

Representations in Support of Fabric - Redacted

Rep 1 -

Hello greetings

I would like to start out by saying that I am an employee at fabric and I know that I may sound biased but fabric is a really nice place to work at the people over there are like a family.

Fabric really takes a lot of precaution when it comes to customer safety. First the club has a medical team always present.

I work at the bar as a [REDACTED] and we instructed by the supervisors every week to make sure to report any body feeling unwell.

All I'm saying is that the club really cares about the people coming there.

What happens last week was nothing but sad. If I could give my humble opinion I would like to say that today's youth need to be educated when it comes to drug use and they need to know the limits of the human body.

I am an audio engineering student myself at uni. This job I have at fabric is amazing as I get to work on the weekends and I have my week free to concentrate on work from uni.

Please let the club reopen and resume its operations. Fabric has had no incidents in the last 2 years. Please look at the good revord fabric has achieved in the past.

Thank you

Rep 2 –

To whom it may concern,

I would like to voice my opposition to the closure of fabric. Fabric is such an important part of London's night time economy and it would be a tragedy to see it closed.

The blame for the recent tragedies can surely not be placed with Fabric, which is a brilliantly managed club and a safe environment in which Londoners can party safe in the knowledge that there are measures in place to prevent crime and that were anything to go wrong they would be looked after. With clubs in London closing at an alarming rate it is more important than ever to ensure that clubbers have safe places to have fun after hours - fabric is a perfect example of this.

Fabric is an excellent employer and an important part of London's economy. The significance of the night time industries must not be underestimated. Where all around us war is being raged against night time activities I would urge you to think logically and not allow this London institution to slip away.

Rep 3 –

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing regarding Fabric nightclub license suspension. Fabric has provided me a workplace for over three years. During these years I saw how professionally it is operated, how well it is managed to guarantee everyone's safety.

Closure of Fabric would be a severe loss for members of staff who saw this place not even as a venue which provides the most quality electronic music in the world and brings the most famous names during the weekend; not as a job which pays the bills, but as a second home. Home where you felt as a family member and were always respected and loved. Fabric as an employer has never disappointed me and I will find it extremely difficult to change the job in the current situation. From my own experience I believe that no other place will offer conditions, respect and quality as Fabric team does to operate this massive and world-known venue.

This place is loved by everyone world-wide as it brings the joy for every younger or elder heart. Fabric has been home also for music lovers and talented artists for over sixteen years. Please do not take Fabric from us, do not take it from the people of London and visitors of the city.

We all hope and truly believe that you will make the right decision.

Thank you for your time,

Rep 4 –

I rely on this job, to pay my rent. I'm going to be in trouble with my landlord. It's not that easy to get a job straight away. This is really unfair. People need their jobs.

Hi there, I really do believe fabric should not be shut down. I work on the [REDACTED] where security, managers and medics are observing who comes in. E.g if your drunk(even tipsy) high on a substance, look dodgey YOU WILL NOT BE ALOUD IN! We are so strict on the doors. The security really pat down people for drugs (private parts etc !) girls have bras searched as well it's EXTREMELY INTENSE compared to other venues, festivals, parties around the world. It's MAXed out! Anyone who enters fabric will tell you how professional it is. We don't tolerate criminal activities or illegal substances. We have a great medic team, security who SPY on the dance floor for drug dealers or people taking drugs it's SUPER SAFE! Fabric is about the LOVE OF ELECTRONIC MUSIC. It shouldn't be punished for some irresponsible young teenagers taking drugs at their own risk it's TOTALLY UNFAIR! I've worked for fabric nearly 3 years and it's the most professional nightclub in London it's NOT CORRUPT LIKE so many others are. Fabric wants people to be safe and happy. People will only take drugs and possibly die somewhere else in another venue or at HOME IN A HOUSE PARTY (even worse!) no medic team!!! You will never stop people from taking drugs, people live the way they wanna live! What needs to be done is DRUG TESTING. That may seem crazy but it will save lives. Or bring out books on drugs. Include it in school education.

Rep 5 –

Further to my last email. Fabric is the best club in the UK and has been the best in the world and arguably still is. It is respected on a world-wide scale by DJs, promoters and everyone else who enters the venue.

Hi Islington Licensing,

This email is regarding Fabric nightclub. I understand the measures that the police and the council have taken after recent issues at the club but I strongly believe that the club should not be closed on a permanent basis. I work at the club and have done for the past three years, it's like a second home to me. It's not just a club to myself, the rest of the staff plus all the people who visit the club from around the world. It's an institution.. a way of life.. it is the most essential venue to both London and the UK.

There is not a stricter search from the door staff in to any club in London and the rest of the UK than Fabric and that is fact. There is always two paramedics on-sight at the club and they are always giving out advice and help to those who are in need of it. The club has leaflets and flyers dotted around all the rooms in the club expressing about potentially strong ecstasy. If you are sent to the medic room by any member of staff then when you are well enough you are told to leave the club, not thrown out like lots of other venues in to the street, we and the rest of the team make sure you get a taxi and arrive home safely.

I stand to lose a lot if the club shuts down. I will not be able to afford my rent and possibly could end up homeless and on the streets.

Rep 6 –

To Whom it may concern,

Over the past 11 years I have had a business on st John st. In that time I have found that Fabric nightclub only added to the ambience of the area in a very positive way. It distresses me to hear that the liscence is potentially being revoked for no apparent reason. The staff have been delightful and the club brought in visitors to the area which has been great for the local economy.

Why would we want to sterilise this area more than what it has been over the past 5 years?

Many thanks,

Rep 7 –

To whom it may concern,

I just wanted to email you to make a few points that I feel should be made abundantly clear.

Fabric is an iconic part of London's clubbing landscape and is one of the best run clubs in the country. It takes the highest precautions and has airport like security for the safety of its visitors and staff.

Until the country looks at drug use as a health issue rather than a criminal one we will have all sorts of problems and if people don't have safe places to listen to music these statistics will only get worse and you will see far more illegal raves - lest we forget the 90's.

As someone who works in the music industry I am genuinely worried about the future and closing venues such as Fabric and the countless other venues increases the potential for people to get harmed by drugs.

If you come back and see your partner cheating on you on your sofa you don't throw away the sofa you deal with the problem head on. Its not Fabric's fault this happens its the governments and their stand on drug usage which has failed for years. Its an education problem.

I hope you see sense on this and make a wise but most importantly safe decision for the public.

Rep 8 –

Although never have I been there myself, Fabric has made a massive impact on my life. That is through the music. It is a 'go-to hub' to electronic music fans worldwide.

I am deeply saddened by the loss of two young lives in such a short amount of time, but I do feel this is in no way the club's fault. These people will put themselves in that situation and know the risks wherever that may be.

Closing the club will not help or deter young people from taking dangerous (or too many) drugs. It will just move them elsewhere. It happens everywhere and will not stop.

The issue to be dealt with is that drug use and available drugs need to be controlled or monitored somehow.

Closing this venue because of ,in relation to the capacity and how long it has been legitimately operating, minute drug related deaths is absurd. If not, plain ignorant.

I hope my message was read and if so, thank you.

Regards

Rep 9 –

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am a resident of Islington, having lived in the Old Street/Shoreditch area for 8 years, and work in the City of London professionally. I am writing to express my concern about the current closure of Fabric and the future of this club. I understand that the club has been forced to close recently following the deaths of two teenagers and will have its licence reviewed in the following weeks.

While the deaths are very tragic and should have never happened, I am worried they will cause the club to close permanently. I read in a statement issued by the club that they had operated without any incident for 2 years prior to this. Fabric is a big club with a capacity of 2500 people. At full capacity, opening 2 nights a week, they would have had up to 260,000

patrons a year. This is twice the capacity of Glastonbury, where there is a tremendous amount of support but incidents still unfortunately happen.

If the club is shut down, so many people is once again deprived of another place to go. BBC News last year ran an article citing industry figures suggest that nearly half of the country's clubs have shut in the last 10 years: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/newsbeat/article/33713015/uk-nightclubs-closing-at-alarming-rate-industry-figures-suggest>. Even the newly elected Mayor of London Sadiq Khan recognised this problem and promised to prevent further closures.

Fabric is one of my favourite music venues, and although I only go there a few times a year, I do really enjoy being able to go somewhere locally to listen and dance to my favourite artists. In my opinion, there is a severe lack of venues in the area for people who are passionate about their music, with too many other places aiming to sell more alcohol than provide cultural entertainment.

Fabric is a world famous venue that is regularly voted as one of the best clubs in the world. It is the one club that puts London on the global electronic music map. It consistently brings world class artists to London, and at the same time is one of the biggest contributors to the UK's music scene. Beyond these cultural values, I am sure you are aware of the economy Fabric creates locally, with the number of jobs it creates and the revenues generated by its patrons coming from all over the UK and abroad.

Closing down such an important venue should only be considered when all other options are exhausted. There are ways to make this club and many others safer for people to enjoy. For example, Secret Garden Party festival this year offered a drug testing service provided by charity The Loop that was welcomed by the local police and council:

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2016/jul/24/secret-garden-party-pioneers-drugs-testing-for-festival-goers>. Something similar could be provided by the club, as well as medical support and drug education inside the venue. Manchester's Warehouse Project has done this successfully for a couple years:

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2013/dec/01/drug-testing-warehouse-project-nightclub>.

I hope you do come to an agreement that allows the club to remain open sustainably, for the benefits of local residents and London as a whole. I am happy to be contacted should you require further public opinion on this matter.

Kindest regards,

Rep 10 –

To whom it may concern,

I'm writing to you to urge you to not close fabric nightclub down. I live in Islington, I pay my council tax in Islington, I spend most of my wages in Islington & I genuinely think fabric is an essential part of Islington & London's appeal. I've been going to fabric for sixteen years now & I've been going to nightclubs all over the world for longer & I can say, hand on heart that fabric is the best I've been to. It has consistently forward thinking line ups, it has a world leading sound system, it's run exceptionally well. I also know that the staff are dedicated & really care not only about their customers, but club culture as a whole. How do I know this?

Well, like I mentioned above, I've been to clubs the world over, but mostly because I was employed by fabric for about three years.

During my time at fabric I started working as a [REDACTED], cleaning plastic "glasses" & ash trays & re stocking the bar through out the night. I then became a [REDACTED] & eventually [REDACTED], running the largest bar in the club at weekends & doing stock takes & ordering drinks during the week. I got to know many different members of staff, from all walks of life, from all age groups & ethnicities. People from the cloakroom, the accounts department, floor staff, promotions, security, cleaners, light & sound engineers. All sorts. One thing they all had in common was a love for fabric & what it did, week in, week out. It supplied the capital city, our capital city, with a world class nightclub that was leading the way in how underground dance music should be experienced. fabric became the benchmark by which every other club in this country (& Europe, the world) was measured against. As a punter all these things become obvious once you walk through the doors at the bottom of the infamous staircase. But what is less apparent as a punter is the hard work & dedication of all the fabric staff behind the scenes. The safety measures they put in place & the lengths they go to to help people have a safe & enjoyable time in the club. From posters on how to report sexual harassment to highly visible stewards & security. Free water always available & earplugs too. fabric even have their own taxi service in order to make sure people can get home safely.

Singling fabric out for closure is a massive mistake in my opinion. The two recent deaths in the club could not have been stopped by the club. I know that fabric staff & their paramedic team would have done absolutely everything in their powers to stop this from happening. The outcomes of these two nights out is a tiny, tiny percentage of the outcomes of thousands of other nights out that start in exactly the same way. Closing a landmark nightclub will not stop young men, children, from doing drugs. It will just push these things further underground, where help will be less readily available. It was their choice to engage in this activity, fabric did not supply them with drugs, in fact they would have done the exact opposite. It's well known in clubland that they have some of the most stringent searches upon entry. I believe fabric is the victim here, not the guilty party. I don't think Islington has closed down any hotels when people have died in them. Please correct me if I'm wrong.

So before I sign off, I'd just like to say again; I urge you, please, don't close fabric down. It's an exceptionally well run venue & it'll be a loss not only to the clubbing community, but a loss for music, London & contemporary culture in general if you do.

Yours sincerely,

Rep 11 –

Dear whomever it may concern,

Please find below my opinion on the current closure / licence review of fabric...

Fact - Fabric has always been the most caring club I've been to when it comes to their customers.

It's not the clubs fault if people do drugs inside, especially as they do everything they can possibly do to prevent that kind of thing going on. I have seen it with my own eyes going there for over 10 years. Their searching policy is extremely strict and they could not do more than they are doing when searching people upon entry, without being accused of sexual harassment!

The fact people have died is awful and tragic of course, but I need to point out to you that **fabric have always been the ones to cooperate with the emergency services and police when (very rarely I might add) these incidences occur. I've actually seen people be thrown out of other clubs in London on their own in a state where they may have needed medical assistance, because the club do not want to be associated with any behaviour that is a result of drugs for fear of what the authorities might do, fabric always look after people and inform the authorities if they need to.** I've been going to fabric for over 10 years and have witnessed them looking after people who need it and making sure they get home safe, weather they have needed it because of their own actions or otherwise. **So I hope they are not penalised in any way for the fact they actually care about their customers rather than throwing them out on the street.**

It's awful this happened but I hope the authorities understand how much fabric cooperate with them and keep them informed of incidences like this, as well as making sure they do everything they can to help anyone in the venue who may need medical assistance. These boys died as a result of their own actions not because of anything fabric did. All they did was look after them when they needed it because they had chosen to ingest something potentially life threatening. Which statistically, when taken, is a very low chance of actually dying from it according to many studies.

Very sorry to hear that people have died but also needed to highlight that if the same thing had happened at another club they might have died in the street on their own after being thrown out instead of taken care of.

They should also be treated like any other business too, if someone went into a coffee shop and died because of drugs they had decided to do of their own accord before they went in, the coffee shop wouldn't be shut down because of it. The bigger question should be; how are these drugs getting into the country in the first place? It's not fabric's fault, what happened there is a tiny part of a bigger issue which needs to be addressed. And if something can be done to help the wider issue because of this, that's great. But shutting down fabric will not actually change anything or help the situation. Just leave a lot of people out of a job and a lot of music lovers and tourists not wanting to come to London anymore.

And, even though fabric do everything they possibly can do to prevent this type of thing happening, people are still going to manage to get illegal things in occasionally. Just like occasionally people get illegal items on to planes despite their security measures.

Shutting fabric will not help the situation about drugs in London or this country. Being able to talk about drugs open and honestly will though. And educating young people better about the dangers will too.

