

23rd May 2017

RAINBOW VENUES APPEAL

Witness Statement of Marc Blanchette

I am the named person and am employed in a consultancy role by Rainbow Venues to provide club and drug welfare. I have been working in the substance misuse field for 15 years and in Birmingham's night time economy for five years.

The following is, to the best of my recollection, my statement regarding events at The Rainbow Venues event on Saturday 19th November 2016.

I am the Club Welfare Consultant at Rainbow Venues, providing drug misuse support, through harm reduction drug interventions to attendees at Rainbow Venues events.

I also provide advice, guidance and training to Rainbow Venues in regard to best practise around drug misuse and night time economy and festival related issues.

I manage all confiscated drugs at Rainbow Venues ensuring that they are logged and placed in a secure drugs box before transporting to West Midlands Police for destruction. In short, my role is to support Rainbow Venues maintain a zero tolerance to drug use, through drug prevention and harm reduction interventions. I have been working in the field of substance misuse for 16 years.

On Saturday 19th November 2016 I was located at the main entrance at Heath Mill Lane to support the twenty-four SIA security operatives around any drug related issues during customer searches.

My role also includes working with the drug dog operatives at the entrance and supervise the Enhance Search Area, which is conducted by two security operatives in full view of CCTV. We also had another Outreach Worker, Gail Jelly, supporting the event, who's role was to

floor walk the venue to provide drug harm reduction and brief interventions to anyone using recreational drugs.

Soon after the security briefing it was brought to my attention that the drugs dogs were not yet on site. At this stage, there was approximately 200 people outside the venue waiting to gain entrance.

I understand that Lenny Coppage, Head of Security, made a dynamic risk assessment after consulting with Sgt Martin Williams and decided that it would be in the best interest of public safety to open the gates to the public.

There was a one and half hour period before the first drug dog operative arrived on site, followed later by another dog handlers and four drug dogs.

As a result of the drugs dogs not yet on site, Lenny Coppage conducted a second security briefing with the twenty-four search security operatives located at the entrance to the venue to update them on the situation and to reiterate the importance of detailed searches on all people entering the event.

The entrance to the venue was also repositioned to take into account that one drugs dog was going to be used as opposed to the normal two drugs dogs at similar events. [appendix 1]

It was also agreed that as another safety measure anyone to be found with drugs on their possession would be immediately ejected from the event after any illicit substances were confiscated. Rainbow Venues normal policy has been confiscate any drugs that were for personal use, take the individuals details and allow them into the venue. It is important to note anyone attempting to gain entrance to any event at Rainbow Venues who have a quantity of illicit drugs that could be defined as supplying, would automatically be detained and the police notified. However, on this occasion, as part of the dynamic risk assessment, Lenny Coppage decided that any individual identified during the entrance search to have drugs on their possession for personal use would be automatically ejected after the substances had been confiscated, logged and safely secured.

I remained in the entrance area through the period that the ingress area was open, to ensure that any drug related matters could be dealt with swiftly and safely.

The drug dog operatives arrived within two hours of the event opening and took up positions in the ingress area and remained at the venue throughout the duration of the event. In normal circumstances the drug dogs would leave events after the entrance has closed, but on this occasion a decision was made for them to stay on site throughout the duration of the event.

The twenty-four search security operatives would normally have been stood down once the search area had closed, but again as part of Lenny Coppage ongoing risk assessment, a decision was made to keep the twenty-four security operatives on site until the end of the event.

I am aware that the above two actions were undertaken at considerable added cost to Rainbow Venues, but the safety of those attending the event was paramount during any decisions that were being made.

The event was attended by 3500 people and no major drug related incidents were reported. The number of confiscated drugs and drug related items was constant for an event of this size.

Additionally, at a later event, the Chapter XIII Festival, DC Derek Mason from West Midlands Police Controlled Drug Expert Witness Team visited the festival to observe Rainbow Venues systems to prevent illicit drugs entering the venue and was impressed with measures that are in place.

In my opinion, the lack of drug dogs at the event on 19th November 2016, did not have a major impact on the effectiveness of the security operation to prevent illicit drugs from entering the venue.

