Why are people's personal details being given to these strip club operators when the ICO has already twice told Camden this is unlawful and after a number of people were sent threatening legal letters by a strip club at the last round of licensing hearings because of this?

Why is the council still acting unlawfully on this and is itself providing a cause of concern for public safety?

**FOR THIS REASON I HAVE BEEN FORCED TO USE THE CONTACT DETAILS OF MY REPRESENTATIVE, NOT BUYING IT**

**PLEASE ENSURE NO INFORMATION ABOUT ME (MY NAME, EMAIL) IS GIVEN TO THE STRIP CLUB OPERATOR OR MADE PUBLIC**

What has happened to the objections sent in last year for the licensing of this club? No licensing hearing appeared to be held, so why aren't these past objections being considered at this hearing? (a similar dismissal of objections was made the year before for Camden's strip clubs).

**Refuse on the grounds of locality**

**Why is the public being told they may only object on very limited grounds** such as 'crime and disorder', when the council has the absolute right to (easily) refuse this license on the discretionary grounds of inappropriate locality? Refusal on the grounds of locality effectively CANNOT be challenged in court- whatsmore no change in locality or any other material change or evidence of harm whatsoever is required in order to refuse on these grounds.  Given **that your own policy states there is NOWHERE in the borough appropriate for a strip club,** I object first and foremost on the grounds of inappropriate locality.

Why is this application being considered before the Council’s investigation into the hard evidence provided by Not Buying It over 2.5 years ago (in March 2019) has not been concluded/made available for public scrutiny? This evidence, gathered by Private Investigators exposed sexual contact, women seeking to prostitute themselves and pimps outside the venue. This clearly goes directly to Prevention of Crime and Disorder, Public Safety and Public Nuisance.

This is summarised here: [www.notbuyingit.org.uk/CamdenSRPIs](http://www.notbuyingit.org.uk/CamdenSRPIs)

A judge already ruled back in 2013 that (sex) 'touts' are caused by the venue and cannot be stopped. In 2020, the police stated that there are sex touts outside every single one of Camden's strip clubs.

A 2 decade long track record of this venue (and others in the chain) also speaks directly to crime and disorder and public safety: [www.notbuyingit.org.uk/strip-publications/Rhino](http://www.notbuyingit.org.uk/strip-publications/Rhino)

I would remind you that your own policy clearly states that you must consider the entire chain in your decisions, not just one branch of it.

Further these is absolutely insurmountable evidence that SEVs simply CANNOT be regulated. Whatsmore the inability to regulate them is ONLY exposed after investigation by the police/trading standards (as at Red Rooms and Secrets/Sophisticats) or by Not Buying It (as at Spearmint Rhino): [www.notbuyingit.org.uk/strip-publications#Camden](https://notbuyingit.org.uk/strip-publications#Camden)

Not only are you liable to legal challenge for not abiding by data protection or SEV legislation, you are breaching equality law with an Equality Impact Assessment that is clearly not fit for purpose and no understanding of the impact of the industry on those in it, in the wider vicinity or in wider society.

 A legal outline detailing all of this is given here: [www.notbuyingit.org.uk/striplegal](http://www.notbuyingit.org.uk/striplegal)

Do not relicense this venue.

**FULL LIST OF INCIDENCES ACROSS THE RHINO CHAIN – which the Council has a duty to consider:**

This clearly shows the applicant is unfit and the license should be refused on these grounds:

 **UK Club-by-Club**

[Camden](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/2850691.stm) [2002] ‘Club operating as brothel’: Undercover Investigators. Not Shut

[Camden [2013]](https://cornerstonebarristers.com/news/close-encounters-sexual-kind/)Touts (pimps outside ‘unstoppable & due to club’: District Judge. Not Shut

[Camden [2013]](https://cornerstonebarristers.com/news/close-encounters-sexual-kind/)Fails in Court to stop Council accessing CCTV & extend opening hours

[Camden [2014]](http://democracy.camden.gov.uk/documents/s40296/Touting%20Log.pdf)Numerous logs of touting pimps: Police. Not Shut

[Camden [2014]](https://notbuyingit.org.uk/camden-sr-testimony/) Sexual contact, organised crime, PTSD: former dancer. Not Shut

[Camden [2014]](http://archive.camdennewjournal.com/news/2014/jan/its-official-labour-councillor-does-not-vote-licensing-applications-appease-his-wife) Club unsuccessfully challenges ban on ad vans & forcing dancers to drink alcohol

[Camden [2015]](http://democracy.camden.gov.uk/documents/g5376/Printed%20minutes%2029th-Jan-2015%2019.00%20Licensing%20Sexual%20Entertainment%20Venues%20Sub-Committee.pdf?T=1) Pimps touting outside, porn events, topless advertising. Not Shut