It is also interesting to point out there has been numerous articles in the news recently about unusually strong batches of ecstasy going around recently which people are not aware of or

used to. Shutting down fabric will not prevent people doing drugs, in fact it may mean more people do drugs because if they are not going to fabric they will be going somewhere else and at least fabric searches and confiscates drugs off people who are trying to get them in.

<http://www.dazeddigital.com/artsandculture/article/31093/1/why-are-pills-so-strong-right-now>

<http://mixmag.net/read/warning-extra-strong-ups-pills-in-circulation-news>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/newsbeat/article/36202722/ecstasy-and-mdma-is-getting-stronger>

I know you want to be seen to be doing something, but surely a better option would be working together with the police, venues like fabric, and other relevant people, to educate young people about the dangers of taking such drugs, and if they still want to do them then educating them about how to do them safely so incidences like this do not happen again.

Also, more people die from alcohol and tobacco related illnesses than any other drug and may I please point out there are more deaths per year related to alcohol and tobacco than any other drug. Just because they are legal doesn't make them any less of a drug. In the UK, in 2014 there were 8,697 alcohol-related deaths. At least with alcohol you are told what measure you are having though and people are educated openly about how much to have, even though a lot of people still have too much.

More people have died at Glastonbury in the past 5 years than have died at fabric in the some period. And the percentage when you consider how many people go through fabric's doors each year means that statistically more people die at glastonbury than at fabric, but you don't see Glastonbury being shut down.

The longer fabric stays closed the more their staff will suffer too. Surely a better option would be to keep them open whilst you are doing this review so they are not horrendously damaged by the loss of income it will incur.

I really do hope you decide to work together with them to educate young people about the dangers of doing drugs. What happened at fabric could have easily happened at any other club, and other clubs are much less stringent about their searched and care much less about their customers too.

Not only would it be horrendous for so many people to loose their jobs, but also the loss of such an iconic music venue to the city of London would be hugely detrimental to our tourist income with thousands and thousands of people coming to London each year just to go there.

The huge rise in popularity of dance music recently means that more than ever people are wanting to come to London to see fabric and hear their world famous sound system and the huge amount of amazing music line up's they put on week after week.

Years ago in Ibiza, outside on of the clubs; Amnesia, a lot of people including many english tourists died because they were coming out drunk and getting run over, Tony Blair was Prime Minister at the time, he didn't shut the club down though. He made arrangements for a tunnel over the road to be built so that people could cross safely.

Unfortunately a small number of people are going to do drugs no matter how many things are put in place to stop them, it;s a shame this happened at fabric but it really could have happened anywhere. So I hope you work together with the Mayor and the Police, to come up with a solution that will keep fabric open and doing what it does best, putting on great parties with amazing world class music, adding to London's culture and interest. As I mentioned above, there is a lot of dodgy stuff going around at the moment according to the press, so if young people are doing stuff they don't realise what is in it, more deaths will happen unless they are educated about this. And it is not the venues fault if this happened.

I could say more but I already realise this e-mail is very long, I do hope you take the time to read it and consider my points. I would be more than happy to give a statement to what I have said above if needed or provide any more information. I have been attending fabric as a customer for over 10 years and have seen with my own eyes just how amazing all their staff are and how much they genuinely do care about their customers safety, do everything they can to prevent drugs or other illegal items getting in, how professional and safe they are as a venue, especially compared to other London venues which I can't say the same for. I have always felt much safer there than other places in London and have seen first hand how well they look after their staff and customers.

This article and organisation is interesting too: <https://dancesafe.org/mdma-related-deaths-stop-calling-them-overdoses/>

I thank you for your time and look forward to hearing what measures you will work together towards helping fabric stay open.

Best wishes,

Rep 12 –

Hi my name is [REDACTED], I'm writing to you today regarding the recent license suspension at the wonderful club Fabric. I was devastated when I found out about the tragic incidents that have occurred in recent weeks. I find myself contemplating what could've and what can be done differently to prevent such tragedies. I have now worked at Fabric for nearly two years as a [REDACTED] and I honestly cannot fault anybody at the club, each week all our staff are so dedicated and prepared to making sure customers are kept safe and enjoy their night out. It would be such a shame to loose such a famous club that has a beautiful atmosphere every week without fail. Some people say we have a great team here at fabric but I class it more of a family as its not only about a pay check. I urge you to do what you can to help my second home re-open

Kind Regards

Rep 13 –

Dear Islington Council,

Fabric is a professionally run club that is internationally famous and is part of the nightlife and supports a music culture that makes London interesting and exciting place to live and attracts thousands of overseas visitors safely every year for over a decade

Please do not revoke its license and do not close it

Best regards

Rep 14 –

Hi my name is [REDACTED] ive been at FABRIC now for 16YEARS I am a [REDACTED] year old freelancer and at the moment a home owner unfortunately for me this is all about to change

..

The closure of the club is something that we have been fighting for many years and this is not the first time I've thought I will lose it all..But the closure of the club whilst these enquires go ahead is going to do just that costing me alone 7,500 as FABRIC is my only income that's it close the club close the book ... I lose everything ..

Management....

I have known some of the management and security at the club for over twenty years and have known none other like it ...

The security is so tight ive heard it compared to Dubai airport...

The security staff are kind caring and polite and very observant ...

The medics are spot on and it never takes more than 30seconds to get to a patient ...

I'm my role as [REDACTED] ive made changes to the club lighting so the dark corners are more visible ...we can flood the rooms full of light at the tap of a switch and I've spent months trying to find the right density smoke for optimum visibility ...

We are often in talks with the council and police to make the changes that they require AND WE DO SO ... The library as the club has come to be known for its lack of drugs is run like a tight ship and no one gets in or out without a search security and bar and floor staff can not even bring their bags into the venue ...

This club is nothing more than a pinocle in club land for the way it is run ...

And that is how we one the right to stay open they cannot fault us in anyway ...

So why blame us

Yours hoping to have a house and a job come September [REDACTED] FABRIC LONDON for now

SAVE THE RAVE

Rep 15 -

Hi Guys,

Thought I would email in regarding the recent suspension of fabric nightclub= s license.

It is very unfortunate what happened to the two young men who attended the n= ightclub and my thoughts are with there families but taking away the corners= tone of British clubbing culture is not going to stop kids from taking drugs= . Anyone who has ever attended fabric knows how strict its drug policy is an= d they go out of there way to make sure everyone who attends is safe. Fabric= is more than just a night club to a lot of people it's place where they all= ow young djs/artists like myself to thrive and show there talent. I have fri= ends that travel from all over the world to experience the soundsystem which= is second to none.

I know we do have to come to some sort of agreement with regards to making it safer for clubbers. I would suggest that the age to get in should be over 21's as the younger generation do not have a clue about music.

Please do not take away a huge inspiration to Londoners and people of the U.K. It will only drive us to being more underground which (as I am sure you are aware) will cost Islington council & Hackney council more money.

I urge you to keep this place open its a inspiration to all of us=20

Regards

Rep 16 –

Dear Sirs,

In relation to the above premises, I would like to comment on the application made by the Metropolitan Police.

As a club owner and event manager and someone that has visited Fabric as a guest in the past I am saddened to learn that the Police have decided to seek a summary review of Fabric's licence rather than work with the premises licence holder to resolve the issues that relate to the review. I have visited many clubs and events over the years and Fabric is one of those venue that stands out. In my view Fabric is a well-run operation with a high visibility security presence and managed with the promotion of licencing objectives in mind at all times.

As a supporter of the #NightlifeMatters campaign, I believe that the closure of Fabric will not only be a great loss to the night-time economy but also ineffective. In my view closure of one premises will likely mean that such issues will move to another licenced premises thus not solving the issue at point. Closure is not the answer. Police should work with the premises licence holder to address the issues concerned in such a way that I cannot comment on.

I trust that the committee will see the benefits that Fabric brings to the night-time economy and the review doesn't end in the closure of another nightclub.

Regards

Rep 17 –

Hi,

I'm [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] in Clerkenwell. Ahead of the license review I wanted to make it known how important Fabric is to the music industry here in London.

It should also be said that I've not come across a club that has been run so professionally and safely.

The staff & the security have been diligent & professional ever since the venue opened in around 1998.

I went there as a punter back then, and now as a [REDACTED], I find myself there on the other side with a very clear view of the back end workings of the club.

Of all the clubs – Fabric is a leader in how to do things properly. They have played a seminal role in London's nightlife, and they have set a standard of operation that is very high.

If the venue's licence is under threat, then the night industry on the whole is under threat. So I urge you to reinstate Fabric's license asap for the good of the entire industry, and for the benefit and safety of the punters who temporarily, have lost the opportunity to go out at night and be in the care of such a responsible team.

Regards

Rep 18 –

Let's talk about drugs, loads of people do them. Your politicians do them, the people who write your paper do them, your family do them, your parents did them, your kids are doing them, your friends do them, footballers do them, the people who made your favourite music do them, the police do them, the army do them, the teachers do them, the royals do them, the wealthy do them, the people who run massive companies do them, the people looking after your money do them, the people who treat you in hospital do them and you probably do them or have done them. The vast majority of those people are fine, they're not going to kill or rob you and equally they're not going to end up in the gutter. And contrary to popular belief they're not "on drugs" at every available opportunity.

Drug laws, the world over, are a hypocritical sham and people will continue to die from drug misuse until such time as there is an open and honest discussion about drugs, who uses them, why they use them, how they use them, where they use them and what drugs they use.

Shutting any nightclub as a result of drug use is not going to save a single life. Ever. And it's not going to magically stop people using drugs, if that's what you were hoping. Local councils and the police have to pull their head out of their arse and help people make informed choices about drugs if they want to save lives.

I believe this bullshit narrative of saving people from the unrivalled dangers of drugs and the places they are found fits the culture war being waged against the young and the poor. So people will continue to die as a result of this reckless miseducation and woefully backward drug and licencing policies that are in nothing more than the name of shutting some nightclubs down for the sake of urban cleansing and the nice folk who live in the luxury flats.

But you know what, the narrative of addiction and fear is so drilled into people's heads that no party will seriously address it as it's more of a vote loser than a vote winner. People will keep pointing the finger of blame at things like nightclubs and other "drug users" rather than look at the reality of the situation and the poor fear not fact riddled education they gave the kids who died in misadventures that were totally preventable.

There is a better way of doing things.

From the same representor:

Dear sir/Madame.

I am writing with concern after hearing the allegations against what is, in my opinion one of the most healthily and well run clubs in the UK. The club is Fabric (London).

I have been involved in dance music for over 20 years and going to this establishment since it opened. I have seen the club go from strength to strength when it comes to its zero tolerance policy on drugs and as an ex promoter of raves for many years, I can tell you how hard it is to keep drugs out of these places no matter how much one tries and Fabric do an amazing job in this area.

Drugs are undeniably endemic in society on all levels of class and the closure of this establishment does nothing to tackle that problem. What are you going to do close all of London's night clubs?? Even then it would do nothing.

Fabric as a company, have pioneered how a club should be run in my opinion and they do a fine job. There will always be those who wish to take drugs recreationally. However I am wise and smart enough to know a nightclub cannot be blamed for the death of a drug user especially when it does so much to deter those people. The drug user will always find a way to smuggle drugs into any establishment and at Fabric the security and people who run it, from what I know and see are the best in the country (and I have seen many clubs over the years).

It is a safe place to hear good music and meet amazing people and I pray it will regain its license and reputation after this awful time it is going through. It feels a harsh price for an establishment who does so much to work with the local council and keep the venue as safe and drug free as is possible.

With regards

Rep 19 –

With regards to the licensing review of Fabric, Clerkenwell:

I have read with dismay and great sadness of the recent deaths at this club.

No night out is worth losing your life, and my thoughts go out to their friends and family.

Fabric is a cornerstone of London's heritage, and together with Ministry of Sound it's cultural impact is felt globally - there are very few venues in the world that champion underground, left-field and developing talent in the way that Fabric does. The club has a special place in a great many Londoner's hearts, garners huge international respect and was very influential in my decision to make London my home.

It is hands down one of the most professionally run venues I have attended. Having partied in Berlin, Amsterdam, Barcelona and Ibiza, I can safely say it truly is world class. I will regularly choose Fabric over other venues because their door staff, security and bar team make me feel safe, and welcome. They are thorough, firm, fair and polite. They do a difficult job with intelligence and good grace.

It would be a terrible shame for this club to close, and for London to lose the leading light that Fabric is for clubs the world over.

Some people drink too much. Some people get themselves into fights. Some people risk their lives for a high. I would hope that Islington council have the strength and vision to see

this situation as an opportunity to formulate a bold, pragmatic approach to the use of controlled substances for the health and safety of all clubbers in the borough

Regards,

Rep 20 –

Dear sir/madam,

I am writing to you with regards to Fabric nightclub's temporary closure until the hearing on 6th sept. I have frequented Fabric since its opening & have never encountered any dangerous actions by the staff at the club. It is a safer environment than most other venues in London that I have been to & the security is well policed. I feel a decision to close the club permanently would be a big mistake & would have a negative impact on London culturally. Fabric is visited by many tourists & provides a quality venue for residents of London & the UK who are fast running out of places to have fun at night. I urge you to not revoke Fabric's license.

Yours sincerely,

Rep 21 –

Dear Islington Licensing

As a resident of London I am writing to support fabric's licensing review. As a business owner and resident of London for over 20 years I am sad to see how fabric has been penalised for the recent drug related deaths. A zero tolerance approach isn't working, and fabric should not be forced to shut when it runs a safe operation and has done for 16 years. I have been to the venue many times since it opened and I have always found it to be a safe environment, a well run venue with a dedicated team behind the scenes.

London's late night venues are closing at an alarming rate, London is considered by many to be the centre of our global music scene but this cannot be sustained if its venues are forced to close. Fabric's contribution to London's economy from tourism and local interest is huge and operates as a responsible employer. Drug deaths are tragic, but forcing one venue to close will not address the problem but instead just move it somewhere else.

Fabric should be supported in these times and innovative approaches such as Drug Testing on site should be encouraged. It is no surprise that a huge amount of people have already got behind a campaign to help save this venue. It is not just the U.K.s media that is now focusing on this story, there is now growing international coverage which shows how important this venue is to so many people.

fabric is an independent business contributing to London's economy, to loose this venue and the many full and part time jobs it creates would be a huge loss for so many people. I ask you please to support fabric's premise license and allow it to continue its operation without further stringent conditions.

