

Representation received Monday 20th December 2021

Dear Licensing team,

This email is intended to be read in addition to the email below from the secretary of the commercial fisherman's community on the harbour.

For context I write this email on behalf of 4 trading businesses that operate from the area of Custom House Quay that is directly affected by these proposals. I am the owner and director of

1. Weyfish Ltd
2. Weyfish Boat Company Ltd
3. Hatch on the Harbour Ltd
4. Catch at the Old fish Market Ltd

I strongly object to the new proposals but I also want to raise an objection and complaint to the existing arrangements that allow these outside events to take place. The entire strategic direction of both Weymouth town council and DCC appears to be the gentrification of custom house quay to encourage visitors to the area across the 12 months of the year. A vast amount of money has been invested in the road infrastructure to CHQ to encourage people to dwell and experience the joys of a working harbour and a thriving commercial fishing fleet. To just have one outside event in any year torpedoes this entire strategy. Weymouth has got to move away from a reputation of a drinking culture. Being seen as a destination for drink fuelled weekends for hen and stag parties alienates every other group that would consider Weymouth as a destination to visit for culture and food.

Specifically when the outside events occur at the rendezvous I see the following impact

Vandalism to the boats, including people climbing on board. I have cigarette burns on the hulls of both boats and equipment that goes missing. Smashed glasses and even people urinating onto the boats

Hatch on the Harbours sees its trading situation devastated. The noise and anti social behaviour that spills out means our normal customers are driven away and we end up closing for safety grounds as the only customers are drunk having been at the festival all day

Weyfish sees its takings drop dramatically for all the same reasons

Catch at the old fish market experienced bookings cancellations and customer concerns due to the environment customers have to walk through as they make there way in the evening to the restaurant.

We witnessed fights, people vomiting and urinating in the street and people just falling over. We even had the chains removed from the railings and people swinging them around their heads. One festival saw an influx of the traveller community who then rode ponies and traps the wrong way up custom house quay. We had to call the police on 2 occasions due to threatening behaviour to our staff.

I hope that this insight is helpful when considering this application

Kind regards