

## Secrets, Covent Garden Testimony of Pimping 20018

This testimony from a local resident describes pimps outside strip clubs in close proximity to each other - Red Rooms and Secrets, Covent Garden.

It was immediately passed on to the Council.

Hi,

Just thought I'd let you know that outside **Red Rooms**, there are a **number pimps/ touts** almost always present near the entrances and security never ask them to move when some are stood less than a metre from the entrance. I have heard them dicussing 'oral', prices, & times & have video evidence of one walking a punter to a flat a few minutes walk away.

When security turn a blind-eye to what they are doing, seem friendly towards the pimps, one pimp even calling security by his name. It makes me wonder if the pimps could be tipping the club?

They also are friendly with Westminster quiet streets staff. The pimps mostly walk along **Kingsway** where a minute walk away **Secrets** the other strip club is. Their pretty good front is that they are minicab drivers and 'minicab' seems to be code for inticing men who want to buy sex. A pimp then leads the man to follow him to a flat, not a minicab. When men actually want a minicab they point then to a black cab in the road. It is quite a good front and I didn't see it for a few years.

There is a big sign warning punters not to use unlicensed minicabs outside secrets. However, the men posing as unlicensed minicab drivers are never told to move & constistantly there all the time the club is open.

On Kingsway at the entrace of **Secrets** in a dead end road, there can be up to **12 touts at a time just standing there and talking to punters as they exit and Secrets** security do nothing about it either.

My concern is if the clubs are getting money from these pimps or the clubs themselves are linked to these brothels a few minutes walk away.

Thanks.