Thanks

Rep 22 –

To whom it may concern,

Members of the licensing committee my name is [REDACTED] and I am one of the full time [REDACTED] employed by fabric nightclub. I have been working at the venue for the past 5 years, having helped many many people over the course. I implore you to grant fabric back their licence, there is not a club/venue anywhere in the country that cares for its customers like we do. It's a full team effort where everyone is important to how we operate. The security staff are second to none, alert and responsive to everyone's needs. They conduct thorough searches and are constantly looking out for people outside the venue who, despite not even attempting to enter, are in need of some medical/welfare attention. I have worked in other venues before fabric who have no responsibility to the wider area, this is something I believe sets them apart from the rest. The diligence and care shown to every single person is second to none. I can personally vouch that we do everything possible to protect our clientele because we care! I have spent many hours with patients within the venue, making sure that they are 100% before leaving our club and educating them for the future. Many of these people will return a few weeks later or write an email to the club to personally thank me for everything I have done/taught them this is why after 5 years I still love my job. Fabric is a family the management are fantastic they help out when ever needed and provide various training for their staff. I am in no doubt that there is no safer nightclub in the whole of the U.K. and this is because we CARE. We even go to great lengths to protect customers safety including paying for taxis home for those who have lost their friends and personal belongings.

London's economy would not be the same without fabric, we receive many foreign tourists who's sole purpose of visiting London is to come to the club. This revenue reduction will be bad news to the capital as a whole.

Personally the affect of fabric being closed is felt massively in my house as myself and my partner both work there, so our income has suddenly been wiped out. I just hope it isn't permanently!!

Many thanks for your time

Rep 23 –

To whom it may concern,

I am writing regarding the risk of closure that one of our iconic London clubs is facing. Fabric has been around since 1999 and has offered me and London a great nightlife hotspot to hear the latest in electronic music. Every time I have been there I hear so many languages being spoken, it's full tourists coming to the renowned club from all over the world. The diversity of artists that play there is also great to see, spanning a huge amount of nationalities and genres of music. Many of the artists that are found and nurtured by fabric or its sister label Houndstooth go on to become successful and well known, aided by the support such an institution can provide.

I have always found that security is a high priority for the club, with the length of time spent queuing a testament to how thorough the checks are. In the club itself there is a constant presence of staff picking up used cups, mopping up spills and checking up on people; for example I have regularly seen clubbers taking a quick power nap in the seating area and the security staff checking they are alright by waking them up and talking to them. Compared to other clubs, I have also been impressed at how well organised the venue is run, including the way the security remind you not to take drinks out to the smoking area and to be as quiet as possible when outside.

Another benefit popular clubs like fabric have, is to reduce the likelihood of illegal parties and events being set up, which I believe stem from the lack, and reduction of, forward thinking and exciting venues like fabric. May I ask that you help the club get back on its feet and work out a proposal between yourselves and the Met Police to stop a few individuals spoiling it for the rest of us.

Clubbing is one of a huge mix of cultural offerings London has in its repertoire and with recent closures of clubs like Plastic People, Hidden, Cable, Matter, Turnmills, Bagley's, The End etc. London's nightlife is more at risk than ever before. To continue to rival other nightlife hot spots such as Berlin and Amsterdam we need clubs like fabric to continue to deliver the popular nights that they put on so well.

Thank you for reading.

Regards,

Rep 24 –

I am writing about preserving Fabric nightclub and their licence. Fabric is an amazing venue and I have had the pleasure of working with them running a night in the past. They are a totally diligent organisation. And provided me with a venue for a national and international musical showcase that was of huge benefit to the artists and the visitors to the club.

In the UK there is a country wide spike of very strong drugs on the illegal market and the casualties of these illegal tablets are rising and rising, however they are the exception to the rule and Fabric have made every effort to stamp out drug use in the club they fully deserve their licence

Very best

Rep 25 –

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am a recently graduated Masters student. I studied law at the LSE, which is just down the road from fabric. And this is an email about fabric.

I am incredibly surprised that fabric is having its licence reviewed.

It is a reality that some people who go to clubs take drugs. People choose to do so. And very sadly, due to the inconsistent and sometimes dangerous quality (another reality - this time because of the governments' archaic attitude towards drugs) of those drugs, people sometimes become ill.

Clubs can only do so much. Thorough door searches and alert and watchful internal security are the maximum measures any club can take without turning their space into an un-enjoyably authoritarian prison-like facility, riven with unpleasant suspicion.

Without prejudice drug testing is a further step, and one that has been thankfully introduced intermittently at fabric. There would be no drug deaths from dangerous quality drugs if this were the norm in every club, but due to the progressive nature of many local and

government authorities, these measures are not allowed or implemented everywhere as they should be.

I have been to clubs in many countries in Europe and around the world, and nowhere is as stringent and careful in its drug policy as Fabric. It is madness to suggest that there is anything more they can do, or could have done, to prevent people taking drugs into their club.

With the night tube starting just last weekend, London's nightlife ('night economy' to those who need a beneficial economic outcome in order to allow people to enjoy themselves) is going to thrive. but there will be no benefit, if, continuing the trend that has seen some of the best spaces - Plastic People in Shoreditch, Dance Tunnel, Passing Clouds and Shapes in Dalston/Hackney, and many other clubs in and around London - close down due to overly stringent council actions.

Please do not make a grave error, and prevent one of the most progressive and forward thinking (I'm referring just to its security and safety measures here, but this also applies equally to its music policy) clubs and promoters in the world from carrying out their positive work.

Yours sincerely,

Rep 26 –

Good Evening,

First of all i want to say thank you for letting the public have their say.

Never have i or any of my friends felt unsafe or left Fabric like i did not want to go back. I have had the best nights of my life there in the short few years i have been old enough to go. From the moment you walk outside their doors they have security and door staff there welcoming you, asking which queue you should be in. When you get to the door and its your turn to go in, they will ask you for ID and direct you to the metal detectors where security give you an airport like search, my friend has even been asked to take her shoes off before. They do everything they can to prevent drugs from going onto their premises. Fabric is the most caring and professional clubs when it comes to their visitors.

You can not blame a club for peoples decisions, these things can happen anywhere, whether it be a big well known venue or a public park. Fabric have always worked with emergency services to provide the best safety procedures they can, they even have their own medical room which people can go to if they feel unwell or feel they need medical help, most other venues will chuck people out in all kind of states to fend for themselves, just so nothing bad goes back on their clubs, anything could happen to these people. I have seen it with my own eyes, other London clubs do not want to help the ones who need it.

Instead of closing one of the top venues in the world, that brings tourism and people from all over the world, including wide world international DJ's week in, week out. Why not come up with a solution that will help everyone? An operation that offers attendees to test what is inside their drugs before taking them? Show the dangers of taking drugs and teach young people how dangerous taking drugs can be. A venue should not have their licence suspended due to an adults actions.

My dad, [REDACTED] has been a [REDACTED] at Fabric for nearly 17 years, this is his life, pride and joy. How can he provide for my little sister and our family if he does not have

income coming in each week? This goes for the 100 plus people who work there to. I have been going up to the club since it opened, during the day in school holidays and inset days to see the staff who work in the offices, sound checks, lighting. They are like a family, all work so well together to provide the best service and night they can to those who travel to go to Fabric, from management, to DJ's, to clock room staff, to cleaners. Every single one of them make sure every visitor has a warm welcome and is safe while in their hands.

I for one can tell you that going to Fabric is like going from home to home, with the friendly approach, from every single person I have ever met there.

I am devastated to hear about those who lost their lives and my heart goes out to their family and friends but Fabric can not close, it will be like losing a massive part of all our lives.

Fabric is not just a place to go for many of people.

Thank you for taking your time in reading this,

Kind Regards

Rep 27 –

To whom it may concern,

My name is [REDACTED] and I am an ex employee of fabric. I worked at the venue for over 1 year in 2014 and in my 15 year career of working in late night clubs and venues around the world I have never encountered a more controlled and well run club.

Yes people take drugs at fabric, as they do in ALL venues in London, but fabrics commitment to the safety of their patrons is ABOVE anything I have ever witnessed before or after working there. Unfortunately people have died and yes this is a tragedy but personal responsibility must come into play at some point as the club does absolutely everything in its power to reinforce its stance on safe partying. How many lives have been saved by their commitment to this??

By closing this club you are forcing an underground scene which will have no safety measures in place and more people will die. Your decision to close this venue as a reaction to these deaths is in my opinion a knee jerk reaction to a bigger problem facing the uk.

Please reconsider your decision to suspend fabrics license as in the long term, fabric has saved more lives then it has lost. At no point is fabric supplying illegal drugs to patrons, so I don't understand how you can say closing it will prevent more deaths when the people who take drugs will continue to take them, and without fabric, unfortunately they will be taking them in underground locations without the team of medics and security people fabric employees to help save lives from people's own poor decisions.

I hope you take my letter into consideration. Thank you for taking the time time to read it.

Regards

Rep 28 -

Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to ask you to keep nightclub Fabric alive & grant a license as it is a truly important institution for London's nightlife and should be running. Being a foreigner myself, the place has given me a lot of inspiration to do something similar in my own country and it still keeps inspiring millions of other people by being as attractive and well-managed club and a safe environment, with measures in place to prevent crime.

A lot of places around Europe are inspired by Fabric's experience and it has truly become a leading example on how the big nightclubs should be run.

Please grant Fabric it's license, keep it alive and give London back one of it's biggest nightlife spots.

Thank you.

Yours faithfully,

Rep 29 -

To Whom it May Concern,

I felt it important to write to you to express my concerns over the closure of Fabric.

Fabric is one of London's most important venues, it is historical, it is apart of London's culture. Music Lovers from across the globe come to London to visit Fabric, not only is highly important to London's music culture and scene but it is also an important part of London's economy.

It is one of the very few clubs I can go to where I know from upon entry to upon leaving the club, that my health and safety is actually safe and cared for. From the bouncers to the door staff to the bar staff to the managers – every single time, they will go out of their way to ensure the safety of the public is their top priority.

I work in music and my job often entails me going to clubs by myself late at night, as a female, this isn't always an easy or safe thing to do. But at Fabric – I know I am in good hands.

They are also one of the few places that go out of their way to prevent crime. I once had a keyring taken off me because it was deemed 'too sharp' - their diligence is top. I know it is also considered a Gold club when it comes to drugs policy and safety. So why is this happening and why are Fabric being punished?

I do not know what we would do without Fabric, I have been going there for 10 years, my Artists rely on Fabric as a source of income, a place to play their music, express their creativity, be happy and feel free – in a safe environment!

10 years of going to Fabric and I have never experienced or witnessed anything bad inside that club. Please help save Fabric.

Kind Regards,

Rep 30 –

I am writing this email in regard to the recent suspension of the licence at Fabric nightclub.

Over the past twenty years I have been the [REDACTED] for [REDACTED] of venues and previously before that, [REDACTED].

At various points I have handled the operation of between ten and fifteen various venues, with a capacity of 150, up to 5,000, ranging from The Forum, The Jazz Café, The Garage and The Apollo.

I have a wide knowledge of licensing and the smooth running of all types of venues and you will know me from working with Islington Late Night Levy Committee in an advisory capacity.

I would like to bring to your attention how disappointed I am that Islington Licensing has chosen to suspend the licence at Fabric. Whilst I would never condone the use of drugs and the consequences of their abuse, we work in an industry where the usage is common place and we are constantly updating our methods of preventing their presence in our venues – as well as dealing with the aftermath of persons that have obviously taken drugs and the duty of care we have to them as our customers.

I believe that Fabric has one of the best operating systems within the club industry. They have constantly strived to create an atmosphere of prevention and maintain a zero tolerance to drugs. I have actually taken their policy and procedure and used it in my own venues as it has always been ground breaking and very in depth. It is obvious to someone like myself, that the systems they have in place have been thought through and are practical to use. I genuinely believe that as a management team they go above and beyond the duty of care – their experience and good practice should be held up as a beacon with other clubs within the industry.

As a result of experiencing the door policy at Fabric, I have also introduced Saber Security into some of the [REDACTED] venues and also into our festivals such as [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. Saber represent a no nonsense approach with excellent customer service and incident reporting. Their ability to communicate and assert the rigid policy is another example of the all-round, first rate operation at Fabric.

Suspension or closure of Fabric is not going to make the problem of drug abuse in clubs go away. Surely a much more positive statement from Islington Licensing would be to work alongside the venue and attempt to form a partnership to resolve the issues?

The Late Night Levy has been an example of how Islington Licensing have been forward thinking and have strived to address violence and anti-social behaviour in licensed premises. As the first London Authority to implement the Late Night Levy and speak loudly about its success, should not the next stage be Islington Licensing proudly communicating their partnerships with venue operators to help address drug abuse and the consequences in the club environment?

I urge you to find a better solution than suspending or closing our clubs, venues and places of entertainment. There is always a better solution and the fact that Fabric has worked and continues to work closely with the Police and local authority to resolve the problems goes to

demonstrate they are a responsible and respected establishment. I fully support Fabric and their ability to address the issues – and I implore Islington Licensing to support them too and create a working partnership.

Please contact me if you wish to discuss the situation further.

Rep 31 –

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing in regards to the recent closure of Fabric. I have been a patron of this club since its opening over 15 years ago. I am deeply saddened and moved to write to you about the potential loss of their license. I am a 37 year old, married, mum of one, company director and fabric patron.

This club has always, and remains to be one of the safest and most secure environments in London. The door staff have always, and continue to have the public safety in mind, they are consistently courteous and thorough in their checks as you enter. The management and bar staff are always friendly, courteous and have a caring approach to everyone who is inside the club, setting the bar for other London venues. I have never to this day after numerous visits had a bad experience at fabric and see this venue as the benchmark

In club goes welfare across the industry. Closing this club would merely push young (and old- see recent story about the old couple From Eastern Europe) out to illegal less safe environments in east London.

Fabric provides a safe and quite frankly exemplary environment for its customers. It brings leading musical talent from around the globe to Londoners. If this was a theatre with leading actors would its license be in question?

It provides numerous jobs for its team of staff. It generates hundreds of taxi fares for London cabbies and drivers. Even the local

Smithfield's pubs and restaurants benefit from its trade be it late at night or early Monday morning.

By closing this club you are slicing a crucial piece of Islington's culture away. Are we to be left with nothing but chain restaurants and over priced housing? People travel not only across London but country and Europe wide to come To Fabric bringing vital income To the local economy. Bars, cabs, shops, taxis, hotels the knock-in effect is wide ranging.

This is a place where memories are made, friendships Are formed, trends are started. Music is inspired. Night life culture matters. To so many people. The fact that as the council you might be forgiven for not understanding this element of so many people's lives or livelihoods as it might be what you personally do it are Interested in. I can assure you: It matters. I urge you to please consider this matter with the care and attention it deserves.