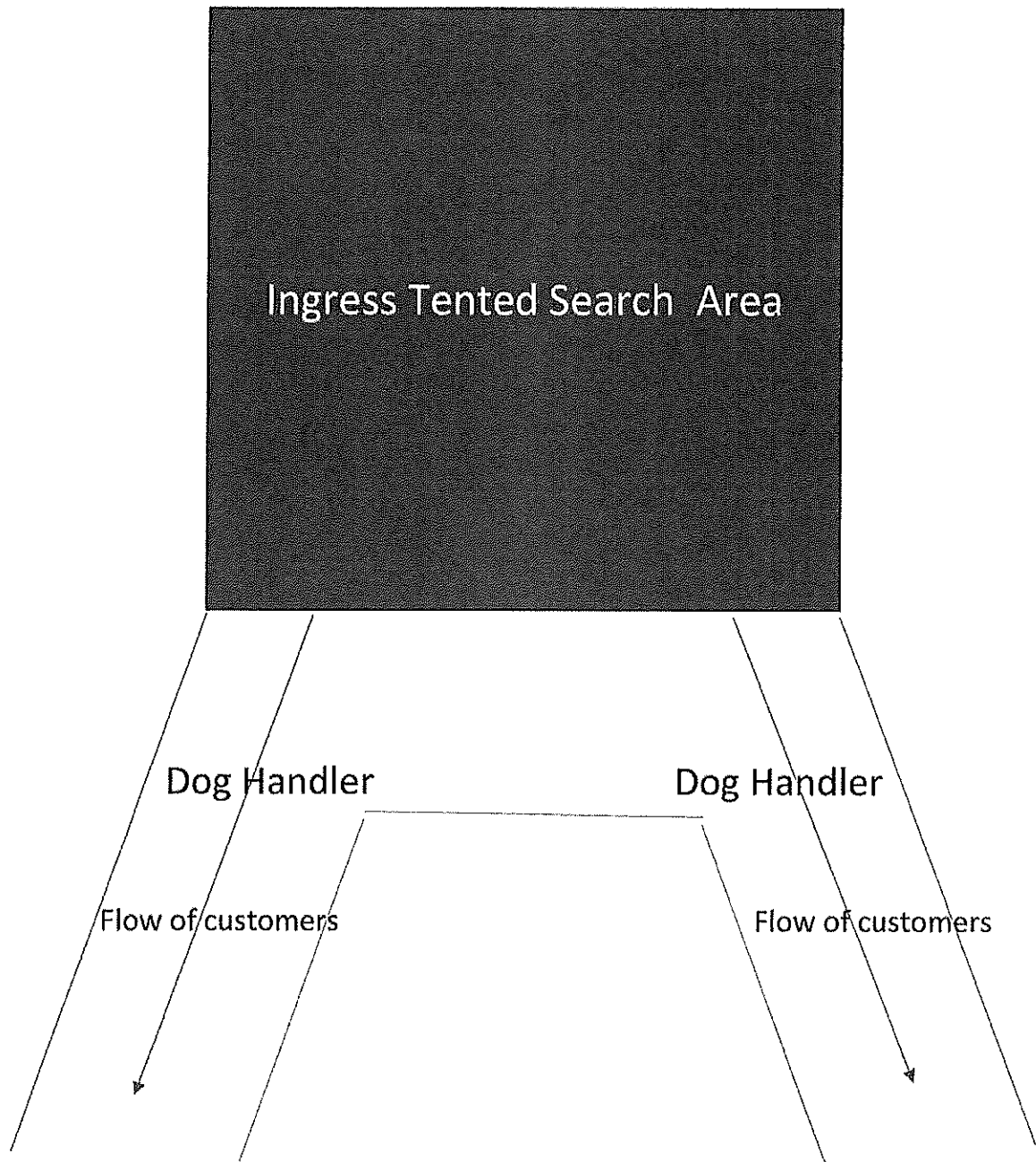
Marc Blanchette

M&M Consultancy

Club Welfare Consultant

Appendix 1. Normal Ingress set Up

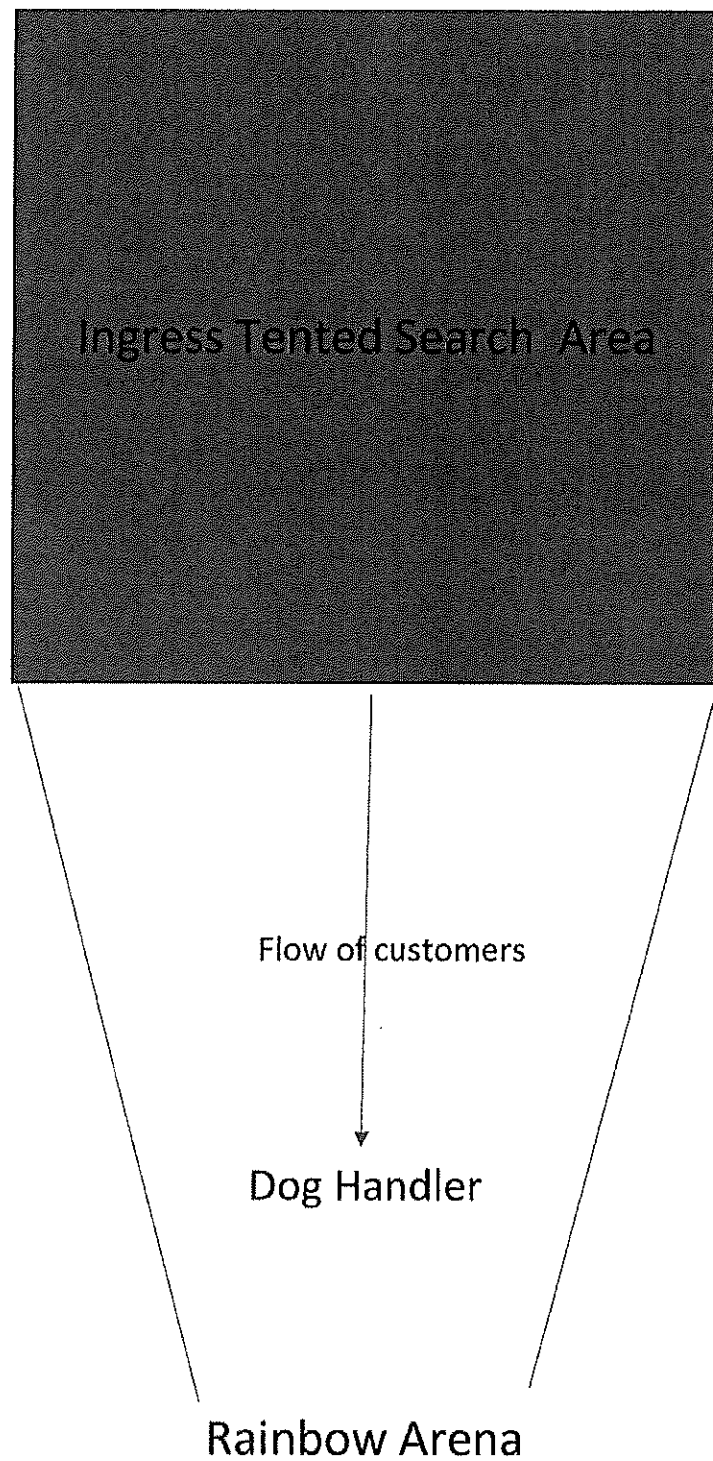
Heath Mill Lane Entrance



Rainbow Arena

Repositioned Ingress 19th November 2016

Heath Mill Lane Entrance



STATEMENT OF LEO WALKER COPPAGE -

Statement of event Re DJ MAG EVENT

We would like to highlight to the committee that we have been proactive in reaching out to West Midlands Police in an attempt to resolve this matter with a common sense approach by agreeing if necessary to "RIGID" conditions which would rectify the fluid approach taken on any risk assessment when human error or circumstances outside our control take place. However we do feel anything rigid could lead to other issues which I will go on to explain.

To give you full context of the night of DJ MIX MAG 19th November 2016 we had realised for the first time this year that a mistake in communication this was "THE EXCEPTION AND NOT THE RULE" meant that no drugs dogs were going to be on site for at least 2 hours and although there was approximately 200 patrons in the queue we had concerns that because the promoter had advertised for people to arrive early that we may have health and safety issues re the cold weather and customer build up which could lead to queuing disorders, safety and other local community issues. With all this in mind we had carefully considered the four licensing objectives that could have been impacted on if any more customers were stopped from entering the queuing lanes or told to leave and left on the streets of Digbeth to wonder from venue to venue which has little to no Police presence apart from those at the Arena.

With the following objectives in the forefront of our minds;

- Public safety
- Prevention of crime and disorder
- Prevention of public nuisance
- Protection from children from harm

On the night we had discussions with the Police reference a section of the Somalian community that the week previous had attacked the doors of LAB 11 Digbeth with offensive weapons trying to gain entry to cause harm. This resulted in the Police being called by security and the venue and arrests being made (including an injury to a member of the Police. There were several slash marks made with offensive weapons causing damage to the door too. We informed the Police we would be looking out and being extra vigilant in case this group were around. During further conversations with the Police whom informed us that a Somalian section of our community have been attacking and robbing individuals not only in our treasured gay quarter of China Town but Digbeth also. We relayed back that only weeks ago we had a member of staff who was walking from one venue to another and was attacked resulting in his teeth being punched out by this same group which cost him £3000 for new teeth, the crime was reported to the Police but unfortunately remains undetected. Historically we have had several groups of Somalian men on the weekends during shows hanging around the area even drugs worker Mark Blanchette himself has witnessed incidents where security maintain the streets of Digbeth to safeguard these men harassing young females in particular.

So although theoretically we have breached a condition regarding the dog this should be put into perspective. The dog did actually attend and did all that was required of it as it did do what its condition is set out to achieve and that is to sniff all patrons albeit it 1 hour and 30

