

From: Les Thurlow
Sent: 27 Sep 2019 16:35:04 +0000
To: Internet - Licensing
Subject: The Alchemist. Request for late night alcohol license.

To the Licensing Committee

This application by The Alchemist in the Brewery Quarter includes a request for an alcohol license until 2 am with an extra 30 minutes drinking up time.

I and many of the residents in my area are a little concerned by this.

So far, the development of the Brewery Quarter as an entertainment area has been successful and has not attracted excessive late night noise, antisocial behaviour, overt drunkenness, drug use, or crime, as far as we know. This is, I think, because the licensed establishments in the area are bars with food or restaurants, and generally have a reasonable alcohol serving end time (around 10.30/11.00 or so). By granting a late night/early morning license of 2.0 am to The Alchemist this may encourage other establishments in the Brewery to apply for the same. And we believe that this might change the whole character of the Brewery Quarter and open up the possibility of alcohol-fueled late night/early morning nuisance, disorder, antisocial behaviour and crime.

To compound the problem, there is a high number of students who are resident in this area during term time and they now tend to avoid the Brewery Quarter for their late night drinking because it shuts at a reasonable early hour. We residents already suffer the results of excessive student drinking in the form of late night noise, nuisance, disorder and anti-social behaviour from such residents as they make their late night and early morning way between clubs in town and their student accommodation, and we feel that opening up the Brewery in this way with more lax licensing laws will make the local nuisance/disorder problem unbearable.

If The Alchemist truly has a different business model from that of the other drinking/eating establishment in the Brewery, then I would hope that the licensing committee will view this application especially and not at any time apply an equivalent decision to subsequent applications from other establishments wanting also to extend their licenses.

I would also hope that the committee might consider a compromise to the requested closing time. Instead of 2.00 am, an alcohol serving end time of 11.30 or 12.00 midnight latest might be safer for all.

Yours sincerely
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[REDACTED]