Surely the wider debate is over the question of safe drug use in London. Should we not look at other European cities who have a more sensible attitude to recreational drug use and follow their lead which research shows leads to less fatalities and an overall better

experience for all involved. Some Kids will always take drugs That's their choice. Surely helping them make the Safe choice in terms of education, Freedom of information about what drugs are in current circulation And available drug testing in party environments would be a much more sensible idea. The alternative? Closing one of, if not the safest club in london and sending kids to illegal un-Supervised raves in unlicensed venues which most likely won't have paramedics or trained staff in hand.

I hope you will please consider my thoughts on this matter.

Yours faithfully

Rep 32 –

To whom it may concern

I'm writing in support of Fabric Nightclub and their current review. I have worked in the dance music industry in London for 6/7 years working on some of the biggest events in the capital including South West Four Festival and Proud2 (formerly Matter at the O2) and was most recently the Marketing Manager for Fire and Lightbox in Vauxhall.

Fabric is the pinnacle of clubbing in the UK, I went to university in Portsmouth and used to travel up to London specifically to visit Fabric such is its position and heritage in world electronic music. To lose this institution would be severely damaging to London's nightlife economy which our new mayor has vowed to support. With the sad loss of Studio 338 to fire damage recently as well as losing the likes of Shapes, Dance Tunnel and Cable in recent years London is rapidly losing its best night spots which are a major draw for tourism. If we continue this way there will be little need for a 24 hour tube system as there will be nowhere open to go.

I understand that drug deaths are a very serious issue and I feel for the families who have lost loved ones but a heavy handed/knee jerk approach to the issue is only going to push the problem deeper underground and potentially lead to further drug related crime. We should be taking the lead from establishments such as the Warehouse Project in Manchester where drugs can be tested anonymously to help save lives. I'm sure you're aware it is near impossible to "police" the situation so we should at least give people the chance to be safe.

As far as safety is concerned Fabric go above and beyond to make sure their customers enjoy themselves without harm and this should not go unnoticed. Please take all of the above into consideration when making a decision regarding their license.

Best Wishes,

Rep 33 –

To whom it may concern,

I'm writing to you in regards to fabric nightclub, an institute I've been blessed to be a part of for over 7 years. You probably aren't aware, but there is very low staff turnover at the venue. This is down to the joint love and desire we have in providing a platform for non-mainstream music and the pride we have working at a world class venue.

I know I speak on behalf of all at fabric when I say we are saddened to hear about the loss of any life. Though the actions of our customer was illegal and has caused the company into current closure and partial if not total job losses, we know it was simply ignorance that caused this. Unfortunately the combination of strong drugs both "legal" and illegal in the market, along with ignorance and lack of education, is the underlining reason for the recent deaths. We work very hard in stopping drugs entering the club and the judge who was presiding over a recent court case commended us for our work. We even have The Loop, a drugs education company, available some nights in one of the rooms to educate clubbers.

On any given club night you'll easily find lots of customers who have flown in from other countries (mainly Europe) just to come to an event we put on at the club. The booking team's experience and knowledge (one of whom has been here since pretty much the opening of the club in 1999) is second to none. To be able to book DJs and create a line up where people from other countries not only sit up and take notice, but decide to spend their hard earned cash and travel many hours just for an event, I think, is quite extra ordinary. It is for this reason we are world renown and consistently feature highly if not winning Best Nightclub in the World polls. To have this institute with such a vast reach and global appeal, in your borough, should be seen as a blessing.

It is not just London that is following the situation that is currently unfolding. No company can run without income which is our current position. Together we should work through problems, finding a solution that will keep both fabric and Islington on the map. I urge you to help us, working together I know we can find a resolution that is best for all. Please don't punish those of us who work hard for a living and those who want to enjoy the already little nightlife that London has to offer.

Yours faithfully,

Rep 34 –

To the members of the licencing committee,
I would like to take the time to explain why I believe that fabric nightclub should regain their licence. Fabric brings so much to the local area in Farringdon, and provides the local businesses in the area with a lot of revenue. Without this night time trade a lot of these businesses would go out of trade. They are stalworts of the community providing added security to the shops, hotel and local eateries. Fabric cares about the environment for these businesses enough to clean up any mess that may have been left behind by customers or people within the local area. Their security are impressive always polite and willing to help, there is no safer venue in my opinion. Fabric provides excellent medical facilities and trains all staff in what signs or symptoms to look out for. Every member of staff is important and has their own role to play however each and every member of staff goes above and beyond to ensure the customers safety and welfare. It is a meticulously well run venue. I have been working at fabric for the last 3 years and my partner for the past 5, I just hope that we still will have jobs there in the next few weeks as to lose such a venue that showcases new talent would be a huge loss to the culture of the new generation.
Many Thanks

Rep 35 –

Dear Islington Council Licensing Department

I write concerning the licence review for Fabric. I am writing to say I am in favour of this establishment having its licence re-instated.

In the many years I worked at Fabric, it was an excellently run venue, and safety was of paramount concern. In the many times I have visited it since, during a career where I am a personal licence holder, and a multiple late night venue operator, I have still observed an extremely high standard of security and compliance to proper procedure for a late night venue.

There is more trouble caused in London (and elsewhere) by the misuse of alcohol, and the practices of selling alcohol inappropriately than I see caused by Fabric being open and trading responsibly.

It would be an injustice to not re-instate Fabric's licence - it is an excellent employer, it is a supporter of credible and groundbreaking artists, it does not flout laws, but works hard to ensure security and safety.

Also, a venue such as Fabric is not only part of the cultural landscape of London, and contributes much to the city's attraction to young tourists, injecting cash directly and indirectly into London's economy, but is also an influence on the musical arts on a worldwide basis, with many now "established" artists having come up through the hard world of music via working at Fabric at one time or another. In doing so they have both been influenced by what happens at Fabric, and have influenced those present, and this venue is a hugely important venue for the arts - arts that can be seen to 'live at night' so to speak, as this is a late night culture first and foremost. It would be wrong to dismiss this element of Fabric's continuing existence as irrelevant.

Finally, the closure of Fabric is not a move that will reduce drug related deaths or other, similar, serious incidents. Sadly, it is likely that people will continue to take drugs, and find themselves in a less controlled environment than Fabric, where tragedy is more likely to occur, where there are no professionals to deal with the situation. People will continue to consume drugs and will go to many different environments - Fabric should not be victimised as a place for drug taking beyond other venues, locations, or simply in the home. Looking at the causes of drug taking and the dangers of these drugs themselves is a more productive move to prevent tragedy than closing nightclubs, hoping the problem will then be reduced.

Rep 36 –

Dear Licensing Team,

It was with great regret that I heard of the two untimely young lives that were lost at or near Fabric in recent months. I feel very much for the friends and families of those who died.

It was also with great regret that I learnt of the subsequent licensing review of Fabric as a direct result of these events. I in no way condone the use of illegal drugs and I commend venues including ours that have strict rules about their detection and disposal. However, it is a fact that drugs are a part of youth culture and it that their misuse can lead to tragedy, as has happened here twice in quick succession. That said, in my view and in the views of many other club owners I have spoken to, to penalise Fabric in this way is very

unconstructive and detrimental not only to the safe and transparent operation of other licensed premises across the country but also to the bigger picture of nightlife in London. I have known Cameron and his team for many years and they have been a guiding light to many in our industry in spearheading best practice and responsible operating. I sat for many years on pub and club-watch in Islington and the Fabric team were consistently the biggest contributor in terms of information and leadership. Their approach to community relations, working with the authorities, security and guiding and supporting smaller operators such as Mothership have always been exemplary.

My fear is that taking away Fabric's licence will not solve the problem of young people taking drugs in London. They will still take drugs. The only difference is that they will take drugs in unlicensed and unsupervised environments that are far more dangerous than places like Fabric. If this licence is removed it also sets a precedent. How far will this go? Nightlife is already under siege in this country and the vibrant scene, recognised internationally for its creativity and excellence is frequently demonised. Harming it in cases like this will be detrimental to tourism, to music, to art and to freedom of expression.

I implore you not follow these tragedies by creating a further tragedy by removing Fabric's licence or imposing unworkable licensing conditions on it and thereby ending this excellent club's valuable contribution to London. I would urge you to look at other solutions to tackling the problem of illegal drugs in our city in consultation with Cameron and his team and other operators and agencies that are affected by it. The nightlife industry as a whole would benefit from constructive dialogue along these lines.

Regards

Rep 37 –

Hi there,

Taking away Fabric from clubbers won't solve the problems that you have, why don't you use some of the money raised from the clubs various licenses and put the money back in to drug education. Get a charity on board outside the club and give people a chance to talk about drugs. Look at the Warehouse Project in Manchester, they have a charity inside that lets people test their drugs anonymously so people know what they are taking. It opens up dialogue which is one of the most important things.

I have lived in London for 8 years now and have worked in the music industry for 4 of those years. Fabric to me has been one of the best organised clubs I have ever experienced. Bouncers do the job properly, if you are too drunk they turn you away. It has happened to me. They scan the dancefloor with torches if they think any one is doing anything illegal, the toilets are on lock down making it next to impossible to get away with doing anything illegal. But most of all is the management, they comply and try to make Fabric the safest it can possibly be.

Taking away an institution that is Fabric would be a huge loss to London and what it represents to the world. We lost Brexit, please don't let us lose Fabric as well.
Please!

Rep 38 –

To whom it may concern,

I'm writing to you as a Leeds based promoter, DJ and music lover who is urging you keep the Fabric nightclub in London open and grant them their license once more.

Although a death at the club is indeed terrible news, you have to understand that this isn't the direct fault of the club itself. I have been to Fabric many times and I have to say the management team have a number of things in place to enforce their zero tolerance drug policy.

From the dogs outside that I have seen on a number of occasions, to VERY thorough searches on the door and very committed security staff, Fabric do all that is possible to keep people safe.

The club also operates a medical area, should it unfortunately be needed. This is where I think Fabric received unnecessary blame and is the most important part of the case. The man in question who very sadly died was **on his way out of the club**. The team noticed he wasn't in a good way and brought him to the medical area, where he died.

You have to agree that if Fabric had ignored the situation and let the man leave, he would have died in the street and the club wouldn't be in this position. So, what do you say to the fact that the management team did their best to give him medical attention? This is surely commendable, not something to turn judgment against the club.

It is by far an unknown fact that drugs play a part in the nightlife industry and I believe it is dealt with in London all wrong. Cities like Amsterdam and Berlin operate drug testing and attempt to work with it, rather than against it. I'm hoping this is something the mayor will notice works and put something into place himself.

Finally (and this applies to all clubs in the UK), young people are so scared these days about getting caught with drugs on the way in to clubs that they are doing them all in the queues, or before they go out. This is causing deaths all over the country and not just in London.

Fabric isn't to blame for this and shouldn't be penalised. They have an amazing management team and as mentioned, already have all the necessary combatants against drugs in their night club.

Please, do not close down what is one of the world's best night clubs. It is a hotspot for tourists who travel to the country just to go. It would really be a shame.

Thank you for reading. I hope you take all my points and the points of others on board.

Rep 39 –

I am writing in respect of fabric's license review taking place at the beginning of September.

I have worked at fabric as the [REDACTED] for the last 6 years, recently promoted to [REDACTED] of the record label a few months ago. I would like to try explain what fabric means to me and thereby the loss of this club to myself, London, and people around the world with whom I've had contact in the last few years. .

My 6 year role as [REDACTED] involved managing the mailing of CDs and digital mixes to between 4000 and 6000 people worldwide on a monthly basis. Many members of the fabricfirst club don't ever get to visit fabric. They pay a monthly subscription fee to hear about fabric, the music we release, to be able to receive our monthly DJ mix, and listen to the live DJ sets recorded at the club each weekend. This membership club runs alongside the nightclub, creating the sense of belonging to a community of like minded people of all ages and nationalities, operating way beyond the 3 nights over the weekend that fabric nightclub is open. The idea of 'family', of having someone to email and talk to about music to is key to the success of fabricfirst. We have hundreds of members who started their subscription over 15 years ago when we started, who probably now have families and lives way beyond Farringdon, but who are paying members of an electronic music subscription service at which fabric is at the heart.

I am a woman in my [REDACTED], living independently in my own flat in Walthamstow. If you thought the profile of fabric staff and it's customers were out-on-the-lash teenagers and hipster twenty somethings you should think again. I work 10am to 7pm Monday to Friday. My colleague to my left, [REDACTED] of fabric record label, is also in his [REDACTED], married and a father of 3 young children. He has worked here for for over 10 years. That's just a couple of us who defy the common perception of a fabric goer, but who are passionate about the place and what it represents musically and as a caring open minded employer.

A large number of the staff have been on the payroll for longer than the two of us. It may sound sentimental but the people here at work - at fabric - are my 2nd family. My blood relatives are all abroad. If fabric gets its license revoked the club and the record label will come to an end. It will be the end of my own job, it's security, the sense of belonging, and ties to the day to day operation of my place of work. It will also be the end of the dissemination of music to all our members around the world, and their affiliation to our club.

Please think of the wider context in which fabric operates, and how we can tackle deaths by drug overdosing through education and openness, not blind door slamming and back-turning. That is a surefire way to force the problem to pop up elsewhere for someone else to deal with.

Feel free to contact me for any reason relating to the above matter.

Regards

Rep 40 –

Hi there,

The recent deaths of two young clubbers in Fabric is deeply, deeply sad. But revoking Fabric's licence is not the right way forward. Here are a few of my thoughts on the issue:

- Fabric has notoriously strict entry searches. They have heavy security and an extremely responsive first aid team, with a string of caring medical assistants. I have seen first hand how Fabric works hard to promote a safe atmosphere for all its clubbers.
- Revoking the license of this a world famous, much loved club is backwards move that will do NOTHING to solve drug abuse. Drug use will continue to happen and all the War on Drugs has resulted in is people continuing to take untested, unsafe street drugs without being **educated** on either their dangers, or how to promote safe usage- which is what leads to overdose. Ending clubs will not end drug use; but **push it into unsafe settings** without the first aid and expertise Fabric has at dealing with it. (US prohibition era comes to mind).
- It would also be a significant and widely mourned cultural loss to London's already greatly diminishing nightclub scene- running contrary to the #LondonIsOpen Night Tube ethos. Please consider these points, Fabric is so important to so many people and works incredibly hard to provide nights that are safe, as well as fun.