minutes late for approximately 200-500 patrons as it stayed working in the venue until close which means people were sniffed more than once so in fact the actual objective of the dog was achieved to a greater level than in all other events. We certainly had a judgement call to make but with the circumstance's surrounding the streets of Digbeth meant we could have been faced with crime and disorder if several hundred young adults were moved away and asked them to return later. I think we certainly prevented crime and disorder we have ensured public safety and prevented public nuisance all of which would have been attributed to the venue. From knowing the streets of digbeth and what was currently happening with the recent attack's careful considering the licensing objectives was a must and putting into scales of safety and by carefully considering how we could still fulfil the purpose of the dog by keeping him on left us with an executive safety decision which we genuinely believed was the best one and proved so with respect to public safety as no major crime and disorder coming from a well-run event.

Operationally, we worked and communicated every decision with West Midlands Police on the night in question and with no concern for cost maintained consistency in our fluid approach putting risk first by keeping the extra 24 security staff on and the drugs dog on until showdown and at no point did West Midlands Police officers advise us otherwise. Finding ourselves in this position is most upsetting indeed. We hear all the time that the police are not there to help us make decisions yet that is exactly what happens in SAG so why is working on the night any different? We are told to work with transparency and partnership. I do not see how this helps our city with the exciting creative growth that we are seeing.

We hope the committee in light of the fact there was no series crime and disorder where 3000 people enjoyed a creative night out in our city will look at this proportionality with fairness and consideration of the context of the night. If necessary and proportionate instead impose a simple rigid condition(s) whereby if we have no drugs dogs even in circumstances beyond our control then we simply must close event.

It is most disheartening to find that after working to the new licensing conditions, alongside West Midlands Police, for nearly 1 year, adhering to all new conditions imposed, processing nearly 1 million patrons without any series crime or disorder that we find ourselves unable to agree to work with the Police by agreeing further RIGID condition before bringing this matter to the committee in light of the fact there was no series crime or disorder with the event running smoothly as and successfully and this was the exception and not the rule.

Lastly, we look at the "if something had happened scenario", reference drugs entering the venue? We took this into account with extra measures imposed on the night. We increased the security by 24 and kept the drugs dog working in an area that all customers had to walk past to use the toilet, for the duration of the event. This would be a reasonable and proportionate approach to the above hypothesis and west midlands police were informed of our decisions working cohesively with them.

