

In 2010, new laws meant local councils could license strip clubs/lap dancing clubs as sexual entertainment venues (SEVs) rather than leisure venue (like a café or bar).

This is a compilation of illegal activities associated with strip clubs since the new licensing came into place.

This is based on google searches of press reports. As such, it is far from an exhaustive list!

This is a dynamic document that will be regularly updated.

If you have relevant information, we'd love to hear from you!  
Please contact us at [no@notbuyingit.org.uk](mailto:no@notbuyingit.org.uk)

And, of course, please feel free to use the contents of this document and share widely.

**First Created: Sep 2017**

**Last Updated: Sep 2017**

# Strip Clubs – Illegal Activities since 2011

Just a quick google search exposes the sheer scale of sexual harassment (including possible prostitution and trafficking) alongside other criminal activities (including organised crime) that is synonymous with strip clubs. This is despite tighter regulation introduced when they became licensed as part of the sex industry (around 2011). This report is just the tip of the iceberg, merely representing easily retrievable press reporting on criminal activities.

## Touching, Sexual Harassment, Prostitution, Trafficking:

### **Bing, West Bromwich 2017**

Shut down after a brawl led to GBH. Police also expressed grave concerns about prostitution, the use of possibly under age Romanian girls and the possibility that they may have been trafficked: <https://www.expressandstar.com/news/crime/2017/06/21/strip-club-has-sexual-entertainment-licence-revoked/>

### **Hanley's, Staffordshire 2017**

Shut down after years of concerns over inappropriate touching, offers of prostitution, drugs and drink spiking <http://www.signal1.co.uk/news/local/hanley-lap-dancing-club-closed-down/>

### **Jack of Diamonds, Bristol 2017**

Closed for inappropriate touching: <http://www.bristolpost.co.uk/news/bristol-news/bristol-strip-club-closed-down-34716>

### **Legs 11, Birmingham 2017**

License suspended for trafficking: <http://www.birminghammail.co.uk/news/city-lap-dance-club-licence-13282405>

Sexual contact observed and under cover trading officers offered 'sexual services' in VIP rooms: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/07/27/lap-dancing-club-spiked-customers-drinks-overcharged-dances/>

### **Angels, Leicester 2016**

Fondling and touching viewed on CCTV. Several dancers undocumented and suspected of being underage <http://www.leicestermercury.co.uk/news/leicester-news/strippers-fondled-sexually-touched-punters-184059>

### **Halos, Newquay 2011**

Closed after 3 foot rule consistently breached as witnessed on CCTV : <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-cornwall-15378800>

### **Divas, Newquay**

Similarly closed

## **Attacks On or Related to Performers:**

### **Bentley's, Doncaster 2017**

Performer assaulted outside after refusing sex with punter:

<http://www.thestar.co.uk/news/punter-attacks-stripper-outside-south-yorkshire-strip-club-after-she-refused-to-sleep-with-him-1-8508457/amp>

### **Cleopatra's Lounge, Huddersfield 2016**

Man smashes club window when dancer refuses to 'meet up' with him outside of the club:

<http://www.examiner.co.uk/news/west-yorkshire-news/man-smashed-lap-dance-club-11379793>

### **Diamonds Dolls, Glasgow 2017**

License suspended immediately when a half dressed, drunk and unconscious dancer was dragged out of the club by management and dumped onto the street (performer in question refused to speak to police, presumably out of fear of retaliation by management):

[http://www.ardrossanherald.com/news/15023857.Glasgow\\_kingpin\\_s\\_lap\\_dancing\\_club\\_shut\\_after\\_girl\\_dumped\\_on\\_street/](http://www.ardrossanherald.com/news/15023857.Glasgow_kingpin_s_lap_dancing_club_shut_after_girl_dumped_on_street/)

## **Other Criminal Activities:**

### **Flirtz, Skegness 2017**

Drugs: <http://www.lincolnshirelive.co.uk/news/local-news/cocaine-regularly-being-taken-lap-351921>

### **Platinum's, Stoke 2017**

Loses its license: 'Exploitation' of punters, including violence and drink spiking:

<https://www.ftbchambers.co.uk/news/stoke's-last-lap-dancing-club-loses-its-licences>

<http://www.signal1.co.uk/news/local/hanley-lap-dancing-club-closed-down/>

### **Silks, Manchester 2017**

Several incidences of brawls and violent behavior:

<http://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/greater-manchester-news/silks-lap-dance-club-manchester-12877276>

## **Earlier Incidences**

'Rule breaking' is hardly a new phenomenon at strip clubs. There have been numerous incidences of illegal activities for years at the Spearmint Rhino chain in particular, yet the offending clubs continue to operate:

### **Spearmint Rhino 2003**

Touching, undercover police offered sex in private rooms:

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/lap-dancing-club-offered-sex-to-undercover-police-dthnb5xhm7d>  
and also at other branches of the chain

## **Technical Notes**

### **Right to CCTV Footage**

It is important to note that it has been ruled in court that Local Authorities have right to immediate access to CCTV footage: <https://cornerstonebarristers.com/news/close-encounters-sexual-kind/>