Thanks,

Rep 41 –

To who it may concern , I'm writing this in the hope that the situation at Fabric may get resolved in a positive outcome. We have many Venues under our belt and know the pitfalls that can arise whilst running them. I personally have had many Venues with large capacities. Fabric has always been a Venue that has set the bar high with the professional way they run their Venue from safety, strong Management and creativity. It is and has always been an asset to the Music Scene as well as the London Nightlife scene. In a time when London has fallen way behind as a creative mecca due to draconian Licensing laws the last thing we need is a landmark Venue losing its License due to a few " bad apples " who seek to tarnish the fun of others. I hope that Islington finds a way to resolve this current situation with the Owners as it is how it should be approached. Many Thanks.

Rep 42 –

This is a message to give my full support to the fabric and it's team, who've dedicated their lives to London's cultural vibrancy for 15+ years.

I used to be a semi regular attendee and I can say that the staff, security etc are nothing but professional and courteous.

Fabric provides London with one of the top club destinations in the world, welcoming thousands of people on a weekly basis. It was extremely sad that two people died at the club due to drug use, and I 100% feel for their families, I really just wish sometimes that the resulting consequence of this **is not** to punish fabric who bring joy to so many but have an honest discussion about drug use in this country.

You're never going to combat drugs by being this archaic on the matter, drugs are always going to be around whether they're illegal or legal, and it's the individuals choice to take them, all fabric and clubs in general can do is search and not to the point of a cavity, we should be testing the drugs that these club goers are taking because they are going to regardless.

I urge you to please re-consider the suspension of fabric's license, to think the night tube starts today, what signal does it send out that one of the biggest clubs in the world cannot operate due to a lack of wanting to understand the complex nature of the UK's relationship with drugs.

Part of me also believes this drive is to build more property and make London even more homogenous which would just be sad.

I really hope you do the right thing and keep fabric open.

Rep 43 –

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please allow me to introduce myself, in order to explain and justify better my argument in favour of fabric club's licence review.

My name is [REDACTED], [REDACTED] years old, born and raised in [REDACTED] but permanently residing in the UK since 1999. On Thursday 01/09/16 I will assume my new position as [REDACTED] [REDACTED] for [REDACTED], a company that I've been in permanent employment for over 11 years. However for the last 5+ years I was responsible for loss prevention and employee security of all our UK store operations with the help of CCTV and in cooperation with over 40 Police Forces UK wide. I've also been a personal license holder (BIIAB) for just under 10 years. I hope the above info helps provide some gravity to what I'm about to say.

I believe fabric should retain their license and remain open because;

- They provide a safe environment for people to gather and enjoy music in harmony. An environment that consists of unbiased, well trained, tough but at the same time fair and friendly security staff. So vigilant that many of my friends compare them to airport security officials.

- It's one of the few clubs that employ medical staff who are always available for any unfortunate eventuality.

- The only club that I know that tackles problems before they arise to become significant. Tackling and reducing phone theft in clubs, dealing with sexual harassment and promoting equality across all genders and races, and most importantly doing it all while respecting its neighbourhood. I've lived in Islington [REDACTED] between 2008 - 2014, and subsequently in Hackney [REDACTED] I've experienced first hand noise pollution, and extensive littering by neighbouring premises. Never seen anything like that from fabric. A club that is several times bigger and busier in comparison.

I would also like to state that I've been going to fabric since the early 2000s. I genuinely think it's much more than a club, it's a cultural hub. Introducing so many new artists to the public, curating some of the best music nights in the world of modern electronic music. A worldwide known club that London proudly calls one of its own.

On a personal note I'd like to add the fact that I've met some of my best friends at fabric.... people that invited me to their weddings and their kids christenings, people that I cherish. I've also met my girlfriend at fabric during 2013 NYE celebrations. And at fabric was where we brought her dad who was visiting from South Africa. A 60 year old diabetic man, whose fabric medical staff came to check upon several times through the night once they have been notified by the security staff that he was carrying insulin injections with him.

The club scene is not an underground collective of outsiders. We are normal people with jobs, families and a purpose in life. A life that sometimes offers magical music moments that we get to enjoy at fabric. So please, do not remove this privilege that so many people just like myself have, to be able to visit fabric and celebrate life in a safe and well managed environment.

Yours truly,

Rep 44 –

I've spent my teenage years from the age of 18+ coming to fabric every Saturday night to be able to release my self from the demands an stress I have to put myself through week in week out to scrape by an pay my way in this life!!!. This has been the only way I can let go an fully relax an have no care from day to day stuff for the 9 hours it's open an I'm sure I can speak for the millions who come to fabric from every corner of the world. Closing fabric will destroy a family but most of all destroy hundreds of jobs for all the hard workers who run an keep fabric a safe an fun place to enjoy amazing music!. It's so devastating to lose a life, it's an even more devastating to lose two life's, but we don't close pubs or bars because of it so why close a club!!!!. Fabric is a place of love, an we are losing this in all London venues!. We need to go back to our roots an remember what London used to, an has always been about, pushing music boundaries to a new level. Fabric has been doing this every week for years so why know change this. Please don't close a place so many millions of people have had amazing if not the best memories of there life in.

Yours sincerely

Rep 45 –

To whom it may concern,

Hi,

I wanted to email you as a friend of the club and a regular attendee of many years.

I am a ■ and have ■ in many clubs all over the uk and Europe. I am still yet to experience such a professionally run club where like minded individuals can party to quality music in such a safe environment.

Obviously my sympathy goes out to the two young men's families who sadly lost their lives. These were tragic incidents that sadly could have happened in any of the hundreds of clubs

in this country. I urge you to understand that the club is not the problem here. I know for certain how serious Fabric treats its drugs policy. The club on a whole is a very tightly run ship which always emphasises on the safety and well being of everyone who walks through the doors.

It's the most important club not just in London but in the whole of the U.K. a real national treasure in the electronic music scene.

Please save our Fabric. It's irreplaceable

Thanks

Rep – 46

Dear Islington Council Team

I am a researcher in [REDACTED] at the University of [REDACTED] resident in Tottenham Hale writing to support fabric nightclub's extension of licence. Fabric is a well-managed club with providing a safe environment and measures in place to prevent crime. It attracts tourists and contributes to London's economy and attractiveness (which took a blow from brexit).

In contrast, closing fabric would pose a safety threat to London's nocturnal population. London's clubbing scene will not stop. If places like fabric which provide such a controlled environment cannot continue to exist, I fear that London's clubbing underground will move to forests and abandoned houses. Such places are far from providing the infrastructure to offer a safe clubbing experience. Any safety-related issue, e.g., drug overdose or other medical emergencies, would less likely be reported immediately with people fearing to be discovered and trying to sort out the problem themselves.

It is better to control a problem with relative ease in cooperation with fabric staff rather than to abandon it.

Alternatively, the most responsible way would be to cooperate with fabric on a "say no to drugs" campaign, raising awareness of drug-related safety issues as well as treating it as a public health problem at a place where you perceive the root of the problem to be, and make drugs "uncool" altogether.

Best wishes

Rep 47 –

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have been going - sporadically - to Fabric since it opened.

I have looked after the PR for many London clubs and venues - a lot of them rivals of Fabric - but have never worked directly with the club other than when some clients perform there.

The news this week came as a huge shock.

Fabric is one of the best run venues in London, almost too well run, as many including I find the security measures put in place too stringent/visible compared to the venues I've visited over the past 25 years as a young music fan, student, music journalist, and then when I joined the music industry itself, in which I've worked for 17 years.

I have children. I would persuade them and anyone else to avoid risking their lives with ecstasy or similar drugs. However, the reality is that many will do it regardless of health warnings or any other advice given to them.

We cannot hold venue owners or promoters responsible for the activities of their patrons, no more than we can their parents, siblings, peers, a pub landlord, football ground owner, hotel owner, or supermarket store manager. The fact that clubbers have died all across the world shows the problem is not individual to a particular venue, it is a problem that comes into these spaces from outside.

I care about what happens to all those who head out at the weekend to find some fun and distraction away from everyday life. No night out is worth paying for with your life. However, the irresponsible actions of one or two individuals compared to the overwhelming good behaviour of many clubbers shouldn't be used as a weapon to close a club.

I could argue for hours about why music and nightlife culture is important to a 21st century city, but the fact is Fabric is a world class institution with a global reputation that draws clubbers from far and wide. London, the UK, and Europe is very lucky to have it. It's loss would be a huge mistake for the capital and Islington.

Rep 48 –

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing this in regards to the recent closure of Fabric in Farringdon. I am writing this after seeing a close friend sharing a post about the closure of Fabric on social media. I am writing this after not accepting what is happening to possibly one of the world's most iconic clubs. I am writing this because I love clubbing. I am writing this because I've been clubbing all over the world and no club has give me any better memories than Fabric. I am writing this because I don't live anywhere near London but Fabric dragged me so many times. I am mainly writing this because I really hope Fabric doesn't get written off.

Rep 49 -

Dear Licensing Team,

I am writing to express support for Fabric nightclub which is currently undergoing a licensing review by Islington Council following the recent tragic deaths of two young people.

It is absolutely right that the Council and local police do a full investigation and look at practical measures to prevent this kind of tragedy ever happening again.

It is also important that the review recognise the importance of Fabric as a cultural venue and source of inspiration in the contemporary music and dance scene, both in the UK and internationally.

In my time as [REDACTED] for Culture at the Greater London Authority from 2008 to 2016, I championed the importance of recognising the cultural value of nightclubs. Fabric is regarded as one of the UK's most important nightclubs and I have visited it numerous times myself. Many of our most successful music artists have built their careers at Fabric and it has helped shape an exciting night time economy in the capital.

I am fully aware of the ongoing issues facing nightclubs in London and the need to ensure public safety whilst minimising the regulatory burden on vibrant and successful businesses. It is not an easy balance to strike, but venues like Fabric are crucial in demonstrating that it can be done.

Fabric is widely respected for its professional approach with well trained staff, appropriate entry checks, robust security and first aid facilities. It participates in local forums and demonstrates a willingness to engage with the authorities, including the police. It is not clear that Fabric is responsible for the tragedies that have taken place in recent months and closing it down would send a discouraging message to other venues aspiring to achieve similar standards.

In the same month that London is celebrating the beginning of the night tube, it would be very unfortunate publicity to shut down one of our most well-known and popular night time venues. In practical terms, the closure of such clubs will affect London's tourism and reduce the number of safe and properly regulated places that young people can go to enjoy themselves.

I hope you will take these points into account as you carry out the review.

Yours faithfully,

Rep 50 –

To Whoever this may concern,

I have been going to Fabric for nearly 15 years and in my time have never seen a more professionally run, conscientious and safe environment to listen to music at. Im 36 now and have a perspective on the dance music industry that few have. I have lived in London my whole life and have watched as one by one specialist music venues and the culture of London have been changed irreparably.

It is hugely regrettable what happened to those boys but it is not Fabric's fault...

The Fabric team are dedicated professionals, the security the best and most stringent I have seen anywhere in the world and I have huge respect for what they have built. It is more than a club, it is an institution to which the music industry looks when nurturing new talent...the likes of Dizzy Rascal, Tiny Tempah, Disclosure and a huge number of performers started there with Fabric giving them a chance and a platform to express themselves.

London is in grave danger at the moment from losing the parts of it that really make it special for young people and actually ripping the - fabric - of our society apart if kids cant go and express themselves in a way that feels safe for them.

Don't let another music venue in London be closed because due to something that was out of their control.

Rep 51 –

To Whom It May Concern,

In light of the recent closure of Fabric, I would like to voice my support for the re-opening of Fabric. As the Angel PubWatch [REDACTED] and member of the Late Night Levy board I have always found Fabric's management team very responsible and professional around creating a safe environment. They have been leaders in shaping standards policy in London and the entire country. In particular I have always fond they have had very constructive input into the Late Night Levy meetings and have demonstrated how they run a well managed club and have talked about the various measures they implement to prevent crime.

I believe Fabric is very important for Islington and London and everything possible should be done to keep it in our Borough.

Yours Sincerely

Rep 52 –

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to you regarding the issues around the Fabric nightclub license. I have had the pleasure of being both a punter at Fabric (ever since it opened nearly 17 years ago) and have worked there many times as a [REDACTED]. I have experienced both sides: my experience as a consumer of Fabric's offering and have worked closely with many of the staff. I am also a director of a healthcare software company, this along with seeing Fabric up-close gives me the opportunity to understand what it means to run a professional organisation and can hopefully give you some insight into whether Fabric is the professional organisation you would want to be licensed

To get straight to the point, Fabric is the most professionally run club I have ever experienced. I have [REDACTED] in many clubs around the world, and on the whole clubs tend to be quite amatuerish operations. That isn't the case with Fabric. I remember very early on talking to [REDACTED] (Managing Director) about the operations, he talked about the taxi company they'd set up, and how they insisted on over 5 forms of ID from the drivers, because in his words "Your night isn't over until you get home safely", they have an unrelenting drive to make sure everybody has a good and safe night.

Their head of security [REDACTED] I have known from his earlier days when he was working at The Cross (now defunct), again he's someone who takes his role as protector of the clientele

very seriously. I recently saw a group of guys who'd literally just walked into the venue being sexually aggressive toward a girl (and slapping her on the backside as they walked past). [REDACTED] was walking up the stairs at that point, and I mentioned it, before you know it those guys were out of the venue.

Anybody who's been going to Fabric for a long time understands that the security team are constantly on the look-out for dealers. They will watch over the main dance-floors and patrol the venue. I have personally seen them carting people out of the venue for this reason. I have also seen some false positives where they thought someone was dealing but it actually turned out to not be the case. But that goes to show that they take that role seriously, they don't take chances. It just isn't the case that you walk around Fabric being constantly offered drugs, that just doesn't happen.

As I understand it they also have in-house medics, which very few places have, this clearly shows an understanding that sometimes people will slip through the 'security net' and will have a bad time. I think that if as a council you are even slightly considering removing Fabric's license then you should consider the potential fall-out from that. You're not going to stop people taking drugs, this is a societal-wide issue. People don't take drugs because of Fabric, they will take them anyway.

London has been going through a massive upheaval in the club scene, where the best and most professionally run clubs have been sold off to property developers, or councils have bent over backwards to reduce noise complaints at the whim of developers. This has over the past 10 years moved a huge portion of the London clubbers into illegal warehouse venues. They do not have any of the protections that a place like Fabric has. Fabric's capacity is 1750 (I think), so multiply that by 52 weeks, and 2 nights a week is 182,000 people that Fabric protect professionally every year. If you close Fabric those people won't stop going to clubs, they won't stop taking drugs, but they will end up in venues that offer them less protection. It would be morally wrong to do this.

