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**Supporting Application for the Review of Premises Licence at Rakkas Shisha,
365-369, Green Lanes, London, N4 1DY**

Dear Licensing Team,

On behalf of the Commissioner of Police for the Metropolis, I wish to make a representation to support the application made by Haringey Local Authority to review the Premises Licence at Rakkas, 365-369, Green Lanes, London, N4 1DY,

The objection notice is submitted under the following Licensing objectives:

1. Prevention of Crime & Disorder
2. Public safety
3. The Prevention of Public Nuisance

The application to review the premises licence is supported by the Police whom also wish to submit a representation to reflect this.

On the 5th December 2020, Mr Ali Sukran Ozbek the Licensee/DPS was seen 'providing the service of a water-pipe to be used for the consumption of tobacco or any other substance on the premises' in contravention of the Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (All Tiers) (England) Regulations 2020.

As a result of this breach on the 10th December 2020, a Prohibition Notice was served by the local authority upon Mr Ali Sukran Ozbek under The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (All Tiers) (England) Regulations 2020.

On the 1st February 2021, police were called to the location of Rakkas Shisha to reports from a member of the public that large amounts of people were entering the premises during a national lock down, *officers arrived at 2049hrs and found the front shutters were open and the shutters to the back garden could be seen closing. A male inside the premises refused to tell officers how to gain entry and open the shutters. After several minutes' officers found a way to open the shutters via a button on the side of the frontage of the premises. Upon opening the shutters, and gaining entry the back door to the premises was open and it was evident that a group of people had left the back area and through a back alleyway out onto the street in order to avoid any Police action. Having inspected the area it was evident that*

there had been a large group of individuals congregating. There were approximately 12 hot shishas smoking pipes, hot cups of Turkish tea, eight (8) chairs around a gambling table, which had cards and betting chips on top of it. There was also brick type oven with hot coals in for the shisha that was completely full. Officers looked at the till which showed that there had been 11 tables in use that evening which had been served with a variety of food and drinks .The footage was captured on Police Bodycam .

As a consequence of the incident On the 3rd February 2021, a Fixed Penalty Notice, under The Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (All Tiers) (England) Regulations 2020 was issued to both Mr Ozbek (as the licensee) and to the premises by the local authority. The local authority spoke with the DPS and fully explained the reasons for the issue of the Fixed Penalty Notice and their expectations under the licensing objectives.

As a breach of the Coronavirus Health Protection regulations 2020 it is a criminal offence and the DPS has been reported for this matter, the DPS has directly undermined the licensing objective of prevention of crime and disorder and public safety.

It is felt that the licensing objectives have been undermined as the venue was clearly allowing patrons into the venue to take part in social gatherings during a time when all licensable activity should have ceased, creating an environment where social gatherings would have been expected.

These incidents have possibly contributed to the risk posed to the local community with the fatal virus being present.

Officers have submitted a statement from the night in question when the breach of COVID regulations was discovered. Evidence has been provided to the local authority. The DPS will have been more than aware of his obligations under the licensing objectives and under COVID Regulations taking into consideration the fact he was previously issued with a prohibition notice.

It is felt that the DPS is not a fit and proper person to be in charge of the venue or that they should be in any form of managerial role at this venue. We the Police have no faith in the licensee in his ability to operate these premises in a manner that upholds the licensing objectives and as such we support the London Borough of Haringey's proposal to revoke the licence.

Regards,

PC Derek Ewart PC1277NA
North Area Licensing Team