Respectfully,

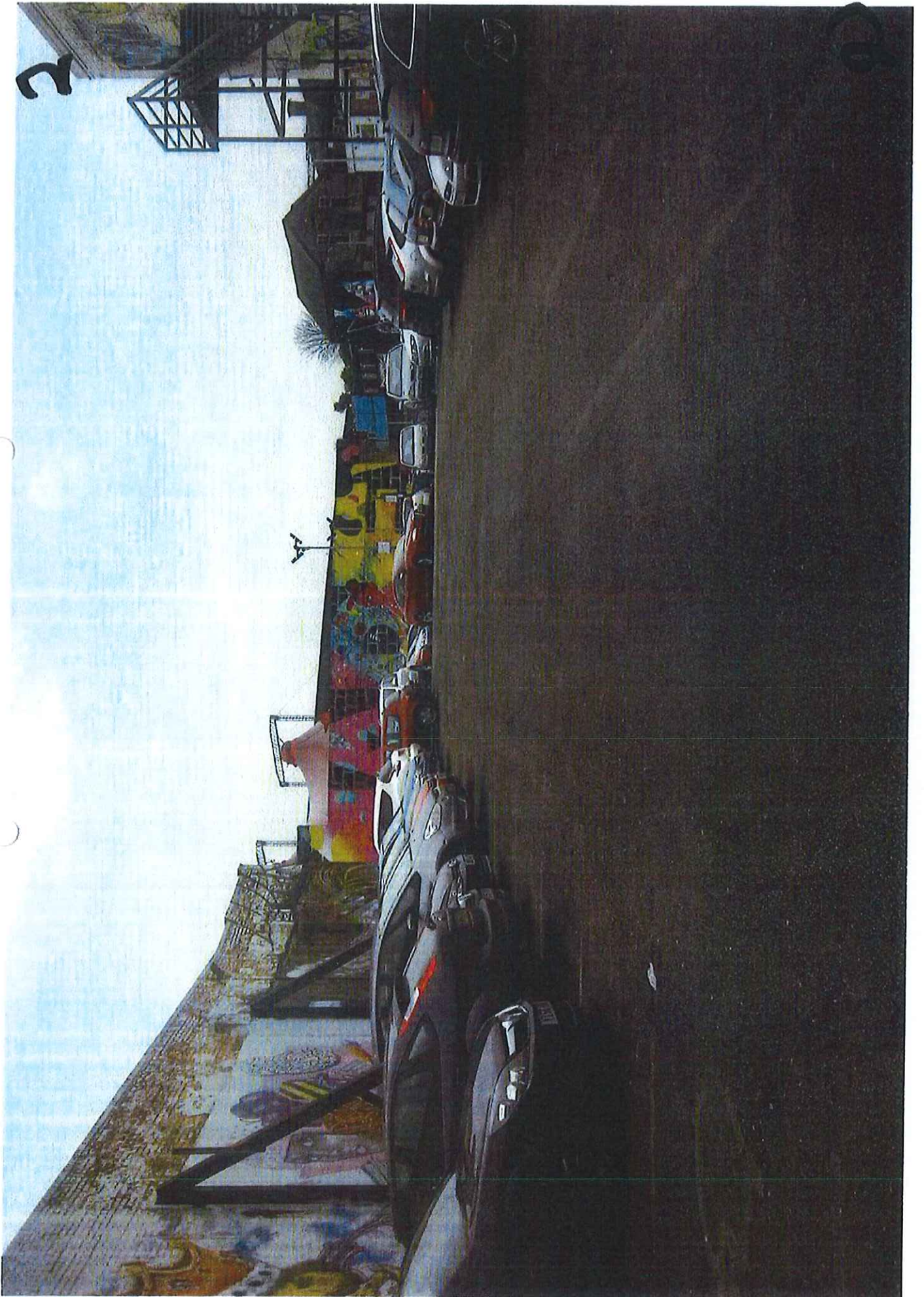
Leonard Coppage.

The Arena

Respondent's documents

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Without front search tent



Front search tent



Enhanced search area





PRIMARY MENU

MUSIC LIFESTYLE CREATIVITY CULTURE TECH NEWURBAN CONTACT



Marc Blanchette – A Hidden Hero of Birmingham

APRIL 25, 2015 BY CORAL LUCK

Hidden Heroes of Birmingham sets out to find ordinary people of Birmingham who do extraordinary things. Marc Blanchette works in the substance misuse field as an Outreach Worker for Crime Reduction Initiative.

The definition of an Outreach Worker;

A person who works to support and encourage vulnerable members of the community

CRI is a leading charity providing treatment and support to over 68,000 vulnerable people in England and Wales every day. They champion people who have faced hardships like abuse, homelessness and addiction, and empower them to lead the lives they want, on their terms. CRI's Reach Out Recovery (ROR) drug and alcohol services in Birmingham were launched on the 1st March 2015.

MUSIC LIFESTYLE CREATIVITY CULTURE TECH NEWURBAN CONTACT

The ROR offices, based at Scala House, are easily accessible and located in Birmingham's city centre, opposite the O2 Academy. It's here you'll find ROR's dedicated team of outreach workers, recovery coordinators, doctors, nurses, volunteers, peer mentors and support staff who are committed to delivering drug and alcohol misuse treatment and recovery services in local, diverse communities where they are needed most. The team aim to empower people struggling with addiction to identify and realise their goals throughout their recovery journey towards a healthier lifestyle. Inside Scala House is a welcoming environment, with bright green floors, coloured sofas, interview pods, natural light and inspirational recovery posters.

