendix 1**.
- 3.3 The applicant has revised the licensable activities and timings in consultation with Environmental Protection and Met Police as follows:-

**The Sale by retail of alcohol (On sales only)**

- Monday to Sunday, from 08:00 hours to 22:30 hours

**The provision of regulated entertainment – Indoors (recorded music only)**

- Monday to Sunday, from 08:00 hours to 23:00 hours

Note: In light of the amendments agreed with the responsible authorities, the applicant may wish to clarify if recorded music is still being sought.

**The opening hours of the premises**

- Monday to Sunday, from 08:00 hours to 23:00 hours

### 4.0 **Location and Nature of the premises**

- 4.1 Photographs of the venue and immediate vicinity will be provided at the hearing.
- 4.2 The site plan of the venue is included as **Appendix 2**.
- 4.3 Maps showing the vicinity are included as **Appendix 3**.
- 4.4 Details of the nearest licensed venues are included as **Appendix 4**.

### 5.0 **Licensing Policy and Government Advice**

- 5.1 The Council has adopted a licensing policy and this is available from the Licensing Section, and at the hearing. The revised policy came into effect on the 1<sup>st</sup> November 2013.
- 5.2 Relevant Sections of the policy are brought to the attention of Members within the Licensing Officers report.
- 5.3 The Home Secretary has issued Guidance under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003. This is available on the Government's website, [www.homeoffice.gov.uk](http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk). It was last revised in March 2015.

5.4 Relevant Sections of this advice are brought to Members attention within the Licensing Officers report. Members should note however, that in some areas Tower Hamlets, after a proper consideration of local circumstances, has not followed the Government's advice, or has developed it further.

## 6.0 Representations

6.1 All representations have to meet basic legal and administrative requirements. If they fail to do so they cannot be accepted. When rejected the person sending in the representation must be written to, and an explanation for rejection given in writing

6.2 A responsible authority or other person can make a representation. There are two tests for other persons and only one for a responsible authority. The two tests are contained in Section 18 of the Act.

6.3 All representations must be "about the likely effect of the grant of the premises licence on the promotion of the licensing objectives." Likely means something that will probably happen, i.e. on balance more likely than not.

6.4 Representations by responsible authorities do not have to meet the second test of not being vexatious and frivolous. Other persons have to meet this test.

6.5 The Home Office recommends that in borderline cases, the benefit of the doubt should be given to the interested party making the representation.

6.6 Section 182 Advice by the Home Office concerning relevant, vexatious and frivolous representations is attached as **Appendix 5**.

6.7 All the representations in this report have been considered by the relevant officer (Team Leader Licensing & Safety) and determined to have met the requirements of the Licensing Act 2003.

6.8 This hearing is required by the Licensing Act 2003, because relevant representations have been made the following local resident:

- Roman Koblov – **Appendix 6**

6.9 All of the responsible authorities have been consulted about this application. They are as follows:

- The Licensing Authority
- The Metropolitan Police
- The LFEPA (the London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority).
- Planning
- Health and Safety
- Noise (Environmental Health)
- Trading Standards
- Child Protection
- Public Health

- 6.10 In addition the application was required to be advertised in a local newspaper and by a blue poster. Only objections that relate to the following licensing objectives are relevant:
- the prevention of crime and disorder
  - public safety
  - the prevention of public nuisance
  - the protection of children from harm
- 6.11 Essentially, the relevant party opposes the application because the applicant has not explained how within the context of the application they will meet licensing objective of the prevention of public nuisance.
- 6.12 There are strict time limits to any representations. The time limits are contained in The Licensing Act 2003 (Premises licences and club premises certificates) Regulations 2005.
- 6.13 The applicant has offered measures in the operating schedule of the application that address the promotion of the Licensing Objectives. If there were no representations, the Licensing Authority would grant the licence, with conditions consistent with the operating schedule, which are relevant, proportionate and enforceable. Members are asked to consider the schedule and incorporate any conditions as necessary to address the licensing objectives.

