

Hughes, Aneurin

From: Jayne, Michelle
Sent: 27 February 2020 18:29
To: Hughes, Aneurin
Subject: Re-evolution

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Hi Aneurin,

Children's Services, Merthyr Tydfil CBC fully support the Review of the Premises Licence submitted by South Wales Police in respect of Re-Evolution, Bethesda Street, Merthyr Tydfil. The reason for these representations is that we believe the Licensing Objective of Protection of Children from Harm is being seriously undermined by the current proprietors.

Over the weekend commencing 17th January 2020 police were contacted in relation to vulnerable young people under the age of 18 frequenting the establishment; the young people were believed to be residents of Garth Newydd Court which is a supported living arrangement for young people that have vulnerabilities and often have been previously Children Looked After and require support with aspects of their ability to manage their self-care skills and emotional wellbeing as they follow a transition into adulthood. Many of the young people who have resided within Garth Newydd Court are susceptible to exploitation and have experienced adverse experiences within their childhoods which leave them particularly vulnerable and often with limited positive support networks.

Following contact being made with the allocated social workers for some of the young people involved it became evident that one young person under the age of 18 had alleged to have worked at the premises for 'cash in hand'. A photograph that was used by Re-evolution on New Year's Eve was observed and there is at least one vulnerable young person under the age 18 contained within this.

There had been discussions about one particular young person DJ'ing with an adult accompanying him however I am aware from the Children Looked After Team that he is separated from his family and in terms of reliable and safe adults within his life they would be limited. In terms of some of the adults within his life they would not be considered as being best placed to support in decision making or as being an appropriate safeguard for him.

Whilst it is acknowledged that the proprietors would not necessarily be aware of the particular vulnerabilities of the young people within the local community as a responsible proprietor I would expect that there should be an appropriate identification process to ensure that those under the age of 18 were not accessing the premises and placing themselves in situations where they could be placed at a greater level of vulnerability.

Given that the premises is located next door to Garth Newydd Court, where there will continue to be young people with a range of difficulties or vulnerabilities residing I would be concerned if the recent difficulties were to continue.

To conclude, Children's Services of Merthyr Tydfil CBC fully endorse South Wales Police's request for the above named premises to have its licence Revoked.

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