Outreach worker, Marc Blanchette has worked in the substance misuse field for 13 years. Every day he supports those struggling with drug and alcohol addictions on their road to recovery. His past experiences have steered him into a job in outreach, and when he speaks about his work you can see just how passionate he is about what he does.

Marc has spent the past three years developing and managing a unique 'legal highs' / club drugs night time economy project in Birmingham, providing drug and alcohol interventions and harm reduction advice and information to people who use the city's many bars, pubs, clubs, festivals and community events. However, Marc tells me that after graduating from the University of Birmingham, he was unsure in which direction to develop his career. For a few years he worked for Supporting Independence With Alcohol (SIWA), where he supported homeless people with alcohol dependency problems to overcome some of the day-to-day issues they faced as well as access treatment for their dependency.

Marc says

"When you help others with dependency issues, you learn things about yourself. I am privileged to be able to play a part in someone's recovery journey."

The job of an outreach worker is far from easy. It takes thick skin, patience and understanding. Three years into his position at SIWA, a number of clients with whom Marc had worked closely passed away in a very short time frame. "It is difficult. We're given relevant training and supported in the workplace to encourage us to leave our feelings at the door. But the reality is we're made of flesh and blood, with feelings, so you do take it home with you at times. Nevertheless, over the years you learn how to deal with the feelings." Marc decided to take a

break from the substance misuse field and worked as a Discrimination Case Worker for two years, but he felt that his vocation was working in the substance misuse field and eventually returned.



PRIMARY MENU

Marc talks about how clients can often be resistant to recovery, and how it can take a long time to build the trust to even begin discussing making the relevant changes needed. There are times when the first step to recovering from addiction isn't viable for a very long time. It can happen in the first meeting or the seventh. Sometimes, all that person needs is for someone to listen, without expressing judgement, even if it isn't about their drug or alcohol use. Every client brings a unique experience to Marc's work and the knowledge that recovery is possible has reinforced his desire and passion to continue supporting individuals with substance misuse issues.

The relationship between someone in recovery and an outreach worker is a unique and powerful one. Outreach workers often come into someone's life at the most chaotic time. Nevertheless, outreach workers at ROR support each individual on their recovery journey, by empowering each person to make their decisions on their own terms.

"Everyone has the capability to recover; it's our job to support them in believing it is achievable, and to give them the tools, through one-to-one support and group work, as well as access to mutual aid groups and other programmes that can successfully aid recovery."



Comments

0 Comments

Sort by Oldest



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Facebook Comments Plugin

Tags: addictions birmingham community health hidden heroes People recovery

Name Marc Blanchette

Date of Birth

Address

Telephone

Email

Education

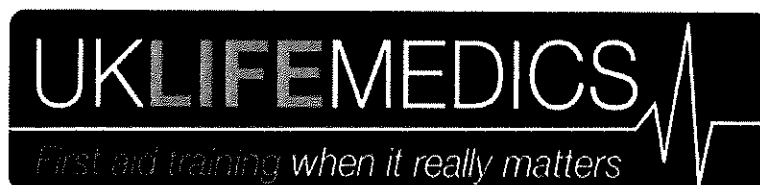
- Bournville College – Access to Higher Education –(Merit) – 1996 - 1997
- Birmingham University – Race and Ethnic Studies
(BA hons) - 1997 – 2000
- Bournville College - 2002 – 2003 - Certificate in Drugs & Alcohol Counseling
- North Birmingham Collage - 2001 – 2003 - Certificate in Counseling
- Fircroft College – 2006 - Making Diversity Work
- Fircroft College - June 09 - Project Management NCFE Level 3
- Birmingham Drug & Alcohol Action Team - Aug 09 -Legal & Illegal Drugs / Cocaine & Crack -Heroin & Treatment / Stimulants & Cannabis

Employment

- CGL – Community Substance Misuse Outbreath Worker 2015 – Present
- Phoenix Futures - Community Engagement Outreach Worker 2009 to 2013
B-Chilled Project Manger 2013 to 2015
- Birmingham Racial Attacks Monitoring Unit – Case Worker 2007 to 2009
- Race Equality Sandwell - Discrimination Caseworker 2005 to 2008
- Supporting Independence from Alcohol (SIFA) 2002 to 2008
Outreach Drug Worker 2002 to 2005
Senior Assessor & Partnership Coordinator 2005 to 2008
- Focus Housing Rolfe Street Hostel. Project Manager 2002 to 2005
- De Paul Trust – Young Offenders Support Worker 1999 to 2002.

Further Information

M&M Consultancy – Currently developing service that provides Club Welfare to venues and festivals around recreational drug use. We aim to promote and minimize harms in clubs, bars and festivals. We provide information, outreach and interventions by trained and experienced staff about alcohol, drugs, sexual health, crime and violence in the night time economy. We also provide training and policy development to venues around a safer nightlife.



Medical Report for 25 Years of DJ Mag

Saturday 19th November 2016

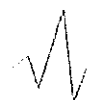
Rainbow Venues tasked UK Life Medics to cover the above event with the following staff and equipment:

X1 Ambulances

X8 Emergency Medical Technicians

X1 Paramedic

UKLM arrived on site Saturday 19th November and set up the treatment centre. We commenced casualty treatment from 20.00hrs to 04:00hrs.