**7.0 Conditions consistent with Operating Schedule (as offered by the applicant)**

- 7.1 Full CCTV coverage has been placed within all areas of the premises.
- 7.2 Escape Routes - Fire Risk assessment has been prepared to ensure public safety within the premises.
- 7.3 All fire doors will be regularly checked and monitored via log - book to ensure it is working including fire escape lighting.
- 7.4 Noise and Vibration - Noise and vibration will not affect the neighbouring properties. Doors and windows will be closed at all times. The placing of refuse such as bottles will be hidden inside the premises till it is collected to ensure no disturbance is given to neighbouring properties.
- 7.5 Proof of age cards - Proof of age will be checked at all times during serving alcohol.
- 7.6 CCTV will be recorded at all times in the premises including the main entrance of the restaurant.
- 7.7 Crime prevention notices will be displayed within the premises which will be fixed notices on permanent walls.
- 7.8 Drinks will not be taken from the premises.

- 7.9 Capacity Limits for customers will be taken care of while trading. License holder will ensure door supervision will control the numbers of customers appropriately.
- 7.10 Escape routes - Fire risk assessment and Method statement has been prepared for this stage during the interior design phase and building control phase. All exit doors are easily openable to ensure staff and customer safety. All doors will be regularly checked and record of this will be kept at all times.
- 7.11 Safety checks - all necessary safety checks will be carried out before trading to the public and opening doors. All these will be kept on log - book.
- 7.12 Fire action notices - Fire risk assessment has been prepared ensuring notices will be displayed at all times, ensured these are displayed in any event of fire and danger.
- 7.13 Lighting - Emergency lighting is in place and easily reached at all times.
- 7.14 Noise and Vibration - Noise and vibration will not effect the neighbouring properties. The placing of refuse such as bottles will be hidden inside the premises till it is collected to ensure no disturbance is given to neighbouring properties as well as to ensure it fits within the concept.
- 7.15 Light Pollution - No bright light or flashing of light will appear to the exterior of the building and harm any neighbouring in any way. In fact, careful lighting design has been prepared to ensure mood lighting is within the design and concept. The exterior sign is also designed in this way.
- 7.16 Hours of opening - Although it is a busy/commercial location of the premises we will ensure the opening hours are within reasonable hours to prevent any public nuisance.
- 7.17 We will ensure Proof of Age is shown for anyone under the age of 21.
- 7.18 Proof of age cards - Proof of age will be checked at all times during serving at the restaurant and while anyone under age is ordering.
- 8.0 **Conditions in consultation with the Responsible Authorities/other persons**
- 8.1 Environmental Protection has agreed (please see **Appendix 7**) the following with the applicant:
- “Sale of Alcohol till 22:30 hours seven days a week, premises closing 30 minutes later at 2300 hours

Plus condition to be added as follows: - No noise shall emanate from the premises nor vibration be transmitted through the structure of the premises which gives rise to a nuisance”.

8.2 Met Police has also agreed (please see **Appendix 8**) the following with the applicant:

“Alcohol: 1100 - 2230

Music will be background music, sufficient to have a conversation without raising your voice”.

8.3 The CCTV system shall incorporate a recording facility and any recordings shall be retained and stored in a suitable and secure manner for a minimum of 31 days. A system shall be in place to maintain the quality of the recorded image and a complete audit trail maintained. The system will comply with other essential legislation, and all signs as required will be clearly displayed. The system will be maintained and fully operational throughout the hours that the premises are open for any licensable activity.

9.0 There must also be someone on the premises who can download the images and present them on request by a police officer or other responsible authority.

10.0 No drinks will be taken outside of the premises.

10.1 The revised times and conditions have been emailed to Mr Koblov and he still maintains his objection. The email exchanges are included in **Appendix 6**.

#### **11.0 Licensing Officer Comments**

11.1 The following is intended simply to advise Members of the relevant aspects of the Boroughs Licensing Policy, guidance from the Secretary of State, legislation and good practice. Members may depart from the Council’s Licensing Policy and/or Government advice, provide they consider it appropriate to do so, and have clear reasons for their decision.

