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Sent: Thursday, August 24, 2023 11:01:39 AM
To: Licensing <Licensing@towerhamlets.gov.uk>; Farzana Chowdhury <Farzana.Chowdhury@towerhamlets.gov.uk>
Cc: Tom Lewis <Tom.Lewis@towerhamlets.gov.uk>
Subject: Additional evidence Wicked Fish

Dear all,

Central East Police Licensing would like the following added to our evidence for the review of Wicked Fish, and its application for an extension to its hours.

One of the key arguments of our application is the risk that people leaving late night venues will become involved in alcohol related crime and disorder, either because they have impaired decision making due to having consumed alcohol or because they become vulnerable to criminals. Alternatively they may engage in criminal activity themselves. We know that when late night venues close they attract criminals, like those selling illegal drugs like nitrous oxide to people as they leave and those who look to rob or assault them.

When customers from venues are distracted from going home, buy food from venues like Wicked Fish then the chances of them becoming victims of alcohol related crime and disorder increases, sometimes with tragic consequences. The victim of the tragic murder in Queens Yard at 4:36am on Saturday the 11th February 2023 had been eating food from Wicked Fish (when) prior to the deadly assault that took place. We are not saying that Wicked Fish is in anyway responsible for the crime, but it is an extreme example that highlights the risks of people not dispersing quickly.

Such are the problems of people not dispersing that Tower Hamlets Council and Central East Police have conducted joint operations to deal with illegal food sellers and Nitrous Oxide Dealers which prevent dispersal. As can be seen from the report below from the enforcement activity on the 28 and 29 July that targeted the late night food vendors had the effect of "Subsequently significantly lowered the crowd over both nights and lowered the demand / crowd for NOX (Nitrous Oxide)"

Subject: Licensing Tasking 28/29th July 2023

Hi All,

I just wanted to pass on my appreciation for your hard work on the tasking event this weekend targeting NOx and unlicensed food stalls. Our aim was to disrupt the sale of NOx, unlicensed food vendors as well as by being there prevent VAWG offences, violent crimes and drugs/asb. I'd say we achieved that aim and then some.

There were some learning points and take away thoughts for myself and from a licensing perspective, and hopefully we can build on that and improve next time but overall I think it was definitely a success at causing a disruption in these areas.

If you could pass my thanks on to the other THEO's that were on for the night, CCTV officers and also the licensing team at Tower Hamlets.

I'm keen to organise more tasking's around licensed premises/venues in the future so any feedback/ideas feel free to let me know. If anyone has or wants to submit any crimints relating to the events of the night please send me through the references for future tasking's or operations.

Below are the returns overall. Pictures courtesy of the PTF and photographer.

FPN NOX/Traders- 11

ASB warning - 6 ASBW

40 NOX cylinders sized.

2 Food stalls were shut down and issued fines at Hackney Wick which subsequently significantly lowered the crowd over both nights and lowered the demand/crowd for NOx.

1 Group selling NOx were disrupted and the canisters seized.

1 Dispersal issued

Several people dispersed with the warning of a dispersal

2 Arrests – 1 For Nox/Sec 50 and 1 for Drink/Drug Drive.

Also proud to state we didn't end up with any hot dog stalls or food trucks inside Bethnal Green by the end of the night! Not a fun thing to transport!

← Tweet



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@MPSTowerHam



[#PartnershipTaskForce](#) officers have been busy working through the night all weekend supporting [@TowerHamletsNow](#) THEOs and licensing officers deal with Nox related ASB. Night time economy venues and residential areas were both targeted





Tower Hamlets Police @MPSTowerHam · 2m



Unlicensed street traders and people breaching the PSPO were all dealt with by way of Fixed Penalty Notices and large quantities of Nitrous Oxide were seized. 1 male was arrested and a potential anti social UME was also shut down in Shoreditch



Kind Regards,

**I stand for Professionalism,
Compassion, Integrity,
Courage and Respect**

NOT IN MY *Met*

CTRL+CLICK TO
REPORT WRONGDOING