[Camden](http://democracy.camden.gov.uk/documents/g5899/Public%20minutes%2024th-Jan-2017%2019.00%20Licensing%20Sexual%20Entertainment%20Venues%20Sub-Committee.pdf?T=11)[2017]  Sexual Contact & Straddling, performers blamed & fired

[Camden](http://islingtontribune.com/article/councillor-tells-spearmint-rhino-that-chocolate-men-name-for-black-dance-troupe-is-incredibly-tasteless)[2019] Hosts troupe of male black strippers – ‘The Chocolate Men’

[Camden](http://www.notbuyingit.org.uk/CamdenSRPIs) [2019] Sexual contact, pimps outside: Undercover Investigators

[Bournemouth [2014]](https://www.unlockthelaw.co.uk/News/man-claims-to-have-been-exploited-by-strip-club.html) Illegally serving alcohol to intoxicated punters. Not Shut

[Bournemouth [2014]](https://www.bournemouthecho.co.uk/news/11603792.spearmint-rhino-took-my-teen-sons-money-while-he-was-at-home-in-bed-more-complain-about-lap-dancing-club/) Multiple allegations of financial fraud. Not Shut

[​​​​Bournemouth [2014]](http://www.suttonguardian.co.uk/news/11471476.Lap_dancing_club_investigated_after_dancers_allegedly_breach____no_touch____rules/) Sexual Contact & Straddling. Not Shut

[Heathrow [2003]](https://www.standard.co.uk/news/sex-sold-at-spearmint-club-6970366.html) Prostitution, Drugs: Employee whistle blower. Not Shut

[Heathrow [2009]](https://notbuyingit.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/documents/CAMDEN-Concerns.pdf) Serious sexual assault by security guard on CCTV: Ex performer. Not Shut

[Sheffield](https://www.ibtimes.co.uk/britains-lap-dancing-clubs-must-be-shut-down-once-all-1620883)[2016] Council breaching equality law: High Court. Not Shut

[Sheffield](https://localgovernmentlawyer.co.uk/licensing/399-licensing-news/38697-council-concedes-in-strip-club-policy-legal-challenge-over-equality-duty-failure)[2018] Council still breaching equality law: High Court

[Sheffield](https://www.notbuyingit.org.uk/sites/default/files/SR%20Sammy%20Objection.pdf) [2018]  Harassment, assault, intimidation over years: 3 ex dancers. Not Shut

[Sheffield](http://democracy.sheffield.gov.uk/documents/s36192/Investigation%20Summary%20Report.pdf) [2019]  200 breaches, unfit management: Council Report. Not Shut

Sheffield [2020] Club sells its venue
Sheffield [2020] Club withdraws its license application

**Across the Chain**

[1995:](https://constantinereport.com/convicted-fraudster-john-gray-lord-of-the-lap-dance-oliver-north-the-cia-armenian-mafia-spearmint-rhino-strip-clubs/) Chain founder denies his multiple criminal convictions

[2002:](https://www.questia.com/newspaper/1G1-91575878/a-gangland-killing-lap-dancers-who-are-said-to-sell) Gangland  killings, prostitution and more

[​​​​2003:](https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/lap-dancing-club-offered-sex-to-undercover-police-dthnb5xhm7d) Sexual Contact and Prostitution exposed across UK Chain. No Clubs Shut

[2004:](https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/spearmint-rhino-hires-ex-detective-to-clean-up-clubs-act-8002631.html) Ex detective hired to ‘clean up’ the chain’s UK clubs

[2007:](https://www.birminghampost.co.uk/news/local-news/spearmint-rhino-wins-court-appeal-3972818) Spearmint Rhino UK in Court to stop lap dancers’ employment rights

[2008:](https://www.theguardian.com/uk/2008/nov/25/lap-dancing-parliament) Simon Warr, UK Vice President tells Parliament ‘Lap Dancing isn’t Sexual’

[2008:](https://www.thedrum.com/news/2003/11/27/spearmint-rhino-chief-strips-pr-facade-reveal-warts-and-all) Simon Warr, ‘lap dancers are product’

[2009:](https://www.bournemouthecho.co.uk/news/8905480.strip-clubs-if-you-dont-like-them-your-opinion-could-be-swayed/) John Specht, new UK Vice President brought in to ‘clean up act’

[2011](https://www.theguardian.com/business/2011/feb/20/banking-executive-pay-bonuses): John Specht: “There’s a no touch policy”

2011: John Specht ‘Encourages students to strip’
[2011:](https://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/2011/10/04/john-specht-spearmint-rhi_n_994346.html?guccounter=1&guce_referrer=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuZ29vZ2xlLmNvLnVrLw&guce_referrer_sig=AQAAADGKTxCZwBUIL3EiL0vbeyZ0_MHGkvQrHG-wgUIZHWS-J-VmYJbXbxkprroXv345JoneJV8CWTt5Iw9u95EtFfkbgBYFtckKLttnPBxC5FQY82MjELQyIuNKT9ObirtdTlswAUFNXDi8vRHwK9hNCBBH2X_yHwdJeCM5zX14eQ_u) John Specht Swears on his mother’s life he never targeted students