#### **11.2 Guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003**

❖ As stated in the guidance it is “provided to licensing authorities in relation to the carrying out of their functions under the 2003 Act.” It is a key medium for promoting best practice, ensuring consistent application and promoting fairness equal treatment and proportionality (1.7).

❖ Also “as long as licensing authorities have properly understood this Guidance, they may depart from it if they have good reason to do so and can provide full reasons. Departure from this Guidance could give rise to an appeal or judicial review, and the reasons given will then be a key consideration for the courts when considering the lawfulness

and merits of any decision taken.” Therefore licensing authorities will need to give full reasons for their actions (1.9).

- ❖ Also Members should note “A Licensing Authority may depart from its own policy if the individual circumstances of any case merit such a decision in the interests of the promotion of the licensing objectives.” (1.12)
- ❖ Also, “The licensing authority may not impose any conditions unless its discretion has been exercised following receipt of relevant representations and it is satisfied as a result of a hearing (unless all parties agree a hearing is not necessary) that it is appropriate to impose conditions to promote one or more of the four licensing objectives.” Therefore, conditions may not be imposed for the purpose other than promoting the licensing objectives and in some cases no additional conditions will be appropriate. (10.8)
- ❖ Necessary conditions should emerge from a risk assessment by the applicant, which should then be reflected in the operating schedule (10.4).
- ❖ The Guidance states: “Where there are objections to an application to extend the hours during which licensable activities are to be carried on and the licensing authority determines that this would undermine the licensing objectives, it may reject the application or grant it with appropriate conditions and/or different hours from those requested.” (10.14)
- ❖ Mandatory conditions must be imposed (10.27) and censorship avoided (10.17).
- ❖ The Guidance states: “It is still permitted to sell alcohol using promotions (as long as they are compatible with any other licensing condition that may be in force), and the relevant person should ensure that the price of the alcohol is not less than the permitted price. Detailed guidance on the use of promotions is given in the guidance document available on the Gov.uk website.” (10.60) Also, “Licensing authorities should not attach standardised blanket conditions promoting fixed prices for alcoholic drinks to premises licences or club licences or club premises certificates in an area.” (10.21)

11.3 The Licensing Act 2003 permits children of any age to be on the premises which primarily sells alcohol providing they are accompanied by an adult. It is not necessary to make this a condition.

11.4 In all cases the Members should make their decision on the civil burden of proof, that is “the balance of probability.”

11.5 In all cases Members should consider whether or not primary legislation is the appropriate method of regulation and should only consider licence

conditions when the circumstances in their view are not already adequately covered elsewhere.

11.6 The Government has advised that conditions must be tailored to the individual type, location and characteristics of the premises and events concerned. Conditions cannot seek to manage the behaviour of customers once they are beyond the direct management of the licence holder and their staff and standardised conditions should be avoided where they cannot be shown to be appropriate. (1.16/1.17)

11.7 The Council's Licensing Policy generally expects applicants to address the licensing objectives and discuss how to do this with the relevant responsible authorities.

11.8 In **Appendices 9 - 12** Members are given general advice, and also have explanations of the Council's Licensing Policy, Government advice and other legislation relating to the matters previously identified.

## 12.0 **Legal Comments**

12.1 The Council's legal officer will give advice at the hearing.

## 13.0 **Finance Comments**

13.1 There are no financial implications in this report.



## 14.0 Appendices

<b>Appendix 1</b>	A copy of the application
<b>Appendix 2</b>	Site Plan
<b>Appendix 3</b>	Maps of the surrounding area
<b>Appendix 4</b>	Other licensed venues in the area
<b>Appendix 5</b>	Section 182 Guidance by the Home Office
<b>Appendix 6</b>	Representation of Roman Koblov
<b>Appendix 7</b>	Agreement with Environmental Protection
<b>Appendix 8</b>	Agreement with Met Police
<b>Appendix 9</b>	Licensing Officer comments on noise while the premise is in use
<b>Appendix 10</b>	Licensing Officer comments on access/egress Problems
<b>Appendix 11</b>	Planning
<b>Appendix 12</b>	Licensing Policy relating to hours of trading