



Dear Mr. Whittaker,

RE: DECADES HEAVEN & HELL, 91 MARKET STREET, STALYBRIDGE, SK15 2AA

Further to the meeting held on the 27th of March 2024 which several issues around crime and disorder, public nuisance and public safety were discussed. Several things were agreed with yourself to try and minimise the serious issues which were happening inside and outside Decades. I felt positive after the meeting as Tameside Licensing, Greater Manchester Police and you were all working together to try and reduce crime and disorder.

- **On the 27th of January 2024, two customers were ejected from the venue by door staff at the same time who were seen to be having a dispute inside of the venue. After ejecting both customers at the same time, door staff were not seen to be managing the situation outside, which consequently led to the dispute continuing outside the venue and a customer being assaulted.**
- **On the 17th of February 2024, a customer was assaulted outside the venue.**
- **On the 16th of March, an ongoing incident involving multiple customers spilled out onto the street with door staff on looking and not proactively trying to manage the substantial number of customers outside nor to diffuse the incident.**

To remind you of the points you agreed to address (see below)

Upon reviewing all the CCTV footage of the incidents, I recommend you liaise with your door staff regarding these incidents and advise them on what action could be taken to prevent such incidents happening in future. As this falls well below what I would expect from a member of door staff employed at any premise within the borough. It is also recommended you consult with your door staff with regards to proactively trying to disperse customers congregating outside the venue after the sale of alcohol has ended and managing this effectively, as well as allowing customers to wait inside the venue for taxis and pickups to avoid public nuisance and to control exit of the premises.

During the meeting, it was advised that you directly speak with your Designated Premises Supervisor regarding making frequent checks of the outdoor area to ensure there is no congregating, to prevent crime and disorder and public nuisance.

It was suggested by yourself to bring back the use of outdoor smoking areas, cordoned off with barriers and limiting the number of customers to 10 people able to access this area at any one time to avoid public nuisance and avoid the congregation.

On Friday the 26th of April 2024 I visited Decades with Rebecca Birch from Tameside Council's Licensing Department. After finding that no barriers were in place outside Decades, I located Chris Thompson the DPS. Chris had no knowledge of the above agreed points. More concerning was that Chris stated that you told him that meeting at Tame Street was around waste and failed to mention barriers. A staff member then found a plastic barrier from inside Decades. This sole barrier does not serve any purpose. You would need at least three of these barriers cordon off the area.

Not only was the agreement made verbally to you, but a follow-on letter was then sent to you with the agreed changes. If the DPS was not informed, then he would not have been able to instruct the door staff of the agreed expectations. As the Police and Local Authority, we try to work with premises in the first instance to meet the licensing objectives but on this occasion, it appears that you have not implemented any of the agreed proposals. I find this very disappointing given the reassurances we were given at the meeting on the 27th of February 2024.

Regards

Craig

[Redacted Signature]

Delegated District Licensing Officer | Tameside 'G'

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