

Little j – Dispersal Policy

Licence Holder: Little Jay Ltd
Address: Chapel House, North Street, York, YO1 6JD
Date: 10th November 2025

1) Policy Statement and Purpose

Little j operates as an inclusive LGBTQI+ venue and bar, providing social events, music, recreation, wellbeing activities, services, sale of goods by retail/market, cabaret, dancing, reflection and expression etc. The venue aims to also contribute positively to York's diverse nightlife while maintaining good relationships with neighbouring residents and businesses.

The overriding objective is the safety and wellbeing of our LGBTQI+ community, guests and staff.

We are committed to ensuring the welfare of customers both inside the premises and during their safe, quiet and orderly dispersal from the venue.

This policy defines our approach for supporting vulnerable persons, and when open until terminal licensable hours to:

- Prevent public nuisance
- Protect public safety
- Prevent crime and disorder

2) Commitments

- a) Promote a safe and inclusive environment for all LGBTQI+ patrons, free from discrimination, harassment or intimidation.
- b) Proactively reduce congregation and noise outside the premises at closing time.
- c) Support safe travel home, including access to taxis.
- d) Protect LGBTQI+ patrons from harassment.
- e) Continue to provide a Safe Space if additional time or support is needed etc.

3) Definitions

Licensable Hours: Thu–Sat alcohol to 04:00 with premises closed 04:30; Sun–Wed alcohol to 03:00 with premises closed 03:30.

Dispersal Period: Thu–Sat from 03.30, Sun–Wed from 02:30 until clear.

Music, lighting, service, and messaging steps that gradually prepare customers to depart in phases.

Vulnerable Person: Anyone whose capacity to safeguard themselves may be compromised, for example due to intoxication, disability, isolation, distress, or expressing fear of leaving due to identity-based hostility.

4) Staged Dispersal Plan

Music: Reduce volume in stages during the dispersal period.
Switch to calm playlist to signal wind-down.

Lighting: Increase ambient lighting to 50% half-way through dispersal period
Raise lighting fully at the end of licensable hours to encourage departure.

Announcements: Use brief PA prompts reminding guests about taxi availability, quiet departure and respect for neighbours.

5) Signage

Exit signage reminding patrons to leave quietly and respect neighbours.

Taxi and transport information clearly displayed.

Posters promoting welfare initiatives, eg ask Angela/Clive.

6) Welfare

Vulnerable Persons: Identify and engage with any person appearing vulnerable.
Offer free water or juice, seating and reassurance.
Monitor until safe departure can be arranged.
Never eject a vulnerable person to the street.
Continue to provide a Safe Space if additional time or support is needed.

Taxis: Assist anyone that needs it.