

## Notification of determination

Hearing under Sections 17 and 18 of the Act, and the Licensing Act 2003  
(Hearings) Regulations 2005 In respect of an application made to the Oxford City Council  
for a Premises Licence

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Date of hearing: **5 October 2015**

Place: **Town Hall, Oxford**

Case No: **15/03409/PREM**

Applicant: **Crown and Castle Ltd, Abdelsalam El-Megrisi and  
Martin Forde**

Premises: **Castle Tavern / Baby Love**

Premises address: **24 Paradise Street, Oxford, OX1 1LD**

Licensing Sub-committee Councillors: **Mike Gotch (Chair), Van Coulter, Liz Wade**

Legal Advisor: **Daniel Smith**

Licensing Officer: **Allan Hibberd**

Clerk: **Emma Thompson**

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### **Decision and Reasons of the Sub-Committee**

1. The Sub-Committee considered all submissions, both written and oral. It had regard to the relevant Home Office Guidance, in particular paragraph 9.12 (Representations from police), and the Council's Statement of Licensing Policy, in particular policies LH1, LH2 and LH3 concerning Licensing hours and LH6 (Dispersal procedures).
2. The Sub-Committee noted the amendments made to the application during the hearing.
3. The Sub-Committee accepted that the premises are not within the area of the City Centre Special Saturation policy and there is therefore no presumption against granting the application.
4. Nevertheless, the Sub-Committee were satisfied that the evidence of Thames Valley Police and the interested parties showed that the premises are within an area of high crime and disorder, together with problems of public nuisance from dispersing customers.
5. The Sub-Committee found that there is a significant risk that additional crime & disorder and public nuisance would result from the premises operating even until

the amended last hour of 03.30. The Sub Committee reached this conclusion for the following reasons:

- a) The aggregate increase in the time available for consumption of alcohol.
  - b) The dispersal of customers at a later and more noise sensitive hour.
  - c) The dispersal of intoxicated customers into the city centre at a time of peak crime and disorder.
  - d) The reports of previous incidents occurring at late opening events at the premises.
6. The Sub-Committee also agreed with Inspector Thompson that later hours of operation would only increase the risk of conflict between dispersing customers and vulnerable residents of Simon House and would therefore exacerbate crime & disorder and nuisance problems.
7. The Sub-Committee considered the measures proposed by Mr Forde but found them insufficient to address the risks made out in the Police and Interested party evidence.

The Sub-Committee found that the application did not therefore promote the licensing objectives of preventing crime & disorder and preventing public nuisance and should be **REFUSED**.

Signed: ***Councillor Mike Gotch***

Chair of Licensing Sub-committee

Notes:

- A. The applicant, and any responsible authority or interested party that has made representations upon the application has a right of appeal to the Magistrates' Court against this decision. If you wish to appeal you must do so within 21 days of being notified of the decision.