**Rhino UK Finances**

[2014](https://www.egi.co.uk/news/stobart-sells-spearmint-rhino-block/): Camden branch sold

[2017:](https://www.cheshire-live.co.uk/news/chester-cheshire-news/famous-london-strip-club-cheshire-15566121)Camden branch – landlords Chester Council

2016: Sheffield branch for sale at £1.7 mil (not bought)

[2020](https://search.savills.com/property-detail/9a4816b8-f2f0-427e-9bd6-91ea0c9d9fc5): Sheffield branch sold at £1.6 mil

[2015:](https://www.standard.co.uk/business/spearmint-rhino-figures-far-from-beautiful-as-uk-sales-decrease-a3363511.html) Spearmint Rhino UK £10 profit

[2016:](https://www.standard.co.uk/business/spearmint-rhino-figures-far-from-beautiful-as-uk-sales-decrease-a3363511.html) Spearmint Rhino UK in debt

[2017](https://beta.companieshouse.gov.uk/company/03914051/filing-history): Spearmint Rhino UK £2.5 million in debt

[2018](https://beta.companieshouse.gov.uk/company/03914051/filing-history): Spearmint Rhino UK £3 million in debt

[**2020**](NULL)**: ‘Very High Credit Risk’ ‘Significant Issues’: Experian Credit Report**

**Rhino USA**

[Santa Barbara 2007:](https://www.independent.com/2007/03/07/no-charges-spearmint-rhino-death/)  Punter dies after forceable removal and physical restraint by bouncers

[Dallas 2013:](https://www.dallasnews.com/news/crime/2013/02/20/10-5-million-awarded-in-death-of-woman-crushed-by-monster-truck-at-dallas-strip-club/) $10.5 mil settlement for serving drunk punter who then crushed woman with monster truck

[Rialto 2013](https://www.inquisitr.com/625797/man-shoots-stripper-commits-suicide-after-lap-dance/): Dancer shot with semi automatic by punter who then commits suicide

[West Palm Beach](https://www.850wftl.com/local-strip-club-sued-in-connection-with-double-murder/): Club sued for inadequate security when shoot out outside club leads to 2 murders

[USA Chain](https://www.newsbreak.com/california/santa-maria/sports/0NiI85ct/santa-maria-spearmint-rhino-strip-club-included-in-365m-federal-class-action-settlement)  : Courts demand chain pay out $3.6mil to underpaid dancers

[USA Chain 2013](https://www.businessinsider.com/worst-ads-of-2013-2013-12?r=US&IR=T) : Ad uses baby picture of ‘one of their strippers’, then a 14 year old girl

**Worker Reviews**

[UK:](https://www.glassdoor.co.uk/Reviews/Spearmint-Rhino-Reviews-E304162.htm)‘Seedy managers/hierarchy of girls’ ‘Favouritism’

[USA](https://www.glassdoor.co.uk/Reviews/Spearmint-Rhino-Reviews-E304162.htm): ‘Managers take dancers tips’, ‘Favouritism’, ‘Stressful’

[USA](https://www.glassdoor.co.uk/Reviews/Spearmint-Rhino-Reviews-E304162_P2.htm)‘People with no moral code’, ‘Expensive house fees’, ‘Men want you to go home with them’

[USA](https://www.glassdoor.co.uk/Reviews/Spearmint-Rhino-Reviews-E304162_P3.htm)‘Worst place I’ve ever worked’, ‘Poorly managed’,’Rude punters’, Horrible customers

[Unknown](https://www.glassdoor.co.uk/Reviews/Spearmint-Rhino-Reviews-E304162.htm): ‘Soul Destroying’, back stabbing, not paid, ‘Management doesn’t care’ ‘Cons: Hours Money, Environment’

**Worker Testimonies**

[Sarah ‘It’s called Rhino because that’s how thick skinned you need to be’](https://prostitutionresearch.com/confessions-of-a-former-spearmint-rhino-lap-dancer-its-not-all-that-empowering/) [2020]

[Irina:  ‘There were a lot of drugs and dealers’](http://www.notbuyingit.org.uk/sites/default/files/Anon%20Testimony%202.pdf) [2018]

[Mel: ‘I was threatened with attack dogs’](http://www.notbuyingit.org.uk/sites/default/files/Anon%20Testimony.pdf) [2018]

[​Sammy  ‘How many times I was called a piece of sh\*t’](http://www.notbuyingit.org.uk/sites/default/files/SR%20Sammy%20Objection.pdf)[2018]