Medical Report for 25 Years of DJ Mag

Saturday 19th November 2016

Over the 8-hour event we were busy. In total UKLM treated 21 patients, complaints ranged from intoxication, trauma and use of illegal substances. West Midlands Ambulance Service were called out twice and transported two patients to hospital, both were related to drugs.

Patient breakdown

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----|
| • Drugs | 10 |
| • Alcohol | 8 |
| • Trauma | 0 |
| • Medical | 0 |
| • Asked to be checked by security | 3 |





Medical Report for 25 Years of DJ Mag

Saturday 19th November 2016

In conclusion UKLM liaised excellently with the event organisers and the security team to reduce the amount of 999 calls made. We called Parents / friends for five patients so they could be taken home / A&E both security and Mark (drugs worker) also liaised well with local taxi firms to get patients home safely.

For the second event running, the medical tent provided was far too small. We were treating patients outside in the rain as there wasn't enough room in the tent. Most patients needed monitoring for anything up to an hour and a half before we could discharge them, this takes up beds and resources. Ideally we need a medical tent / centre and a welfare tent that patients can go to once they've been assessed by us OR a medical tent / centre big enough for 3 areas, triage, minors, and a resus area for our patients.





Medical Report for 25 Years of DJ Mag

Saturday 19th November 2016

As it is now November and the temperature is dropping, we were finding it difficult to take observations on patients as they were so cold. Could we ask for heaters to be provided for the event on NYE.

The event generally ran well and we compliment the organisers on the planning as well as the excellent security team.

Thank you again and we hope to work with you again soon.

Kind regards.

Specialist Paramedic CEO UKLM



T: 0800 093 6628 | martin@x9k9.com

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UK specialists in protection and detection dog security, we offer a highly professional approach and proven results with a range of services tailored for both the public and private sectors.

X9-k9 were established in 2010 after a working relationship spanning over a decade and a wealth of experience combined of 22 years in the industry by the two directors

Quality and professionalism

All X9K9's dogs and handlers undergo licencing from independent ACPO instructors as well as NASDU or BIPDT examiners. The quality and professionalism of our protection and detection dogs and handlers remains at the forefront of our commitment to all our clients and ensures a complete, second to none service you will find hard to beat.

Talk to the specialists -

[Click here to contact X9-K9 today.](#)

Quick enquiry form

Name	<input type="text"/>
Organisation	<input type="text"/>
Email	<input type="text"/>
Telephone	<input type="text"/>
Website	<input type="text"/>
Location	<input type="text"/>
Requirements	<input type="text"/>
Further details	<input type="text"/>
Comments/ Questions	<input type="text"/>

SUBMIT

Useful links

- [The Home Office Security Authority](#)
- [MI5 - Current Security Threats](#)
- [NASDU](#)
- [BPSCA-British Police and Services Canine Association](#)

Other info

X9-K9 have references available from a number of contracts that have been undertaken.

These include

- UK Police Forces
- TV & Film Security
- Festivals
- Events

All references and insurance documents are available on request from X9K9, please don't hesitate to contact us for these documents

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Detection Dogs:

Drugs, cash and small arms detection dogs and handlers

All our dog and handlers are licenced and trained by UK Government Home Office approved instructors. The dogs are specifically trained to find MDMA, cocaine, heroin and cannabis, including all substance combinations and derivatives.

All x9k9's working dogs are independently assessed by Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) assessors. Recent assessment completions include licenced drug search-dogs: German Short Haired Pointer, 'Stripes'

Providing a first class service throughout the UK and Europe, our dogs are fully trained in several different search principals, which include passive, pro-active and dual-purpose techniques.

All fully trained operational drug dogs (DD) are deployed with fully trained operational handlers working on both public and private, short and long-term contracts.

Target Orientated

Our operational dogs and handlers are target orientated, whether deployed operationally for police forces on the UK streets, government agencies, in the workplace or within the entertainment industry.

Deployed and operational within moments of your call... *

Working closely with all agencies, our handlers and dogs carry out searches on some of the largest festival sites in the UK and are deployed around the country in collaboration with other professionals on joint operational orders.

For further information on drugs, cash and small arms detection [contact us today](#).

* Allowing for travel time to your specified operational search area.

Quick enquiry form

Name
 Organisation
 Email

Useful links

- [The Home Office Security Authority](#)
- [MI5 - Current Security Threats](#)
- [NASDU](#)
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Other info

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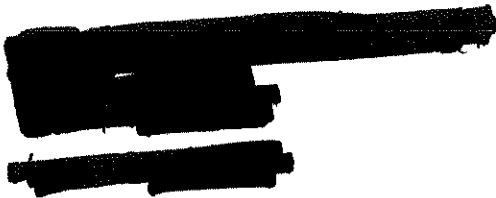
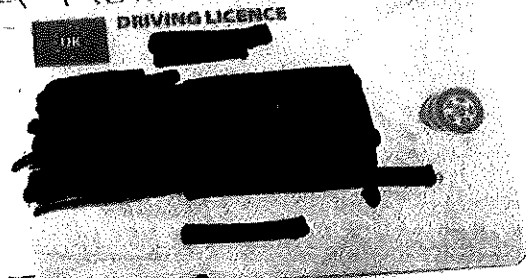
These include