If government agencies can't stop:

- a) Drugs coming into the country (UK Border Agency)
- b) Or stop drugs getting into prisons!

Then how on earth can Fabric with its limited powers (compared to government agencies) be expected to stop people getting into their establishment with drugs? How could they stop them 'pre-loading', i.e. taking all of their drugs just before they go into the venue? Perhaps, rather than removing the license from the most professionally run club in the UK, it's time to consider some pragmatic solutions? Islington Council/Metropolitan Police's previous suggestion of drug sniffer dogs at the door again entirely misses the point. This comes from some puritanical view that prohibition works. It doesn't, and someone will slip through the net again, or they will go to another venue without the dogs. If you put dogs on the door of every venue, then we'll end up where we were in the late 80s/early 90s of illegal raves in fields and squats. These types of solutions protect no one.

So one pragmatic solution would be to look at what is done at clubs in Holland. Every club has a 'drug testing and advice area', it's a place where you're not going to be arrested, but you can test what it is you have - so you know what you're taking, and get unbiased

advice. This was recently trialled successfully at the Secret Garden Party festival in Huntingdon, so there is a UK precedent. If you accept that at some point people are going to take drugs, and that you can't stop all usage, then you have a moral obligation as a council to protect the people who are going to do it anyway.

They will be safer at a venue like Fabric than any other venue in the UK. Fabric have had close to 3 million patrons through their doors since they opened. Although it's clearly tragic that anybody loses their life, and my thoughts go out to the families who have lost loved ones, the proportion of the total is vanishingly small. Especially compared to the amount of people that die or end up in A&E because of the legal drug: alcohol.

So I implore you to understand that you're potentially punishing Fabric for a societal problem. And I also implore you to take a more pragmatic approach that will protect not just the patrons, but also a world leading UK music organisation. Fabric is widely regarded as one of the best clubs in the world, with an innovative music policy. It brings thousands of visitors to the UK and London every year. The whole area around Fabric has gone through incredible regeneration since Fabric opened - I remember it before and it was a desolate place, and now the area is thriving, with great restaurants, bars, etc. Much of that because of the cultural importance of Fabric. I suspect that many of the businesses that have built themselves off of Fabric's success will fail if it's gone.

No good can come from closing Fabric, I know they have tried to work closely with Islington Council over the years. It would be good if there was understanding on both sides how to best protect the safety of their patrons without resorting to the previously naive and draconian suggestions.

Please feel free to contact me if you would like any further background or information, I am happy to help in any way that I can. And please could you confirm that you have received this email.

Kind regards,

Rep 53 –

Hello.

I am writing as an artist who had played at Fabric on 4 occasions & as a customer who has danced at Fabric countless times. I have seen the operation from both sides of the fence & can honestly say that there is not another nightclub in this country that is run so professionally.

The safety of the guests & staff is very obviously paramount from the moment you arrive. The checks carried out in order to gain entry are more thorough than any other club I have been to.

Fabric has provided a safe place for thousands upon thousands of people to dance, meet, be inspired & make careers over the years.

London needs places like this in order to be a vibrant city & not a hollow shell with no soul. Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Yours sincerely.

Rep 54 –

I would like to stress again just how strict fabric is in terms of keeping its club safe. They do the most thorough search of any club I have ever been to... Searching socks and pants. My friend was once caught smoking a cannabis joint in the smoking area, they took him into a back room, and searched him for any other illicit substances. They do all of this knowing that they cannot let people break the law in their establishment and they do so in a friendly way. They know that we are here to just have a good time and listen to great music as it attracts the most talented artists from all over the world week in week out. There is no other club in London that is capable of such a draw and creating such an atmosphere of love and appreciation. Drugs are, like any other club night in the world, a secondary element to a culture that is based around the love of music and the collective experience of dance. Please do not take that away from us

From the same person

Please do not close fabric.

Fabric has by far the most strict drugs policy of any club I have ever been to, and manages to maintain a safe and friendly environment. It cannot be blamed for the tragic deaths. We need to face up to the fact that people like taking drugs and you will not be able to stop them. Closing fabric will not change anything it will just move somewhere else. This would not happen if there were testing kits in the club as they do in other respectable establishments across Europe. I have had some of my most inspirational nights and musical experiences in the club; it is in a league of its own in terms of quality of music, sound and organisation. It is a hub of culture where people from all types of backgrounds can share an amazing experience together that sticks with you for life. If you close fabric you deny thousands of people that experience every year and set a dangerous precedent for nightlife and culture in London. Please don't do this.

Regards,

Rep 55 –

To whom it may concern,

My name is [REDACTED] and I have been working at Fabric from 2005 until 2009, from [REDACTED] to [REDACTED].

I now have no connection with fabric anymore since we didn't leave in really good term.

However, I feel I must stand behind them for many reasons.

I have since went on to run my own business ranging from Music Event, Records Label to Bars / Restaurant and Workspace Provider.

I can feel for them as since I've started in hospitality, I have learn from the best as to how to run proper events, fabric being one of them.

Clubs are not the one bringing the drug problem into the street, for that you just have to check what is happening in the city where 1/2 the people take cocaine on daily basis.

Having worked in hospitality in the city for 7 years, I can tell you I've seen as bad of an issue as there's into club.

Drugs are all around the world and closing down very well run club won't change a thing.

We are in 2016, not in 1980 anymore. Information is everywhere to show that education is what people need in order to take drug safely.

Fabric is doing as much as it can to prevent drug issues in it's club, searching people as they come, having under cover to spot drug dealer in the venue, medics in place in case of accidents etc...

However people usually take the drugs before entering the club, or if they buy inside, there's no way for them to see how strong the drug is, having to do it hidden away.

It is completely unfair to force a club to bankruptcy because 2 young kids didn't know what they were doing.

It is impossible for a club to be responsible for 3000pp, at least without giving them the mean – prevention / education / test.

Taking ecstasy whilst clubbing is pretty norm for young people, and it wouldn't be that dangerous if it was a little more regularised as the alcohol has been for year.

It would then be possible to level up the drug in the same way the percentage of alcohol is.

Fabric is a great nightclub that cater for a lot of people, it is a destination for people all around the world, it has won many award of best club in the world, it's reputation is one of the best. Fight incident are next to 0 given the size of the venue. It is definitely once of the best run venue in the UK.

It is a big mistake to suspend their license and potentially have them go bankrupt and have 100s of job lost.

All the best,

Rep 56 –

To whom it may concern,

I wanted to write to give my opinion on the current license review of Fabric.

My name is [REDACTED] and I have worked in the nightclub and festival industry for 20 years now. I have worked for Cream, Livenation, Space and Amnesia in Ibiza, Carl Cox, Ministry of Sound, Lovebox, MAMA Group, Global Gathering Festivals worldwide. I have also started and been involved in the likes of the Warehouse Project, Parklife Festival, Kendall Calling, Wildlife festival, Annie s Mac presents Lost and Found, and countless other major licensed operations. Over an average year around 1.2m people will attend events that

we are involved in.

The first time i visited Fabric i couldnt understand what the hype was about. I was at a loss to see why everyone held them in such high esteem. I was on my third or fourth trip to the venue that the penny dropped. Apart from the world class artistic and musical programming which is totally unlike any nightclub in the rest of the UK, the innovative sound and light technologies used throughout.. what in fact the most incredible part of that venue is the operations and logistics team. The glue behind the venue was intangible to the naked eye. They are primarily devoted to the safety and the well being of their customers. We have worked with them on many initiatives like the Loop and have also swapped notes on best practice. They have been on hand to advise and consult on countless issues with us over the years. They are one of the best in the world and are ahead of the game in the UK.

Whilst i understand there have been fatalities, it is not the "fault" of the nightclubs or festivals in question. The bigger issues of drugs in society , their availability and how the problems are dealt with are governed by outdated policies which negate the latest research on toxicology, addiction and recovery.

Shutting Fabric fixes nothing.

Rep 57 –

Dear Islington Council,

I'm writing to you to implore you to allow fabric's continued operations. As an employee since 2005 this has been my workplace and livelihood for a large part of my adult working life. I have a wife, 3 children and a mortgage to support that already stretch my resources. A period of unemployment will have serious consequences to my life as I'm sure it will to all the other full time employees at fabric.

Fabric is an important part of the history of night life in London, millions of happy customers have been through its doors over its near 17 year lifetime. Since starting in 1999 it has been an integral part of turning Farringdon into a thriving economy helping to create a number of other businesses in the area. This won't just affect the livelihoods of the staff here at fabric but all of those businesses that depend on the extra income fabric customers provide.

As head of our record label I can confidently say our mix CDs are respected as the finest compilation series in the record industry. Their worldwide reach, both physically and digitally, takes the name of fabric and EC1 to an enormous overseas audience, many of whom then want to make the pilgrimage to the UK to visit the area and club. This is obviously of huge benefit to tourism for London and the businesses those tourists use during their stay.

In my 11 years of employment I have only ever seen positive comments, e-mails and letters about the security staff and operations team at fabric. We regularly receive messages of love from customers who have had life changing experiences here, such as meeting their future husband or wife, these are real human stories often forgotten when thinking of fabric as merely a nightclub instead of the community it is. There are thousands of other examples I

could recite, the recent viral story that became global news of the elderly Polish couple who visited fabric being a prominent one.

Above all else fabric considers the safety of its customers it's most important goal and excels at this far beyond any other venue I have ever visited.

The deaths that have caused the Police to take the step that has led to the current situation are in truth due to archaic drug laws that are killing our children. This is not a time to blame establishments that do their utmost to enforce those laws it's a time for council members to stand up to the government and ask them for change to drug policies that the vast majority of the Police force would themselves want to see changed. Anyone that arrives at fabric with drugs was under the governments duty of care until that point, if as a society we can't stop this it's impossible to expect the Police or any establishment either. Education and testing are the way forward so that people can have a safe and enjoyable night out. Other countries and cities that have adapted to a more enlightened approach have had a huge effect on saving lives, Portugal being an obvious example.

A knee jerk reaction to close an establishment where these sad losses have occurred will not solve the problem only reinforce it. I truly believe it's in your power to help bring about change by allowing our continued business and instead looking at the true root cause of the problem and publically addressing that.

Please help save our community, our business and ultimately further lives.

Yours faithfully,

Rep 58 –

Hi,

I just wanted to add my voice to the thousands of Londoners who are no doubt contacting you regarding Fabric.

I believe it would be a huge mistake to close the club permanently. As I'm sure you are aware drugs are a problem that is almost impossible for club owners to eliminate entirely. That being said I know as a regular patron of the club that they take their responsibilities in terms of searches on the door very seriously and are entirely thorough in this respect.

Fabric is a place where you regularly see the best of London - it's a multicultural and multi genre music space which shows the best of Britain. There is rarely any trouble and I have to say I have had some of the most fun experiences of my life there.

Before you revoke its licence - please ask yourselves this - what could fabric have done to reasonably prevent these tragic deaths beyond what they already do ?
It seems that there is currently an attack on club culture in Britain.

I believe Fabric is something London should be proud of and support !

Thanks for your time !

Rep 59 –

Dear Sirs, Madam of Islington County Council licensing committee,

I write in reference to the specific allegations against The Fabric team's operational diligence and capability.

██████████ has been working with Fabric, either side by side in our previous multi venue ownership, or in partnership as a venue with Lovebox Festival for many years.

As a business nearly fifteen years in the industry, ██████████ has an exemplary operational record and reputation across all of its entertainment properties.

We are therefore extremely careful with regards to any business partnerships, or alliances we engage in, to ensure that neither our customer, or our operational reputation are effected.

██████████ has operated music venues of varying capacities across the country. The Forum, The Garage, The Barfly, Hoxton Bar and Kitchen, GAY, GAY Late, The Jazz Cafe, The Ritz Manchester, The Birmingham Institute and The Arts Club in Liverpool.

██████████ also operates numerous festivals - Lovebox, Citadel, Wilderness Festival and The Great Escape.

The assets as a whole deliver footfall of well over 1.2m customers per annum.

In the operational experience represented across these assets and in different conurbations, I feel ██████████ are very well placed to give an independent testimonial on Fabric's operational capability and standards.

It should be without doubt that the highest priority in our company is that the audiences we attract have the very best experience of the entertainment we promote. In any undertaking the first and foremost consideration is the operational requirements relating to keeping our audiences safe, free of crime and well informed in all the environments we create.

This clearly is front of mind in any considerations of potential alliances with other businesses - We would only choose to work with operators that held the same values in this regard and we must feel secure the talent exists in the partner team to deliver the required high standards we ask of ourselves.

In all our dealings, over many years, the entire Fabric team have been first class in every aspect of their operational consideration and delivery.

This has been particularly obvious during our new venue partnership at Lovebox Festival this year, where Fabric branded and promoted their own venue at a festival for the first time in their history.

As this was a venture that our festival production team had more experience with, it was credit to the Fabric operational staff that they came at the partnership with a raft of

challenging questions demonstrating how much safety and crime prevention was paramount in their thinking.

Even greater credit to the Fabric team is due as they took on our feedback and direction through to execution with great effect, this ensuring the successful and safe delivery of the venue, over three days of back to back complex entertainment delivery, with tens of thousands of happy customers as the result.

For a business and team, as experienced as they, to be as open, intelligent and flexible in new operational conditions is testament to how they work day to day.

For the record - [REDACTED] would not hesitate to work with the Fabric brand, or their team, in any venture, or environment in the future.

In terms of venue operations, they are the gold standard across safety and crime prevention for many venues to aspire to in our country and have been for many years. I very much doubt a more diligent, process driven, reactionary production team could be found in any venue of its type anywhere.

To suggest anything other than this would be misguided at best and foolish to say the least.

The death of anyone under any circumstances is unbelievably sad and [REDACTED] thoughts are with the families and friends of those effected.

However the closure of a exceptionally well run London institution is not the answer to the problem.

Please be assured I would give this testimonial under any circumstances, at any juncture, should that be required.

Yours sincerely,

Rep 60 –

Dear Councillors and members of Islington County Council Licensing Committee

My name is [REDACTED] and I have worked within the music industry.

Within my portfolio of brands are The Warehouse Project, Parklife, Kendal Calling, Hideout, Annie Mac Festival and Bluedot.

In total, we sell north of 500,000 tickets per annum.

We have a very good reputation within the industry; and more recently sold a majority stake in both The Warehouse Project and Parklife, to Live Nation, the largest entertainment company in the world.

There are very few brands within the UK, that take such pride and meticulous planning.

Fabric is certainly up there, as the bench mark for the rest of the UK night time economy.

It's very well known within the industry and a compliment to Fabric, that most other venues (including myself) have adapted our way of operations to follow how Fabric operate.

In 2004, whilst owning a nightclub in Manchester, called Sankeys Soap, we sadly had a tragedy.

A young girl, aged 18, sadly passed away after attending my venue.

Whilst the authorities never questioned our operation, I decided to visit Fabric with my management team; with a view to stepping up our operation.

Fabric were very sympathetic and offered us much help and guidance which we adopted.

At the time, as [REDACTED] of the Pub and Clubwatch Network in Manchester, I presented my findings from Fabric.

On the back of this, Greater Manchester Police took interest in my findings; and rolled out a scheme across the city called Club Safe.

In 2013, again, The Warehouse Project had a very high profile tragedy.

Trafford council didn't review our license; but they did invite me to attend a committee, for the council to understand fully our operation.

Both the police and Council gave us there full support.

Again, both myself and my management team, spent time with Fabric; who advised us on how we could make improvements.

Likewise, in the same year, we had a huge problem with phone thefts...which was extinguished after help from Fabric.

Over the years, The Warehouse Project has won many awards and accolades.

We represented the UK, at the Centre for Problem Orientated Policing in Daytona, USA.

We also attended The House of Lords to collect an award for Best Bar None.

Neither of these accolades would have been possible without Fabric.

We now share operational information and artists on a regular basis.

The Loop charity and their drugs workers being a perfect example.

I cannot stress enough, how Fabric is a leading beacon for the UK night time economy.

There is no other venue in the country, that runs such a tight operation.

Islington Council should be proud to have such good operators.

Yours Sincerely

Hello.

I recently read that Fabric had been shut following consecutive weekends where people had sadly died in the club, due to drug use. It sounds like it is under increasing threat of permanent closure.

I have not been to Fabric in the last year, however this much can be said – it remains a crucial part of London nightlife, part of what once has made London great on so many levels.

Closing Fabric pushes so many issues to the sideline, most notably drug abuse and the idea that clubs generate drug use, but it is markedly also creating large clubbing environments in London that are as well managed and safe, whilst at their heart pushing forward-thinking music to an open-minded audience. Friends of mine have worked at the club for years and years, others are part of the dynamic, safe and inclusive creative landscape around the club.

It is important Islington representatives work hard with the club to resolve the situation. The club is part of a far larger scene than just one for the borough – it is a central reason thousands of tourists visit London each year, as it continues to hold that strong a reputation.

Please do everything you can to help keep Fabric open.

Rep 62 -

Dear Sir/Madam

FABRIC LICENSE SUSPENSION

I am writing to express my opinion regarding the suspension of Fabric Nightclub License after two teenagers died of drug-related causes over the last nine weeks.

I have been working in Fabric for the last five years. I have been in a lot of different nightclubs, bars, pubs around the Europe and I am quite familiar with London's nightlife. Unfortunately, some people come to clubs or similar places to get „smashed“, while some people actually come for the music. Fabric has always been a place which unites people who love the music. People come to Fabric to listen to the music and not necessarily to have a drink. However, there is always going to be some people who are immature and act like they are released from the leash.

I feel it is a shame that such foolish behaviour of some people takes precedence over all the hard work Fabric Team does to ensure everyone is safe at the club. Fabric Team always take all the matters seriously and in such a professional matter that it is hard to imagine how this place could operate in a more stricter and professional way than it does now. People are being properly checked in a searched rooms; before they enter the club; there is always security and fire marshals who are looking at the dance floor and making sure people are not using drugs or any other illegal substances; Fabric has undercover people who always are around the venue to check on the customers; people are checked by the medic team even if there is a small possibility member staff believes that the customer is not feeling well. Fabric issues numerous amounts of leaflets which are all around the venue to ensure people are aware that drugs are dangerous.

Fabric has always been the most caring club I have ever worked to when it comes to their customers and staff. I really dont believe that the club could have done anything more to keep people safe. The club does its best to prevent people taking drugs in a club. However, the sad reality is that it is impossible to control everyone at all the time. How could you expect a club to be able to prevent the drug use at all the times, while city in itself can not

control this problem? There are a lot of crimes related to drugs in streets of London. Im sure you are not going to close all the streets in London to prevent drug use. It's not the clubs fault that people do that inside and Fabric do everything they can possibly do to prevent that kind of thing from happening.

Are we going to ignore that this club means so much to so many people. This club always brings such high class events, and it is significantly important for the music culture. So many talented artists were discovered in this place. This club is an important part of London's economy. I cannot think of any other club with safer environment than Fabric.

I worked in this club for so many years and at the moment I am about to lose my job because of the belief that closing one venue would actually resolve drug problem in the country? I honestly think

I really hope that some sort of friendly solution is going to be made and Fabric is still going to be opened for many years. I do hope that logic prevails over naive approach and our job will not be lost because of it. Otherwise, I would be very disappointed as a member staff, a Londoner and a person who loves music. The drug problem should be tackled in completely different way in this country and not by destroying London's nightlife and pushing people to leave the city. In the end of the day, it is not Fabric fault these drugs are in the streets at the first place.

Yours faithfully,

Rep 63 –

To whom it may concern,

I am a British expat, now resident of Berlin, and it is with great concern that I hear of the closure of Fabric nightclub pending a license review. As a long term patron of the venue, it saddens me that 2 individuals have lost their lives after a night at the venue. We all go to Fabric for good times and to enjoy cutting edge techno music. For the families of these 2 individuals, this is clearly a tragedy. However, Britain's drug culture is not limited to clubs and it certainly will not go away by pushing people into illegal events. Fabric is one of the best managed clubs in the world, with very strict search policies and onsite medical staff. I am confident that over the years of Fabric trading, the medical and security teams at Fabric have saved lives, lives that would have been lost at illegal events.

You will no doubt recieve many emails supporting fabric as an iconic venue that is vitally important to London nightlife. This is true, but my appeal is for the licensing team to understand that drug use is an issue for society at large. For every drug that enters a nightclub this is also a failing of the Customs and Border agencies. A nightclub cannot be expected to remove drug use entirely if we are to live in an open and tolerant country. Fabric, in my experience as a regular patron, was always a safe venue with helpful bouncers, medical teams onsite, with strong entrance searches. Fabric should have its license renewed and Islington council should focus is drug abuse efforts at educating kids in school rather than punishing the hundred of thousands of people who wish to attend the club.

Rep 64 –

To whom it may concern,

I'm writing regarding the forthcoming review of Fabric nightclub's license.

I'm the chief executive and owner of [REDACTED], a business which operates ten venues, two of which, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], are in the borough of Islington. I have worked in the late night hospitality industry for over twenty years, and actually worked at Fabric from 1998 to 2006. In all these years I can honestly say I have never encountered a better managed venue, nor a venue with such exemplary standards, than Fabric. I also haven't worked with a more diligent, rigorous and effective operator than Fabric's chief executive [REDACTED]. As a fellow licensed premises operator within the borough, I have viewed Fabric as the beacon of best practice and have adhered to standards which they have set. This is not something I've done solely off my own back, there have been numerous occasions, when both council and police licensing officers have held up Fabric to me as the gold standard and encouraged my business to meet it. In June of this year, following an incident in one of my venues, Fabric showed my management team their medical room and explained their procedures and processes for handling intoxicated guests, something which has helped us to run a safer venue. Following that particular incident a police licensing officer commented to me on how supportive Fabric is of other licensed premises and reiterated how he thought it was a very well run venue.

Aside from how well operated I believe Fabric to be, I would also like to comment on the economic and creative benefits Fabric brings to our borough. It is rightfully considered to be one of the best music venues in the world and is without doubt responsible for bringing a substantial amount of tourism into Islington, in addition to being a significant employer and tax receipt generator. The creative benefits it spawns, while more intangible are in my opinion even more significant.

I urge the counsellors considering this review to allow Fabric to continue to be both one of the world's best music venues, and something Islington can be proud of.

Yours faithfully,

Rep 65 –

Hi guys,

I just wanted to let you guys know that when I visited London - and of course Fabric, the doormen were super sharp and looked into every single place where they legally could to make sure no illegal contraband got into the club.

This of course causes punters to come up with ways to get in with their substances if they are addicted and using it. It's not the venue's fault, for sure they will do it somewhere else then. Tough door policy also causes them to consume more before getting in and this is the real cause for drug overdoses. Only way to battle these is to spread information about responsible drug use.

Hopefully next time I'm visiting UK again I get to experience one of the greatest clubs in Europe again.

All the best,

Rep 66 –

I'd like to add a few thoughts on the licence suspension at Fabric.

I will start by saying I have a vested interest - I went to fabric when it first opened, have visited it throughout the years (albeit not much nowadays!), and now have my children and their friends visiting and discovering the magic that is Fabric.

Throughout the years and events, the ethos, management and running of the club can only be held in the highest regard- and is truly world class in many if not all areas.

Aside from the considerable positive impact to the creative process, giving new artists & producers from all around the world the chance to play and develop - it provides a venue where punters from around the world can attend, party and mingle in a very safe environment.

Fabric has led many ground-breaking initiatives - from protecting girls from over-amorous attention through to a very high profile mobile phone/handbag security operation.

There are multiple areas to relax- no "dark corners" security constantly rotating and very high profile first aid and rapid responses when needed.

The staff are 100% motivated and committed to securing a good night - I really don't see there's anything else that they can do to prevent the kind of tragedy that has occurred.

The notion that Fabric and the punters who attend are somehow at risk from being "Involved in serious crime" is so off the mark as to be laughable.

There is and never has been any overt selling or availability of drugs at Fabric- the opposite in fact- the same can be said of disorder/trouble- its just not a venue where this is an issue.

If a punter chooses to pre-load drink /drugs or conceal and then consume, how can anyone at the club be held legally or morally responsible?

There are drugs of all types available 24 hours a day in London - they evade customs, police immigration etc- why should a club who search every single person who attends very intimately, be the guilty party?

Im told there are batches of super-strength drugs on the market which are catching people out and in particular inexperienced users- why not show real leadership and innovation in tackling this issue by allowing an amnesty/testing of drugs at the club in the way that was shown at Secret Garden Party where they worked with a drugs charity and the police with positive outcomes?

If fabric doesn't re-open will it stop people consuming drugs and partying? Absolutely not- people are doing this around the world every night of the year- Fabric is the best of the best- please help us celebrate it and make it a better & safer environment for all. Cheers

Rep 67 –

Hello,

my name is [REDACTED] and I'm working as [REDACTED] at Fabric.

I think It's one of the best nightclub in London and beyond, where the musical culture is still alive and that's why people from all over the world come in this club. I'm talking primarily by costumer.

As regards the safety I think it's one of the most secure nightclubs in this city. Unfortunately negative situations can happen anywhere.

I think it is very important to strengthen those controls outside the clubs.Nothing is resolve by closing one of the best clubs in London end Europe.

The closing of the Fabric would create discomfort at all music lovers and all those who have and continue to belive in this project and are working hard.

Sincerely

Rep 68 –

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in support of Fabric London.

While I am naturally saddened to hear of the deaths of the two young men inside the club, I do not think it is reasonable that a venue that goes to great lengths to provide a safe and professionally-run environment for its patrons can be held accountable for the actions of every single individual within it's walls. Fabric holds itself to a high standard in terms of taking a hard line on drugs, but it is not a babysitting service. For all one knows people consume drugs before entering the premises, just as they might do at a pub, house party or concert.

Though no longer a clubber myself, I oppose the shutting down of Fabric because it does more than most venues for the creation and support of our city's cultural prowess. Fabric is not a 'top 40' nightclub, merely providing a place for drunken antics, it is a serious musical venue and incubator of talent, and this should be taken into consideration.

When I arrived in London in 1999 it was full of independent boutiques and there were many nightlife venues within the city centre, of which now there are almost none. If we want continue to keep ourselves on the top of the list as a cutting edge city, we must make efforts to support keeping these spaces open, instead of allowing our title to slowly slip away, via the closure of music venues, astronomical rent prices for living and studio space, and the sterilization of our high streets with chain stores. As much talked about, not only does this mean homegrown talent is leaving London for other cities (personally, 8 friends in the last 2 months)- it means that young tourists will begin to turn to other cities as well. Why would you want to holiday in an expensive city full of the same multi-national shops you have at home, and have to try and seek out music venues that are on the outskirts of town?

Please Islington Council, come to your senses. Fabric is an asset to not only your Borough, but our city, and our culture. Do not close this venue, it will be a crushing blow to the confidence of young Londoners regarding their future here, and a death knell for London's nighttime music industry.

With support,

Rep 69 –

To Whom it may concern:

It was with great sadness that I learned of the tragic deaths that occurred recently at Fabric. I believe strongly that a new progressive approach to these issues that are effecting a while generation should be explored and discussed openly. I've been working in the Music industry for almost 20 years now and during my career I spent 4 years working at Fabric. I still regard it to be the best operated venue I've have ever come into contact with and during my career I've seen and worked in hundreds.

They have been consistently delivered at the highest standards and have always gone above and beyond to ensure the safety and care of their customers. They should be held up as a shining example of best practise and operational excellence. They would indeed be an excellent resource as a group of professionals who've a vast knowledge and experience in terms of developing a more progressive approach to policing recreational drug use of young people.

I wanted to express my great disappointment with regards to the recent temporary closure of Fabric, and that once this investigation is concluded that fabric opens for business as usual and continues to be the bastion of operational excellence that it has been for approaching 2 decades.

Regards,

Rep 70 –

Dear Islington council

I am a member of the Club and Club Culture Conference, Tokyo.

We are deeply concerned about the incident at Fabric.

Fabric is a very well known venue over here also, and the history and the running rules are a very respectable one.

Drug is a social problem that we have to face seriously. Clubs are social places, to exchange knowledge and to have conversation, to build a positive bridge for the community. May the culture live on.

Rep 71 –

To whom it may concern,

I was saddened to hear about Fabric having its license suspended recently.

I am the [REDACTED] of the UK's leading electronic music publication, [REDACTED], and Fabric has been an invaluable venue for helping to grow the UK electronic music scene over the past 16 years.

Its permanent closure would be a devastating blow to the credible end of London's — and indeed the UK's — electronic music culture.

I hope that all agencies can work together to ensure that Fabric continues to operate. Please keep me updated on any actions that occur within the council.