- UK Police Forces

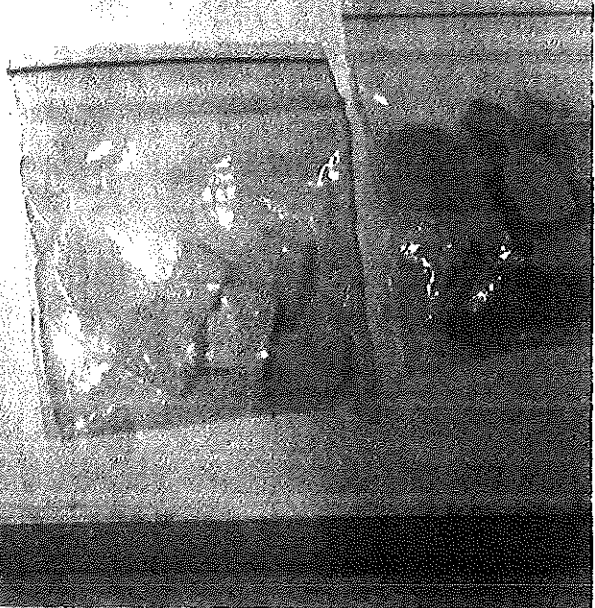
My name is [REDACTED], I attended
Rainbow Venues on Sunday 1st Jan 2017.
I had brought into the venue 25 MDMA
pills, hidden in my front pants. My handler
brought me to the side for a and said
'stand still while they sniffed you'.
The day sniffed me and did not detect
the drugs. I then went into the club
and was picked up by club member over
Security.

Sign: [REDACTED]

Date: 01/01/17



18 x Budeq pills
6 x Rolls Royce Pills.



15

X9-k9 Limited
 Kinsley Carr Farm Cottage,
 Carr Lane
 Kinsley
 WF9-5EZ
 Company Number - 08067643
 VAT Number - 152590611



**PAYMENT FOR COLLECTION ON 1ST
 JANUARY 2017**

30.12.2016

BILL TO

Richard @ Rainbow Venues, Birmingham

DATE AND TIME	DESCRIPTION	HOURS	RATE(P/H)	TOTAL
12/11/2016	Drug Detection for Club night	N/A	N/A	£150.00
19/11/2016	Drug Detection for Club night	N/A	N/A	£150.00
25/11/2016	Drug Detection for Club night	N/A	N/A	£150.00
26/11/2016	Drug Detection for Club night	N/A	N/A	£150.00
03/12/2016	Drug Detection for Club night	N/A	N/A	£150.00
08/12/2016	Drug Detection for Club night	N/A	N/A	£150.00
09/12/2016	Drug Detection for Club night	N/A	N/A	£150.00
10/12/2016	GP dog following from shift on the 9 th as requested by Devon	4.5	£15.00	£67.50
26/12/2016	Drug Detection Dogs 1600-0230	N/A	N/A	£400.00
31/12/2016	4 x Drug Detection dogs	N/A	£300 per team	£1,200.00
31/12/2013	5 x GP Dogs	N/A	£250 per team	£1,250.00
01/01/2017	Drug Detection Team	N/A	N/A	£400.00
SUBTOTAL				£4,367.50
CASH PAYMENT DISCOUNT				£117.50
TOTAL TO COLLECT				£4,250.00

Proposed Draft Conditions for The Arena

1. Drugs dogs are required at all events at The Arena whether under the conditions of the licence or as a result of a Safety Advisory Group meeting. If ordered at such a meeting the requirement and number of drugs dogs becomes a condition of the licence. If for any reason whatever the drugs dogs are not available and in situation at the premises at the commencement of the event, the public will not be admitted to the premises at all until such time as the said dogs arrive. For the avoidance of doubt if they do not arrive at all, the event shall not take place and no licensable activities whatever shall happen.
2. When drugs dogs are booked by the premises licence holder or the designated premises supervisor they shall send confirmation of such a booking to West Midlands Police and the Licensing Department at least 14 days before the event is due to take place.
3. The CCTV cameras in the temporary searching area on air car park or wherever shall be fully covered by temporary CCTV cameras to the satisfaction of West Midlands Police.

16A



BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE A

30 JANUARY 2017

The Arena, 18 – 19 Hack Street, Birmingham, B9 4AH

That, having reviewed the premises licence held under the Licensing Act 2003 by Bow Leasehold Limited in respect of The Arena, 18 – 19 Hack Street, Birmingham, B9 4AH upon the application of Chief Constable of West Midlands Police, this Sub-Committee hereby determines to:

- 1. SUSPEND LICENCE FOR THREE MONTHS, AND**
- 2. REMOVE DESIGNATED PREMISES SUPERVISOR ("DPS")**

SUSPEND LICENCE

That the licence be suspended for a period of three months, in order to promote the prevention of crime and disorder/public safety/the prevention of public nuisance objectives in the Act.

The Sub-Committee's reasons for suspending the licence are due to concerns by West Midlands Police in relation to the matters set out within the Review Application and Grounds for the Review dated the 8 December 2016. It was evident from representations from both West Midlands Police and the Premises Licence Holder's legal representative, that there was some consensus between them on the Premises Licence being suspended, given that the premises undertook licensable activities on the 19 November 2016 in breach of the conditions attached to the Licence, or imposed as a result of the Safety Advisory Group recommendations prior to the event taking place.

The Sub Committee noted that the Premises Licence Holder's legal representative was of the opinion that a "modest suspension of the licence" was appropriate in order to address the matters set out within the Police evidence. The Police were quite clear that the Premises Licence Holder was breaching more than one condition on the Licence as a result of opening the venue on the 19 November 2016, as set out in the statement of Police Sergeant, Williams. The Police were currently considering whether they would prosecute the Premises Licence Holder in respect of the breach of conditions.