Best,

Rep 72 –

To whom it may concern,

As a member of public I have been going to Fabric nightclub on a regular basis since it first opened almost 17 years ago. I can honestly say that not once have I ever felt unsafe at this venue. The staff and everyone that works at Fabric are the most caring that I've seen in any venue that I've been to. Its been a pleasure to experience what has been by far the best Nightclub this country has ever seen but would be extremely unfair for it to close. I say this because incidents happen at venues that hold large amounts of people whether it be a sporting event, festival, concert etc but when something happens at Fabric it gets hugely publicised with the club wrongly punished leaving the club with bad press giving it a bad reputation which is the complete opposite of what it deserves. With well over 5 million people entering the club since it opened I'm certain there would have been a huge increase of problems in comparison if that amount of people would have gone elsewhere. People come from all over the world to visit Fabric. Please keep it open.

Kind regards

Rep 73 –

To whom it may concern

I'm writing regarding the closing of Fabric Nightclub. I have enjoyed a longstanding and good relationship with Fabric. I worked in the music industry for many years as DJ agent and attended the club on a weekly basis from the club's inception in 1999 until I left music to work in the charity sector in 2006.

These days I regularly request guest list for my son as I am absolutely confident that the staff and management there will provide a safe clubbing environment for him. Furthermore, neither my son nor I have ever encountered any trouble at Fabric in all the years one or other of us have attended the club.

I now am the director of a not for profit which raises money through the arts and I would like to add that I believe Fabric provides a crucial role in the cultural fabric of Islington. As well as popular UK artists, it provides a platform for clubbers to access live music by international

artists, enriching their musical experience. It would be a huge loss to the borough and to London if Fabric were to close.

Yours faithfully

Rep 74 –

To whom it may concern,

My name is [REDACTED] a former [REDACTED] at Fabric Nightclub. I have worked there since 2012 when I was [REDACTED] years old and even though I have moved on to a different career I still work part time every now and again. It causes me with great concern that I hear of the closure of Fabric nightclub pending a license review. As both a long term attendant of the venue and a fairly long term employee, it greatly saddened me to hear that 2 young people have lost their lives during a night at the venue.

Having been both an attendant and employee I know the systems that are in place to ensure everyone's safety are to the highest standard. I know the security team are some of the most thorough at their job in the world (I am comparing the security teams I have seen in places around the world that I have been from Mansion club in Miami to nightclubs in Cyprus and Ibiza). Even knowing I was an employee I was subject to strict searches while all the time feeling safe and respected. The professionalism and attention to detail of the managers at the front door helping assess potential clubbers sense of mind and deciding whether to let them in is astounding. They must not only assess if they are too drunk to come in but they look after anyone that needs it even if they have not even paid to get inside yet.

Inside the nightclub the medic team, bartenders, floor staff, fire marshals and security are proactively always looking out for people that need assistance whether that is someone that needs some water to help finding their friends or fresh air. Fabric cannot control individuals mind when it comes to how much they want to get drunk but the bartenders always refuse to serve people that have drunk too much and make it known on the all bars. Unfortunately we live in a day and age where drug substances can get through the walls of any establishment from prisons to office buildings as drugs come into our country on a frequent basis. Now the whole of fabric do a brilliant job attempting to eradicate drugs from the nightclub but unfortunately some people do find away. I have heard stories of individuals attempting all types of crazy ways to enter the club with drugs and for the most part they are caught. For those that are not it is unrealistic to lay blame on Fabric for their free will to take the drugs and then take it to an excessive degree. For me it is like closing a road permanently because somebody died in a car crash due to drug intoxication. If the person who died was the driver who was the one intoxicated would you blame anyone else. No, it would be a tragedy and an investigation would go into how he got those drugs in the first place.

Closing Fabric will not eradicate the problem or stop the problem temporarily in Islington, all it will do is move it to the next bar or park in Islington. I urge you to renew the Fabric license and let them keep because they are one of the few places that take the drug problem truly seriously. Their closure would send out a very bad message indeed...that no matter how seriously you take the safety of your attendees it doesn't matter.

Thank you for taking the time to read my e-mail, I wish you a good day

Kind Regards, A truly concerned member of the public and former employee of Fabric

Rep 75 –

Dear Sirs/Madams

fabric club closure – Charterhouse St.

I write with a wish to express my sadness to see the possibility fabric club may close forever. Sadness too, that I feel you are under such pressure from a 'force' that should be impartial. Are all the decent people trying to run fabric to be held responsible, every moment, for any drugs being taken on & 'off' the site, including the fatalities related to the club of late?

I know the Management of this business plus the 'ultimate gold standard' efforts they go to, to detect & stop the transfer of drugs. The people at fabric are not Gods, with the ability to 'stop' drug abuse. Dogs, so the professionals advise me, are not the answer. Why are you being pressurized to consider closing this top London venue for good, I ask?

I know personally one of the founders & directors of the 18 year old club & how he has put his whole life & soul into this club almost since he graduated at University, making it now one of the most respected & acclaimed night clubs in the World, now part of our heritage, you might say.

The industry respect he has achieved 'with fabric' & from the community is quite outstanding. His lecturing tours within the Capital, lecturing to schools & institutions on business affairs is also very commendable in this World we all live in to day. To just shut fabric down because 'no one' on the planet can find a way to stop drug abuse would be rather tragic, I feel.

It appals me to feel there could be an 'axe to grind' here. May I ask your Councillors to please give fabric fair British consideration & take into account all the good they do for charity & have given & will continue to give to London.

Yours faithfully,

Rep 76 –

Hi,

i'm getting in touch to express my concern about the closure of the Fabric nightclub ?

i have been a active clubber since 1984 and i feel closure of the venue will only push the house music movement underground again and will cause a number of problems.

The scene needs to remain in a controlled environment with medical assistant at hand.

Regards

Rep 77 –

Dear Islington Council representative,

I hope that your investigation will demonstrate the cultural importance of Fabric.

Fabric's importance to the entire world (I write this from Johannesburg, South Africa), cannot be understated. As a frequent tourist to London, Fabric is always on my list of things to do and I plan my trips around the DJ line-ups.

London is hugely important to the world of dance music and Fabric is by far, the most important part of your city's dance music heritage. Please find a way to keep it open.

Yours sincerely,

Rep 78 –

Dear Sir/Madam,

This is just a brief message to convey my thoughts on the current issues regarding fabric. I occasionally go down the club once in a while but from 2000 just after it opened to 2008 I was a regular down there.

In all the years I attended I always felt like staff at the club did everything to make the experience as enjoyable and safe as it could be. It's always been clean, well ventilated, good toilets, water available and friendly and helpful staff if you needed anything. You never got the sense the venue was in it purely for the money. They've always clearly enjoyed making it a fantastic experience for the club. Moreover and crucially I've always felt safe there which has a huge impact on your experience in a club.

Over the years I've seen Farringdon change and become more up market had fabric has surely been central to that process as there wasn't much else around when it first opened in 1999. It's been and still is an integral part of the rebuilding process of that area. It's also firmly entrenched in London culture.

Closing Fabric and condemning rather than working with staff and understanding any current issues is simply ostrich head in the sand tactics and will only create further problems with other poorer run venues where people will be make at risk. Not to mention hundreds of jobs being taken away.

As far as I've experienced fabric has always gone over and beyond what they can do to make a night a safe experience. Work with them to improve systems and move forward, the safety of music goers will be better for it.

Kind regards,

Rep 79 –

Dear Sir/Madam

I was introduced to my husband via a mutual friend just over 7 years ago. Although already aware of his involvement in a large night club, I had been deterred from a potential relationship with him. Shamefully my preconception of him as a person and indeed his role and business in the industry, quickly transpired couldn't have been further from reality. I realised instantly upon talking to him what an amazing, decent and genuine human being he was and how respectful and caring he was towards people in general. I soon appreciated his

huge passion for music and the music industry, which is the basis on which Fabric was built and what it continues to be about.

I went on to marry him and have 2 young boys. In the years alone since we met I've seen him give so much to this business, the people and industry and sadly I have seen so much against him that I began to feel what has transpired from this latest tragic incident was perhaps for the best. It would be an opportunity to do something new which wouldn't seem an endless stressful battle against the impossible.

However as I started to research reasons to discontinue with Fabric I had an absolute turn around and whole heartedly believe it's worth fighting for yet again. Even if that means my children and I don't see my husband anymore as he puts in 15 hour days to do just this. I thankfully and finally realised quite what a wonderful iconic, valuable, adored institution Fabric is and the positivity towards it in society and the music industry. Could I ever have expected any less from those individuals who lovingly run it.

It has been an important part of London's nightlife and music industry for nearly 2 decades and one of the best nightclubs in the world, right here in our London. The whole area surrounding it has developed into what it is today largely due to the establishment. Likewise both music industry and artists have greatly benefited from the venue and record label.

So many people of all ages across the world not only have knowledge of Fabric but a passion and interest for it too. I've experienced this personally anywhere I've been.

I'm so very proud to be connected to Fabric and married to one of the Founders of it. They have done and do the most amazing job and have achieved something which is very special to a lot of people. Im aware of the work Fabric has done to help various charities and also young students with lectures at schools and universities.

Surely this business should be embraced, preserved and supported in the plight against drugs. Fabric are so influential and respected maybe they are the ones who can actually deter drug taking for some people.

In my years I've seen teenagers take drugs at house party's, street corners and warehouse raves to middle aged, educated professionals at events, bars and restaurants to the extremely wealthy and famous in 5 star hotels, luxury yachts and on private jets. I don't see any of these places accountable or restricted in the same way as Fabric nightclub is.

The drug problem needs to be dealt with on a much higher level and not by the closure of 'a beacon of best practice' establishment that so many millions have enjoyed safely. The repercussions for closing a controlled venue of this size could be catastrophic in the escalation of drug related deaths and unlicensed venues.

Police should surely be concentrating at the top of the drugs chain. Blame should not be towards those who work closely with them to assist and support in the challenge and whom they depend on as the first line of defence.

Aside of the impact on over 250 people employed by Fabric or on myself personally, our home and two pre school children, from what I've discovered Fabric to be and stand for I am firmly in the remain camp on this one.

I hope my children grow up to enjoy and be part of Fabric in another 17 years time. More so I hope my justice driven 4 year old son desperate to be chief of police, can actually one day help change the legal system to control the national drug problem that is clearly currently failing us all.

Yours sincerely

Rep 80 –

Dear All,

I am sure that you are getting many letters and comments through various means regarding the suspension of fabric's license. As you know I spent 10 years helping manage the business and am still very much emotionally linked to the club. I am in no way linked to the business, but feel compelled to put finger to keyboard to see any way I may be able to help.

Firstly and most importantly, two young people have died. That is tragic, horrible and must not be swept under the carpet. The emotional turmoil that any death leaves for the family and friends of the deceased is immeasurable and is not in doubt. I know that the whole team at fabric will be devastated at the loss of life. Having dealt with issues like this in the past I know that it will be dealt with professionally, with care and compassion.

I am not going to get in to the politics of drug use and how the license suspension or possible closure of fabric is irrelevant, moreso I want to just relay just how professional fabric is and how important every aspect of the business is to the 200 or so employees that have all helped enhance Ec1M over the past 17 years.

My history? 2000-2010 employed as [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and then [REDACTED]. Licensee and chair of the Ec1m Club & Pubwatch for that time. My feelings for fabric? My favourite job, company, employers, my family and people who still, if they needed me, and I was able to, I would be there for, personally or professionally. Fabric was and is so much more than a nightclub.

It is a record label, a musical institution, a cultural icon, an international brand, a role model for late night businesses and overall, a friendly, well managed wonderful place to work.

You will not find another business with as in depth an operating plan as fabric, one that comprises; on site paramedics, in house security staff, metal detectors, full CCTV system, in house licensed mini cab firm, SIA training facilities, camera controlled search rooms, drug confiscation and deposit register process, staff identification system, detailed and monitored staff training schemes, the list is endless. To look at fabric as anything less than an example of how things SHOULD be done is madness and short sighted. I have worked in hospitality for the past 20 years at a management level and I still use the practices that I learned and developed during my time there. Everything is transparent, everything is by design and everything is followed through. Fabric has and always will contact the authorities in the first instance, proactively and with a collective management process in mind. You cannot manage an establishment that processes that many people in a 3 day period without having a relationship with the authorities, something that has far less support than some similarly attended football grounds. This relationship should be strengthened and realigned, not diminished, fractured and stretched. Every possible crime that could occur in fabric has a proactive process for prevention and a reactive process for conclusion. You have seen the operating schedule, you have worked with them for years, you have seen the drug

confiscation, you have seen the court cases for a variety of criminals detained, and arrested as part of the collaboration between authorities and business, I don't need to go into that here. Can these processes and management deliver a 100% safe club. No. It doesn't exist. Can any business? No.

Would drug related incidents decrease if fabric closed? Yes. Would shoplifting decrease if Westfield closed? Yes. (and no, I am not comparing a teenage death to that of garment theft...)

Statistically fabric is a safe venue, a well managed venue, a venue dedicated to music as it's primary objective, music & people are at the very heart of what it does, it brings in so many people from around the globe and shows them not only what London can deliver, but also what the UK invests on music and talent. It is not a big building with drinks deals and alcohol related promotions, should we discuss those places? I suggest we start with Bridge St Northampton if any licenses should be suspended. That is for another day.

Work with fabric. Work with the team, destroying what they have built, what I helped build is just not going to achieve anything but job losses, a void in a dying sector and a devastating dent in an otherwise booming UK music industry. Fabric is a family, a business, an export and the most relevant dance music venue in the world. Bear that in mind when trying to deliver answers to questions that do not have them.

Sincerely,

Re - Metropolitan Police, Clubs & Vice Unit, Form 696 briefing to Journalist.

On Monday 7th September 2009 at New Scotland Yard the Clubs & Vice Unit presented a presentation to a number of journalists including The Sun, The Guardian and BBC LONDON to name only a few. The presentation was to Communicate and Educate Londoners of our reasons for using the Form 696 due to the recent press coverage suggesting that the Form is bureaucratic and suppresses the availability of venues for Music Events.

You kindly accepted an invitation and attended on behalf of Fabric and Matter in company with Nathan Leslie (General Manager for Matter) and Paul Durand (Security Manager for Matter) to share your independent view and experience on the use of the Form 696.

Please accept my gratitude and sincere thank you for attending the presentation and for your invaluable contribution. It is only with the input from people and businesses, like yourself, who use the service of the Form 696 that make its use credible and valuable in contributing to making Promoted Club nights safer for Businesses, Customers and the community.

Please ensure that you pass on my huge thanks to Nathan and Paul who's contribution was most gratefully appreciated.

It is only through working together in partnership we can support each other in making London Safer.

I look forward to continuing with our good relationship in the future.

Warmest regards
Richard Mahie

CO14 OCU COMMANDER