The period of suspension was deemed reasonable and appropriate in order for the Premises Licence Holder to work with the Police and review the existing Conditions of Licence, the policies and procedures the Venue operates, in particular those that may relate to risk assessments and contingency strategies to be deployed at the premises, when for whatever reason, the premises believes that it needs to consider

the use of a "dynamic risk assessment" for any Event. The Sub Committee were of the view that during the period of suspension, the Premises Licence Holder would jointly determine with the Police, whether any of the existing Conditions attached the Licence would need to be modified in order to properly promote the Licensing objectives, and if necessary, whether these could be included within the Licence as part of the existing SAG process, or as a result of an application to vary the premises licence before the end of the suspension period.

REMOVE DESIGNATED PREMISES SUPERVISOR ("DPS")

That Richard McGee be removed as the designated premises supervisor, in order to promote the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety and the prevention of public nuisance objectives in the Act.

The Sub-Committee's reasons for removing the designated premises supervisor are due to concerns around the failure of the DPS, as the person legally responsible for the day to day management of running the premises by the Premises Licence Holder, to ensure that the premises could operate in accordance within the confines of the law, and in accordance with the Conditions imposed on the Licence.

Although the Sub Committee had heard evidence on behalf of the Premises Licence Holder, it's Security Team, and a Consultant on Recreational Drug Use, it had heard no compelling evidence as to why the fundamental failure in ensuring that there were the agreed number of drugs dogs at the event was not complied with. The Sub Committee was not convinced that this was simply down to an "administrative error" on the part of the DPS.

The Event on the 19 November 2016 was sufficiently high risk to warrant a Safety Advisory Group Meeting, between a number of key stakeholders (including the Police, Fire Service, and Ambulance Service). In accordance with the existing premises licence, any Recommendations from the SAG meeting would become licensing conditions for the event. The need for drug detection dogs was highlighted by the Police on at least three prior SAG meetings in 2016, as well as on the 10 November in respect of the event on the 19 November 2016. It was therefore a Condition which the DPS was well aware of, and its significance to the event on the 19 November.

Security Personnel

Members of the Sub Committee felt that the Premises Licence Holder should as part of the suspension review referred to above, consider the existing arrangements with its Security Provider. They felt that although the ultimate decision to open the venue on the 19 November 2016 in breach of the conditions on the premises licence was made by the DPS, he had regard to the Recommendations of the Security Firm, who were convinced that the appropriate decision at the time was to open the premises to the public under what it called a "dynamic risk assessment". The Sub Committee had heard evidence from the Police that the use of such risk assessments, and the circumstances under which it was appropriate to do so, was limited to a number of exceptional circumstances. In the Police's opinion, no such circumstances presented themselves on the 19 November 2016.

The Sub-Committee gave consideration as to whether it could modify the conditions of the licence as proposed by the licence holders legal representative, but were not satisfied given the evidence submitted, that the licensing objectives would be properly promoted by modifying the conditions of licence as proposed, in isolation.

The Sub-Committee has given due consideration to the City Council's Statement of Licensing Policy, the Guidance issued under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003 by the Secretary of State, the application for review, the written representations received and the submissions made at the hearing by the applicant, the premises licence holder, their legal adviser and other persons.

All parties are reminded that under the provision contained within Schedule 5 to the Licensing Act 2003, there is the right of appeal against the decision of the Licensing Authority to the Magistrates Court, such an appeal to be made within twenty-one days of date of notification of the decision.

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Andrew Potts

From: Richard
Sent: 24 May 2017 15:04
To: Andrew Potts
Subject: Fwd: Chapter 13 Event 15th April 17

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Martin Williams <m.j.williams@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk>
Date: 19 April 2017 at 10:29
Subject: Chapter 13 Event 15th April 17
To:

Cc:

Licensing / Rainbow

Just a quick email to let you know that I was fully satisfied with the licensing and SAG compliance with the 'Chapter 13 Event' having spent from 1100hrs to 1700hrs on site.

I have returned after the bank holiday and can report that there were no police offences reported at this event and no police logs of concern.

Regards

Martin

PS 2015 Martin Williams,

Ladywood East Neighbourhood Coordinator,

Birmingham West LPU,

Digbeth Police Station, West Midlands Police,

Andrew Potts

From: Richard@
Sent: 24 May 2017 15:18
To: Andrew Potts
Subject: The Arena - dates

Hi Andrew,

Dates the arena has been open, and will be open, with attendance are below.

December 31st – NYE – 4000 attendance

April 15TH – Chapter Festival – 6000 attendance

April 30th – Swingamajig Festival– 3500 attendance

June 2nd – Carnival Magnifico – 5000 Attendance

June 13th – Zurich Fest (Corporate event) – 500 attendance

June 29th/30th/31st – Outdoor Cult cinema

July 29th – MADE Festival – 9000 Attendance

August 12th – Flaming lips gig – 3000 attendance

August 28th- Sept 3rd – Corporate hire

September 29th – 1st Oct – Arcadian

October 28th – The Haunting – 5000 attendance

December 31st – NYE – 4000 attendance

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Richard McGee
The Rainbow Venues

Website: www.therainbowvenues.co.uk

The Rainbow Venues
160 Digbeth High Street, Digbeth, Birmingham, B12 0LD